Seattle Cancer Care Alliance
Administrative Policies and Operating Procedures

Section: Medical Staff
Policy Service Triage Guidelines for Treatment of Patients with Leukemia at the SCCA

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**Background**

It is the intent of the SCCA to provide the best continuity of care of its patients. Non-transplant therapy of leukemia patients at the SCCA may be required in several instances:

- De novo leukemias referred for induction or consolidation chemotherapy
- Referred for hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) but found to be in relapse
- Relapse during the first 90 days post-HCT
- Referred for relapse of their leukemia during long-term follow-up care post-HCT

Patients with acute leukemia may receive non-transplant therapy from either the Transplant Service of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (FHCRC), the Hem-Onc Service of the University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC) or the Hem-Onc Service of Seattle Children’s Hospital (SCH).

**Purpose**

- To provide guidelines as to which service may provide the indicated non-transplant therapy
- To ensure continuity of care within the oncology services of the SCCA

**Policy**

- Adult (age >18 yr) patients referred to the Clinical Coordinator’s Office (CCO) with newly diagnosed acute leukemia should be referred to the UWMC/SCCA non-transplant leukemia program. If the patient is stable and an outpatient, then the calling provider should be either referred to MEDCON (206-543-5300) to speak with a leukemia specialist or to the Hematology Patient Care Coordinator, Silvia Ali (206-288-1260) to schedule an urgent outpatient appointment. If the patient is an inpatient at an outside facility requiring hospital to hospital transfer, the calling provider should be referred to the Transfer Center for UWMC/HMC (1-888-731-4791) and speak with the Inpatient Leukemia Attending. Further questions regarding the triage of these patients should be addressed to the Inpatient Oncology Medical Director, Dr. Paul Hendrie (206-288-6366).

  Young adults (age 18 to 25 years) may be considered for referral to SCH Hematology/Oncology program based on patient need and clinical trial availability. Please contact Dr. Blythe Thomson at 206-987-2000 for questions regarding leukemia trial availability.

  Pediatric (age 18 or less) outpatients should be referred to SCH Hematology/Oncology Outpatient Oncology attending at 206-987-2000 for outpatient scheduling. Patients needing inpatient hospital transfer should contact SCH referral line: 206-987-2000 and ask for the Inpatient Oncology Attending on call.
• Adult patients who are referred to the CCO for consideration of HCT and have relapsed leukemia or are currently undergoing outpatient pre-transplant evaluation and found to have relapsed acute leukemia during pre-transplant work-up may require reinduction therapy. Patients may be referred to a UWMC/SCCA non-transplant leukemia provider to discuss available clinical trial options for re-induction and transfer care to the Non-Transplant Leukemia Program. The transplant provider can contact the Hematology Patient Care Coordinator, Silvia Ali (206-288-1260) to schedule an appointment or can directly contact Dr. Eli Estey (206-288-7176). Patients not interested in participating in clinical trial may elect to receive re-induction at UWMC or under the care of their local oncologist.

Pediatric patients should be referred to the SCH Hem-Onc Service. Pediatric outpatients should be referred to SCH Hematology/Oncology Outpatient Oncology attending at 206-987-2000 for outpatient scheduling. Patients needing inpatient hospital transfer should contact SCH referral line: 206-987-2000 and ask for the Inpatient Oncology Attending on call.

• Adult patients with the diagnosis of acute leukemia who relapse during the first 90 days after transplant and for whom reinduction therapy is appropriate may receive this therapy on the Leukemia Service unless they are to be treated on a specific transplant protocol. The transplant provider should contact Dr. Eli Estey (206-288-7176) or the Inpatient Leukemia Attending.

Pediatric patients may receive their therapy, if indicated, on the SCH Oncology service. The transplant provider should contact Dr. Blythe Thomson (206-987-2106) or the Oncology Attending on call (206-987-2000).

• If indicated, adult patients with the diagnosis of acute leukemia who relapse during long-term follow-up care should receive further therapy under the auspices of the Leukemia Service if a protocol is available for them unless a specific transplant protocol is available for them. For patients followed by a non-UWMC/SCCA provider, the provider should either refer the patient to the SCCA for evaluation (contact Silvia Ali 206-288-1260) or contact the Inpatient Leukemia Attending (call transfer center at 1-888-731-4791).

Pediatric patients followed by the SCH Hem-Onc Service will remain with SCH. Pediatric patients from providers outside of SCH, should be offered the opportunity to return to their referring provider or referral to SCH if wanted.