

Bacterial prophylaxis in MDS (inpatient and outpatient)

Risk Category	Agent	When to start	Duration
Chronic neutropenia irrespective of the MDS risk group in untreated patients including best supportive care	*Levofloxacin 500mg daily	ANC \leq 250	Until ANC >250
MDS undergoing low intensity treatment		ANC \leq 250	Until ANC >250
MDS undergoing high intensity treatment 1. If ANC <500 at baseline 2. If ANC >500 at baseline		1. ANC \leq 250 2. ANC \leq 500	Until ANC >250

*If history of infection with fluoroquinolone resistant organisms, tailor bacterial prophylaxis to prior microbiology. If patient is unable to tolerate fluoroquinolones due to allergy/intolerance or prolonged QTc consider amoxicillin/clavulanate or cefpodoxime prophylaxis

Malignancy	Antifungal agent*	Comments
AML	Posaconazole 300mg PO (BID on day 1, then Daily starting on Day 2)	Voriconazole** and IV caspofungin are alternative agents if patient cannot take posaconazole
MDS High-risk (undergoing intensive AML-like induction and/or HSCT)	Posaconazole 300mg PO (BID on day 1, then Daily starting on Day 2)	Voriconazole and IV caspofungin are alternative agents if patient cannot take posaconazole
MDS Low-to-intermediate risk	none	
Chronic neutropenia (aplastic anemia)	Posaconazole 300mg PO (BID on day 1, then Daily starting on Day 2) or Voriconazole 200mg PO BID	Limited data available; consider individualized approach
ALL	Fluconazole 200mg daily	Consider fluconazole 400mg daily if not receiving vincristine Consider posaconazole in patients receiving blinatumomab with prior history of HSCT and GVHD
Chronic myeloproliferative neoplasms	None	If undergoing intensive AML-like induction or HSCT → administer posaconazole when ANC < 500/ μ L
CLL	None	Consider in patients with prolonged neutropenia (ANC < 500/ μ L) >6 months, elderly, advanced/unresponsive disease

- *Administer when ANC < 500/ μ L for anticipated > 7 days
- **Loading dose recommended for treatment and prophylaxis

**Antifungal
recommendations:
LFT abnormalities**

ALT >200 and/or Tbili >2x
ULN

Stop other hepatotoxic drugs,
monitor 48-72 hours on current
azole antifungal prophylaxis

If LFTs do not improve

Start caspofungin if expected
to be short duration (7-10
days) and reassess daily
need for continued
caspofungin

If LFTs improve and
abnormalities attributable to
another drug

Restart azole antifungal
prophylaxis

If LFTs improve and
abnormalities attributable to azole
antifungal prophylaxis

Switch to isavuconazole
prophylaxis

Therapeutic drug monitoring	Antifungal agent	When to check a level	Therapeutic level for prophylaxis
	Posaconazole	After 7 days of therapy if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receiving concomitant drugs that may alter level 2. Suspected malabsorption 3. Unable to consume high fat meals (for suspension only) 4. Suspected breakthrough fungal infection 	>0.5-0.7 mg/l
	Voriconazole	After 5 days of therapy if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receiving concomitant drugs that may alter level 2. Experiencing adverse events suspected to be due to voriconazole toxicity (QTc prolongation, AST/ALT 3x upper limit of normal, neurological effects such as visual hallucination, agitation, confusion) 3. Suspected malabsorption (if receiving oral formulation) 4. Moderate to severe hepatic dysfunction (Child-Pugh class B or C) 5. Suspected breakthrough fungal infection 	1.0-6.0 mg/l (levels of >5-6mg/l are associated with neurotoxicity)
	Isavuconazole	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suspected malabsorption (if receiving oral formulation) 2. Suspected breakthrough fungal infection 	Not established

PCP prophylaxis

Disease Type/Therapy Examples	Antimicrobial agent	Duration
ALL	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (preferred) 1 DS or SS daily OR 1 DS 3 times/week 1. Dapsone 50 mg daily 2. Atovaquone 1500mg daily 	From induction to end of maintenance
Alemtuzumab		≥2 months after discontinuation of alemtuzumab AND CD4 ≥200 (ECIL recommends at least 6 months of therapy after completion of treatment)
Purine analogue therapy (cladribine, fludarabine, pentostatin) T cell depleting agents Thymoglobulin		3-6 months after discontinuation of therapy AND CD4 ≥200
Prolonged steroid use (equivalent to prednisone 20mg daily for ≥4 weeks)		Until 4 weeks after steroids discontinued

Viral prophylaxis

Viral Prophylaxis

Acyclovir 400mg PO BID (preferred)

Acyclovir 800mg PO BID (if previous history of zoster)

Hepatitis B prophylaxis

For patients who are Hepatitis B core antibody positive, surface antigen negative (irrespective of surface antibody status) and who have undetectable viral loads at baseline:

Level of risk	Immunosuppressive condition(s)	Strategy
High	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chemotherapy for hematological malignancy 2. Anti-CD20 agents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rituximab, ofatumumab, obinutuzumab 3. Anti-CD52 agents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alemtuzumab 4. Stem cell transplant patients 5. Steroids in combination with other immunosuppressive therapy 6. Corticosteroids* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therapy for ≥ 4 wk (moderate/high dose) 7. Anthracycline derivatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doxorubicin, epirubicin, daunorubicin 	Prophylaxis
Low risk	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Traditional immunosuppressive agents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine, methotrexate 2. Anti-TNF agents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Etanercept, infliximab, adalimumab, certolizumab 3. Other cytokine and integrin inhibitors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abatacept, ustekinumab, natalizumab, vedolizumab 4. Tyrosine kinase inhibitors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imatinib, nilotinib 5. Corticosteroids* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therapy for ≤ 1 wk (any dose) Therapy for ≥ 4 wk (low dose) 6. Chemotherapy for solid tumor (except anthracyclines in breast cancer; see high risk section) 	Preemptive

*Corticosteroids: prednisone (or equivalent): low dose, < 10 mg; moderate dose, 10 – 20 mg; high-dose, > 20 mg

Hepatitis B prophylaxis

Prophylactic strategy:

Entecavir 0.5 mg PO daily with HBV DNA monitoring every 3 months

- Rationale for entecavir as first choice: low resistance profile, lower incidence of HBV reactivation, minimal drug interactions, and well-tolerated

Pre-emptive strategy:

Check HBV DNA PCR every 3 months. If detected, check LFTs, hepatitis B serologies and start entecavir (consult Transplant ID or hepatology with questions).

Duration of prophylaxis:

- Chemotherapy patients: 12 months after the conclusion of chemotherapy
- Rituximab: consider discontinuation of prophylaxis 18 months after the last rituximab dose
- Stem cell transplant recipients: 12 months after conclusion of immunosuppression

Patients currently maintained on lamivudine should continue current therapy if:

- Lamivudine resistance is NOT identified
- HBV DNA < 2,000 IU/mL

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