Epcoritamab in 3L+ DLBCL: Updates on Clinical Trial and Real World Data in the Evolving DLBCL Treatment Pathway

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The treatment pathway for diffuse large B cell lymphoma (DLBCL) is rapidly evolving and there have been many changes to national and international treatment guidelines in recent years reflecting the emergence of newly approved approaches in different lines of therapy. Epcoritamab is a CD3-CD20 bispecific antibody which has demonstrated a high level of efficacy in heavily pre-treated patients with relapsed and refractory (RR) DLBCL. Data from the from the pivotal phase 1-2 registration NHL-1 trial of Epcoritamab monotherapy revealed overall response rate (ORR) of 59% with complete remissions (CR) in 41%. Complete remissions were durable in many patients with median duration of CR (DoCR) of 36.1 months. Cytokine release syndrome (CRS) was observed in 51% of patients, mainly low grade, grade 3+ infections were recorded in 29% of patients. These data have led to regulatory approval and reimbursement of epcoritamab in many regions for 3rd line+ DLBCL and it has been incorporated into treatment guidelines. Other recently approved approaches in RR DLBCL include CAR-T cell therapy where available with favorable trial data but there are many challenges to the CAR-T cell pathway that can limit utilization internationally.

Real-world data can complement trial data to better understand the efficacy and safety outside of trial populations and this may guide optimal sequencing, patient selection and use of bispecific antibodies, CAR-T cell therapy and other novel therapies in the RR DLBCL pathway.

In this rapidly changing treatment landscape, Dr Townsend will present latest trial and real-world data from the UK together with his own practical experience to explore optimal patient selection and treatment sequencing in RR DLBCL.