

## **Treatment of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia-review article**

This comprehensive overview of the treatment of CLL was published in the New England Journal of Medicine on July 30, 2020. Registration, at no charge, is required. The article is free, but registration is required. For link: [www.nejm.org](http://www.nejm.org)

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## **It can take up to 2 weeks to gain immunity after a COVID vaccination**

According to the United States Centre for Disease Control: “ It typically takes a few weeks for the body to produce T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes after vaccination. Therefore, it is possible that a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and then get sick because the vaccine did not have enough time to provide protection. [Click here](#)

This is another reason why CLL patients need to continue to take protective measures after their vaccinations or that of the people they come in contact with.

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## **Another step in the long road for Acalabrutinib & Venetoclax (first line)**

Acalabrutinib as well as first line Venetoclax have been recommended for funding by INESS (Quebec) and CADTH (the rest of Canada). CLL Canada made a submission to these agencies demonstrating the importance of these treatments for patients, in partnership with Lymphoma Canada. Now the pCPA (pan Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance) must reach agreement on the price of these treatments with their manufacturers. Given the pandemic this could take up to 8 months or longer. CLL Canada wrote to the cCPA explaining the importance to patients that these negotiations proceed expeditiously.

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## **The Long-term Use of Ibrutinib for CLL**

Many CLL patients on Ibrutinib remain free of CLL for many years, according to Dr. Jennifer Woyach, MD, of the OSU Comprehensive Cancer Center in an interview with Patient Power. Also discussed are the success rate of Ibrutinib vs the newer BTKis such as Acalabrutinib, the improvement in the management of the side effects and the advances in the understanding resistance to BTKi, providing hope for a solution to this problem. [Click here for the video and transcript.](#)

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## **The coming-into-force of the amended Patented medicines regulations has been further delayed until July 1, 2021.**

No reason has been given by the government for this delay. For more information on the impact of the new regulations, click here for the [special edition of the E-Bulletin](#)