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DEPARTMENT OF HAEMATOLOGY

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GENERAL ASPECTS

Clinical Studies - Introduction

The Haematology Department of the University Hospital of Heraklion, Crete participates in numerous international and Hellenic clinical studies for haematological diseases. The clinical research group consists of the principle investigator [Prof. E. Papadaki](#), the sub-investigators M. Ximeri and [P. Kanellou](#) and the study nurse E. Rousaki.

The aim of our participation is the inclusion of patients in international multicenter studies and patient access to innovative therapies.

What is a clinical study:

Clinical studies are research studies that attempt to answer scientific questions and document the safety and effectiveness of a specific therapeutic choice. Furthermore, each study tries to find better ways to prevent, screen for, diagnose, or treat a disease.

There are 2 types of clinical trials:

1. **Interventional study:** a clinical study in which participants are assigned to receive one or more intervention (or no interventions) in order to evaluate the efficacy and safety of new treatments. The drugs are administered free of charge by the pharmaceutical company and the patients are monitored in accordance with a free regular monitoring program in the clinic.
2. **Observational study:** a clinical study in which patients receive approved treatments for their disease which are prescribed by their physician and are monitored according to the rules of normal clinical practice with no additional monitoring procedures needed. Patients are observed and their outcomes are measured by researchers.

Legal framework of clinical studies in Greece

All clinical studies are conducted according to strict scientific and ethical principles. In Greece clinical trials are in accordance with the relevant harmonized European and National Legislation law (DYG3 / 89292 OG V1973 / 31-12-2003 and Directive 2005/28 / EC) and all studies are performed after approval by the National Medicines Agency (EMEA) and the

University Hospital of Heraklion Ethics Committee. Studies are conducted on the basis of Good Clinical Practice ((Good Clinical Practice (ICH GCP) – <http://ichgcp.net>)).

Frequently asked questions:

1. What are the benefits of participating in a clinical study?

Your inclusion in a clinical study is voluntary, after a lengthy discussion and understanding of the potential treatment options with the investigator physician of the study, you will co-sign with the investigator the informed consent form of the clinical trial.

By participating in a clinical study, you may benefit by:

- gaining access to innovative treatments that are not yet available to the public
- obtaining expert medical care at a leading health care facility
- playing an active role in your own health care
- having free regular clinical-laboratory testing during the clinical trial and as long as defined by the therapeutic protocol
- helping yourself and others by contributing to medical research

When a potential patient fulfills inclusion and exclusion criteria of a clinical trial he is informed about his potential participation and is given to read the consent form. The informed consent form contains all the information necessary to participate in the study including its purpose, the treatment procedures and schedule, potential risks and benefits and possible known side effects of the treatment. After a lengthy discussion and understanding of all the trial parameters the patient will decide whether or not to participate and will need to sign the informed consent .**The entire process is voluntary, and the patient has the right at any time during the study to withdraw his consent at without having to justify his decision without affecting further optimal care.** More so, even the researcher may decide to discontinue participation if deemed medically necessary and believes that the patient's participation is no longer towards his benefit, but also for reasons of patient compliance. By participating in a clinical study there is no additional financial burden on the patient or his insurance carrier. Patient's personal information remains confidential and only research physicians participating in the trial may have access to medical records.

2. Questions to Ask Your Doctor about Clinical Studies:

- Who is conducting the trial?
- What is the purpose of the trial?
- What are the possible benefits?

- How do the possible risks and benefits of this trial compared to those of the standard treatment?
- What kinds of tests and treatments are involved?
- What are the possible side effects or risks of the new treatment?
- How often will I have to come to the hospital or clinic?
- How long will I be in the trial?
- What happens if I decide to leave the trial?
- Are there other relevant studies?
- What are my other treatment choices, including standard treatments?
- How does the treatment I would receive in this trial compare with the other treatment choices?

