COVID-19: Impact on HCT Outcomes Data
HHS Advisory Council Blood Stem Cell Transplantation
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Topics to be addressed

• Overview of COVID-19

• Anticipated impacts on the SCTOD
  – Morbidity and mortality
  – HCT deferrals and rates
  – Performing procedure
  – Clinical research
    • Clinical Trials
    • Observational Research
  – Center capacity/operations

• CIBMTR Responses
  – Data collection
  – Plans for CPI, Audits
  – Research agenda
    • Studies relevant to new approaches to HCT
    • Studies regarding impact of COVID-19 on HCT, complications/outcomes
  – Consent for participation in research
  – Considerations for Center Specific Survival Analysis
COVID 19

- Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) with major respiratory complications
- WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern Jan 30, pandemic March 11, 2020
- As of April 16, 2020
  - US affected > 668,000 ; International affected > 2,150,000
  - US mortality > 33,000 ; International mortality >144,000
- Effective immunization, treatment TBD
- Duration of isolation, medical and economic impact - TBD
Morbidity and Mortality

• Much is unknown about the incidence of COVID-19 in patients with cancer, or hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) or the morbidity and mortality in these patients

• Early, small studies from Wuhan suggest:
  – Incidence doubled (0.79 vs. 0.37%)\(^1\) in cancer patients
  – Severe complication rate also increased in cancer patients (39% v 8%)\(^2\)

• Most “evidence” is very preliminary, incomplete or descriptive in nature

\(^1\)Yu, J et al JAMA Onc March 25,2020; \(^2\)Liang W et al Lancet Oncology March 2020
C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program*

US Department of Health and Human Services

HRSA/Division of Transplantation

Advisory Council on Blood Stem Cell Transplantation

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\[ \text{Advisory Council on Blood Stem Cell Transplantation} \]

\[ \text{National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI)} \]

\[ \text{Stem Cell Therapeutic Outcomes Database (SCTOD)} \]

\[ \text{Single Point of Access–Coordinating Center (SPA-CC)} \]

\[ \text{Office of Patient Advocacy (OPA)} \]

\[ \text{Individually contracted and accredited cord blood banks} \]

\[ \text{Components of the C. W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program} \]

\[ \text{Transplant centers, patients and families, referring physicians} \]

\[ = \text{HRSA Contract Functions} \]

Highlights of SCTOD expectations

• Collect data (and specimens)
  – *ALL* allogeneic HCTs with a U.S. recipient or donor
  – Related donor-recipient repository
  – Other cellular therapies
  – Quality of life data
  – Secure, efficient electronic data capture system

• Analyze data
  – Center-specific outcomes for U.S. related/unrelated donor transplants
  – Optimal size for the adult donor registry and cord blood unit inventory
  – Other research using the data collected under the contract

• Disseminate data
  – Within the Program
  – To the scientific and medical community
  – To patients, families and the public
How has COVID-19 changed how HCT is performed?

• Risks of travel restrictions for donors/donor products has led to acquisition and cryopreservation of donated stem cell product before initiation of preparative regimen
• Lung spirometry often deferred for infectious risk
• Drug shortages may impact preparative regimens
• Delayed allogeneic HCT for non-malignant or chronic disease
• Many programs are restricting transplants to inpatient only
• Patient follow-up has often been converted to virtual
• Substantial restrictions on visitation policies
What are the research impacts?

• Research office/Institutional Review Boards have:
  – Suspended human subjects research that is not interventional (and potentially of benefit to the patient)
  – Limited patient accrual to patients without standard of care options
    • Phase I or II trials, patients with refractory disease
• Clinical Trials staff moved off-site/working from home to avoid unnecessary patient exposures
• Observational research often deemed non-essential
  – Even if considered “minimal risk” and consent processes are embedded in routine consent for HCT
How has COVID-19 affected submission of HCT data?

