



How Should Patients Manage CLL and Diabetes?

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Andrew Schorr:

So Grant said he was diagnosed with a double diagnosis of diabetes and then, as he had additional testing, voila, he also had CLL. So he's currently able to control his diabetes, and he's in watch and wait for CLL. Is there any advice for me going forward with these two conditions? Diabetes and CLL.

Dr. Sharman:

It—so I guess my question in such a circumstance is how is that CLL behaving. If he has a molecularly favorable CLL and he's on watch and wait and things are simmering along, it may very well be that his diabetes poses a greater threat to his overall health than the CLL.

In contrast, somebody with an unmutated 17p-deleted CLL, it's the CLL that's going to be more dangerous. Fortunately, the treatment interactions don't overlap all that much. Sometimes with chemoimmunotherapy we give steroids, and that can be problematic for patients with diabetes, but I would manage them by and large independently.

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