

GCC AML EDITORIAL BOARD

GULF HEMATOLOGY NEWS

MEDICAL INSIGHTS ON AML

FEATURE ARTICLE: PRECISION MEDICINE IN ACTION

TITLE: PRECISION TAKES THE LEAD – ADVANCING CARE FOR IDH1-MUTATED AML ACROSS THE GULF

Regional Hematology Leaders Unite to Shape the Future of Molecularly Targeted AML Management

On **May 23–24, 2025**, the Emirates Society of Haematology (**ESH**) hosted the **GCC AML Editorial Board Meeting**, an extraordinary two-day summit convening over 25 expert hematologists and clinical pharmacists representing six countries across the Gulf region.

The meeting's primary objective, to execute a consensus on molecular diagnostics and IDH-1 targeted therapy into the standard care pathway for **acute myeloid leukaemia (AML)**.

EVENT OVERVIEW

DAY 1

Voco Hotel, Riyadh

23rd of May 2025



DAY 2

Conrad Hotel, Dubai

24th of May 2025



INSIGHTS ON AML TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT



It was a privilege to take part in the GCC Editorial Board on Precision in AML. The level of clinical insight and regional commitment to advancing personalized AML care was truly impressive. This initiative reflects a strong regional ambition to integrate precision medicine into everyday practice by aligning international evidence with local realities. The open dialogue between experts from across the GCC demonstrated a shared dedication to improving diagnostic precision and treatment outcomes. I believe this collaborative approach will serve as a model for other regions aiming to enhance AML management through targeted, patient-specific strategies

Hartmut Döhner

Deputy Director, Comprehensive Cancer Center, Ulm University Hospital, Germany

LEADERSHIP REMARKS



The GCC Editorial Board on Precision in AML was a vital step toward unifying regional efforts in advancing personalized AML care. It fostered meaningful collaboration, addressed local challenges, and laid the groundwork for tailored treatment strategies that align with global standards while meeting the unique needs of our patients in the UAE and the wider region

Dr. Asma Al Olama

President, Emirates Society of Hematology
Consultant Hematologist, Dubai Hospital, UAE



The GCC Editorial Board on Precision in AML was a landmark initiative that brought together the region's leading minds in hematology to collectively address the evolving needs in AML management. It was truly encouraging to see such a high level of engagement and commitment toward implementing biomarker-driven strategies that reflect both international advancements and regional realities. By focusing on precision advance, we are not only improving outcomes for AML patients but also setting a new standard of care tailored to our population. I'm proud to contribute to this important regional collaboration

Dr. Bader Al Ahmari

Consultant, SCT and Cellular Therapy Division, Department of Oncology, King Abdulaziz Medical City, Saudi Arabia

Expert Insights on Mutation-Directed Therapy

A major highlight of the event was the involvement of Prof. Hartmut Döhner, internationally recognized hematologist and lead author of the European LeukemiaNet (ELN) guidelines. Prof. Döhner shared a global perspective on the increasingly pivotal role of molecular profiling, particularly in driving appropriate first-line treatment decisions for newly diagnosed AML patients who are unfit for intensive chemotherapy.

His insights highlighted how mutation-guided therapy is now firmly positioned at the center of modern AML management.

cBTK as a Treatment Option for AML

○ Implementation of rapid molecular testing, including IDH1, at diagnosis for all AML patients to guide timely treatment decisions. There was clear consensus to delay treatment initiation until test results are available, when clinically appropriate, to ensure optimal therapy selection.

○ Recognition of IDH1-targeted therapy in combination with azacitidine as a preferred first-line treatment option in newly diagnosed unfit AML patients with confirmed IDH1 mutation, supported by robust data from the AGILE Phase III trial. TIBSOVO (ivosidenib) (IDH1-targeted therapy) in newly diagnosed unfit AML patients; long-term follow-up data as of June 2022 showed a median OS of 29.3 months (95% CI 13.2, not reached) for TIBSOVO (ivosidenib) in combination with azacitidine vs 7.9 months (95% CI 4.1, 11.3) for placebo plus azacitidine (HR 0.42 [0.27, 0.65]; p<0.0001).

KEY TRIAL RESULTS – AGILE TRIAL

Median Overall Survival:

29.3 months for ivosidenib + azacitidine vs 7.9 months for placebo + azacitidine

Hazard Ratio (HR):

0.42 (95% CI: 0.27–0.65; p<0.0001)

INSIGHTS FROM THE 2025 EHA CONGRESS

○ The European Hematology Association (EHA) Congress held from June 12–15, 2025, in Milan, Italy, served as a pivotal platform for advancing the treatment of IDH1-mutated acute myeloid leukemia (AML). The congress brought together leading experts in the field to discuss the integration of novel therapies and the importance of molecular diagnostics in optimizing patient care.

CONCLUSION

Crucial step forward in hematological care for the region involves creating unified guidelines for AML (Acute Myeloid Leukemia) testing and treatment. This collaborative endeavor aims to standardize practices across various institutions and countries, marking a significant milestone in bringing personalized care to the forefront. By aligning clinical approaches with the latest evidence, the region demonstrates a strong commitment to advancing patient outcomes.

The Path Forward: Testing, Results, and Targeted Treatment

To truly personalize AML treatment and optimize patient outcomes, it's necessary to undergo comprehensive testing and await the results before initiating any treatment. This approach ensures that the most effective and targeted therapies are chosen. For patients identified with an IDH mutation, prioritizing Ivosidenib as a treatment option is crucial, given its proven efficacy in this specific genetic subgroup. This strategic sequencing of diagnostics and therapy underscores the region's dedication to evidence-based, precision medicine in the fight against AML.

Reference:

*D'Nardo CD et al. Ivosidenib and Azacitidine in IDH1-Mutated Acute Myeloid Leukemia. N Engl J Med. 2022;386(2):151–162. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa2109867 (AGILE Trial)