

# STATIC TRIAL (Stopping Therapy to Avoid Treatment-resistance In CLL): A randomised phase III trial comparing Intermittent vs. continuous intermittent with continuous treatment strategies in CLL

Talha Munir<sup>1</sup>, David Cairns<sup>2</sup>, Natasha Greatorex<sup>2</sup>, Rhiannon Lambkin<sup>2</sup>, Sharon Jackson<sup>2</sup>, Annah Muli<sup>2</sup>, Dex Everritt<sup>2</sup>, Colleen Sellwood<sup>2</sup>, Andy Rawstron<sup>3</sup>, Bryony Dawkins<sup>2</sup>, David Allsup<sup>4</sup>, Adrian Bloor<sup>5</sup>, Lelia Duley<sup>6</sup>, Hilary Lindsay<sup>6</sup>



NIHR | National Institute for Health and Care Research | Ctru | Leeds | Clinical Trials Unit



Leeds Cancer Centre, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Leeds1 (T.M.); Leeds Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit, University of Leeds, Leeds2 (, D.C., A.H., N.G., R.L., S.J., A.M., D.E., C.S., B.D.); The Christie Hospital NHS 2 Foundation Trust, Manchester3 (A.B.); University of Manchester, Manchester5 (A.B.); Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Leeds 3 (N.W., S.D., A.R.)

Haematological Malignancy Diagnostic Service





### 1. INTRODUCTION

- Continuous BTK inhibitor therapy leads to improved outcomes but can induce resistance and toxicity.
- Randomisation Trial: A prospective, national, multicentre, open-label, randomised, controlled, 2-arm, parallel-group, non-inferiority, phase III trial to assess whether patients with CLL on long-term treatment with a BTK inhibitor, (including ibrutinib or acalabrutinib) have similar disease control with an intermittent treatment strategy (experimental arm) compared with standard continuous treatment (control arm).
- Clinical Need Cohort: A prospective, national, multicentre, open-label, single-arm, non-randomised cohort to assess the safety and overall survival of patients with CLL receiving long-term continuous treatment with ibrutinib.

#### 2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Aim: The primary aim was to assess whether patients with CLL on long-term treatment with BTK inhibitor, (including ibrutinib or acalabrutinib) have similar disease control with an intermittent treatment strategy, known as the 'Pausing BTKi' arm compared with standard continuous treatment, the 'Continuous BTKi' arm.
- The primary objective is to assess non-inferiority (NI) of the intermittent treatment strategy in terms of time to treatment strategy failure, defined as the first documented instance of active disease (as defined by the 2018 iwCLL criteria) that does not respond to treatment, or death.
- The secondary objectives are to assess Overall survival, toxicity and tolerability, cost effectiveness, Quality of life, Summative treatment-free interval, Response to retreatment in intermittent treatment arm, Time to next treatment for CLL, Response to next treatment for CLL, Rate of resistance mutations and Evolution of resistant sub-clones.

# 3. HYPOTHEISIS AND SAMPLE SIZE

# **Hypothesis:**

We hypothesise that an intermittent treatment strategy using BTKi including ibrutinib or acalabrutinib, will reduce treatment-emergent resistance and thus be at least non-inferior to continuous treatment with regards to time to treatment strategy failure whilst reducing resource impact for the NHS and improving quality of life.

Number of participants: 800 participants will be randomised into the randomisation trial over a 6-year period with ~45% coming from ibrutinib-based treatment arms of the frontline CLL trial FLAIR and ~55% receiving ibrutinib or acalabrutinib off-trial (via NHS access) for previously treated for CLL. An additional cohort of ~30 patients from the ibrutinib-based treatment arms of FLAIR will be enrolled to a non-randomised Clinical Need Cohort to receive continuous ibrutinib.

# RANDOMISATION (1:1). N = 800Stratification factors: no of prior therapies, time on current therapy, MRD, VH status, BTK inhibitor Continuous treatment until Intermittent treatment strategy until treatment disease progression strategy failure N = 400N = 400Stop treatment Treatment stopping criteria reached criteria reached Restart treatment Assessments until disease progression/ treatment strategy failure 3 monthly assessments: assessment for restarting/stopping treatment, standard investigations,

QoL& health economics questionnaires, (data collected 6 monthly unless start/stop treatment)

#### 4. Conclusions

- Trial Number: ISRCTN51675454
- EudraCT/CTIS Number: 2021-005854-27
- Currently STATIC trial is open to recruitment in UK running from University of Leeds.
- The trial has been amended recently to include the utilization of acalabrutinib in relapsed refractory cohort.
- As of 13.5.2025, 164 participants have been randomised, and 12 participants are treated on the clinical need cohort.

# Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the laboratory teams at HMDS, St James's Univ. Hosp. Leeds and all patients at participating UK centres. We are grateful to the UK CLL Subgroup Committee (previously National Cancer Research Institute group) and to the support of the Leeds Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit for the successful running of the study. Primary financial support was from NIHR. Unrestricted educational grants from Janssen. Study drug was provided by Janssen (ibrutinib) and NHS England (Ibrutinib and acalabrutinib). This work was also supported by Core Clinical Trials Unit Infrastructure from CRUK.

#### Contacts

tmunir@nhs.net