

INCTR Brussels

Treatment of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) in India

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

INCTR has worked with Indian colleagues since its inception (and even before) on the treatment of ALL in various centers in India. This has led to dissemination of the first protocol used throughout India. The last study was an attempt to improve survival in the very high risk patients seen in India.

INSTITUTIONS

- All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India
- Tata Memorial Center Cancer Institute (WIA), Chennai, India

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Improve survival rate in ALL.
- 2. Assess the value of added vincristine, prednisone and asparaginase in this regard.
- 3. Continue to train various members of the research teams in India regarding data collection, management and analysis.

METHODS

The present protocol was developed in discussion with colleagues in India based on toxicity and efficacy of the previous protocol and information from groups in the US (Harvard) and Holland suggesting that additional V, P and A were valuable in increasing the survival rate.

PROGRESS

There have been 454 patients accrued to the protocol since it was implemented in 2004. Data on immunophenotype and socioeconomic status have also been collected. The data has now matured to the point where it can be analyzed. Preliminary information suggests a much higher proportion have T-cell disease in rural versus urban regions. It is also suggests that patients who are poor often suffer more remission deaths - regardless of whether they live in a rural or urban area. This will require further exploration.

FUTURE PLANS

Analyze data in detail to determine pros and cons compared to protocol MCP841