

Selinexor Is Efficacious and Tolerable in Patients with MDS Refractory to HMAs

Eytan M. Stein, MD

Assistant Professor
Leukemia Service
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Live from ASH. We are going to be discussing Abstract 233: *Selinexor, a First-in-Class XPO1 Inhibitor, Is Efficacious and Tolerable in Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndromes Refractory to Hypomethylating Agents.*

What is Selinexor? Selinexor is a selective inhibitor of nuclear export which is thought to keep myelodysplastic patients from having persistent myelodysplastic syndrome. That is, that it will reverse the phenotype of having a myelodysplastic syndrome by inhibiting this nuclear export. In this trial that was conducted, there were 25 patients who went on the study, 25 were evaluable for efficacy, and 19 were evaluable for response. I think, it is important to note that the most frequent adverse event that was seen was really fatigue. Patients had some trouble with fatigue, that was mitigated by lowering the dose midway through the study. It is exciting to note that of the 19 patients who are evaluable for response, the overall response rate was 32% which is quite good in this patient population that have all been refractory to hypomethylating agents. As you all may remember, hypomethylating agents are the standard of care in myelodysplastic syndromes. For those patients who do not respond to a hypomethylating agent, they really have no other option, so you really need a second-line option for these patients.

Reference: Taylor J, Coleman M, Alvarez K, et al. Selinexor, a First-in-Class XPO1 Inhibitor, Is Efficacious and Tolerable in Patients with Myelodysplastic Syndromes Refractory to Hypomethylating Agents. ASH 2018. Abstract 233.