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Currently, the following clinical studies are conducted in the clinic (last update 15/5/2016):

Interventional studies

1. MULTIPLE MYELOMA

Amgen 20090482 (AMG 162): A randomized, double-blind, multicenter study of Denosumab compared with Zoledronic Acid (Zometa) in the treatment of Bone Disease in subjects with newly diagnosed Multiple Myeloma. *Closed*

2. MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROMES

TRA114389 : Study of the impact of the thrombopoietin receptor agonist, Eltrombopag, on thrombocytopenia and megakaryopoiesis in patients with low and intermediate I-risk myelodysplastic syndromes- *Closed*

TRC114968A: Three-part Study of Eltrombopag in Thrombocytopenic Subjects With Myelodysplastic Syndromes or Acute Myeloid Leukemia (ASPIRE) (Part 1: Open-label, Part 2: Randomized, Double-blind, Part 3: Extension) *Closed*

3. LYMPHOMA

OMB 110918: A Randomized, Open Label Study of Ofatumumab and Bendamustine Combination Therapy Compared with Bendamustine Monotherapy in Indolent B-cell Non-

Hodgkin's Lymphoma Unresponsive to Rituximab or a Rituximab-Containing Regimen During or Within Six Months of Treatment. *Closed*

MO28107: A Study of Subcutaneous Versus Intravenous MabThera/Rituxan (Rituximab) in Combination With CHOP Chemotherapy in Patients With Previously Untreated CD20-Positive Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma. *Closed*

CRAD001N2301: Phase III Study of RAD001 Adjuvant Therapy in Poor Risk Patients With Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) of RAD001 Versus Matching Placebo After Patients Have Achieved Complete Response With First-line Rituximab-chemotherapy (PILLAR2). *Closed*

AB10004: A multicenter, randomized, open-label, three-parallel groups, phase 3 study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of masitinib with dexamethasone, gemcitabine with dexamethasone and the combination of masitinib, gemcitabine and dexamethasone in patients with relapsed or refractory peripheral T-cell lymphoma. *ongoing*

Observational

1. CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA (CML)

ERASER (CAMN107EGR02): Observational study on the safety and tolerance of nilotinib in adults with newly diagnosed patients with positive chromosome Philadelphia chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) in chronic phase and in patients with chromosome positive CML Philadelphia in chronic and accelerated phase with resistance or intolerance to prior therapy, including imatinib. *Ongoing*

ENEST Observe: Open-label, multicenter, prospective monitoring and observational study of patients with CML in chronic phase treated with nilotinib therapy under study ENEST1st (CAMN107EIC01). *Ongoing*

2. MYELOFIBROSIS

ESCAPE (CINC424GR01): Observational study of the effect on quality of life, efficiency and safety of *Ruxolitinib* in patients with primary or secondary myelofibrosis after polycythemia vera or essential thrombocytosis. *Ongoing*

3. MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROMES

CICL670AGR003 – PROMITHEAS: Non-interventional observational, prospective, open-label study, to assess iron overload in the liver, estimated by MRI T2 * in patients with MDS low / intermediate-1 risk taking deferasirox.. *Closed*

GR-MYC-NI-002: The use of micafungin in patients with hematological malignancies, including patients who have undergone transplantation (BMT / HSCT), in Greece. *Closed*

4. NEUTROPENIA

XM22-ONC-40079 (LEOS): Prospective observational study (cohort study) of the use of Lonquex® (lipegkfilgrastimi) in clinical practice for the prophylactic treatment of chemotherapy-induced neutropenia in adult patients with solid tumors or hematological neoplastic diseases receiving myelosuppressive chemotherapy. *Ongoing*

5. CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA

ML22235 - CALLYPSO study: A non-invasive phase IV observational study with the primary objective of further assessment of the security Rituximab (MabThera) in combination with chemotherapy in the treatment of patients with CD20 + B Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. *Recruitment Closed*

6. PAROXYSMAL NOCTURNAL HEMOGLOBINURIA (PNH)

PNH Registry study: Study of subclinical cases and recording protocol on paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH Registry). *Ongoing*