• At most centers, data professionals are working off-site to maintain social distancing and avoid exposure to COVID-19.
• In many cases, data professionals may not have routine access to the EMR and other essential systems remotely.
• Data professionals subject to furlough because of economic effects on health systems.
• Resulting in substantial decline in data submissions.
Adapting to COVID-19 – Collecting COVID data

• The following changes were made to FormsNet to capture information on COVID-19
  – Pre- and post-transplant Transplant Essential Data (TED) forms revised to collect COVID-19 as a specific viral infection before or after HCT, or as cause of death - planned release in FormsNet May 8, 2020
    • Unprecedented timely approval by OMB April 9 – highlighting CIBMTR-HRSA-OMB collaboration
  – Comprehensive Report Form (collected on subset of HCT patients) and Cellular Therapy Essential Data from (collected on all non-HCT cell therapy patients) modified to include COVID-19 as of March 27th – both are voluntary
  – New voluntary form collecting detailed information on COVID-19 infection, treatment and outcome designed and in production – will be released in FormsNet in early May and can be submitted for all patients – TED, CRF and CTED tracks;
    • In the interim, using an innovative approach, the form can be completed via ServiceNow platform
• Frequent communication with centers using e-blast and CIBMTR website
COVID Data Collection

• Form 2149 (Respiratory Virus Post-Infusion Form) is operational in ServiceNow

• As of April 16,
  – # of Infections Reported: 37
  – # of Centers Reporting: 19 (4 non-US)
  – # of Deaths Reported: 7
  – Status of Infections: Resolved (4), Ongoing (13), Improved (8), Death (7), Pending (5)

• We do not put any criteria on what cases to report but do ask about how diagnosis was made so that we can report according to whatever criteria is required
Adapting to COVID-19 – Addressing Reduced Center Capacities

• Recognizing that many centers have more limited capacity for data reporting
  – Continuous Process Improvement (process for monitoring compliance with data submission timelines) has been suspended so there will be no penalties for delayed submission during the crisis
  – We are exploring ways to help centers catch up once the crisis subsides
  – Potential timeline impacts to Center Specific Survival Analysis

• On-site audits have been cancelled
  – Remote auditing being deployed at a few health systems
  – Audits will be re-scheduled as situation becomes more clear
Adapting to COVID-19 – Continuing CIBMTR Scientific Activities

• All data collection/center support systems are fully operational
• All CIBMTR staff working remotely since mid-March
  – Maintaining appropriate privacy and security procedures
• Working Committee activities are proceeding
  – Continue previously established timelines for ongoing studies but understand that PIs and Scientific Directors may be less available
  – Weekly Stats Meetings and Working Committee leadership calls proceeding
  – New studies approved following Transplant and Cellular Therapy meetings will start - reserve hours for COVID-19-related activities
Some Noteworthy Scientific Achievements Relevant to COVID-19

• Impact of cryopreservation on transplant outcomes
  – Questions posed early March 2020
  – Analysis of 277 patients receiving HCT for hematologic malignancy with post transplant cyclophosphamide
    • Manuscript ACCEPTED for publication early April
  – Similar analysis of patients receiving calcineurin-based GVHD prophylaxis in progress
  – Analysis of patients receiving cryopreserved grafts for non-malignant disease anticipated to be complete end of April
Some Noteworthy Scientific Achievements Relevant to COVID-19

• Impact of tociluzimab (possible treatment for COVID-19 lung disease)
  – Question about safety posed last week (using data from cell therapy patients who frequently receive the drug)
  – Manuscript submitted early April
Adapting to COVID-19 – Clinical Trials

• RCI BMT and BMT CTN trials significantly affected
  – Accrual temporarily suspended for 7 trials; accrual restricted to certain graft types or certain centers at 2 others
  – On-site monitoring suspended – remote monitoring being considered
  – Measures to deliver investigational drug to enrolled patients who are remote from the transplant center necessary for one trial
  – Many scheduled visits will be done by telemedicine - some functional assessments (e.g. 6-minute walk test) being adapted to be done at home
  – Required many communications with study teams, NIH, DSMB, IRB and centers
  – Guidance issued for reporting COVID-19-related protocol deviations to IRBs
  – Data systems amended to collect information on COVID-19 and its impact (whether related to direct infection/exposure to restricted access to medical centers)
  – Impact to statistical analysis plans/finances being considered and codified
Consent Issue and Impact on Research

- Some centers have prohibited all non-interventional research in an effort to minimize patient and staff contact and potential exposure.
- Would have a negative effect on CIBMTR’s ability to understand the effect of the pandemic on HCT and CT patients.
  - Without consent, we can still collect HCT data but only for government reporting purposes.
- We believe the research restriction should not apply to CIBMTR.
  - Consent can be obtained by the clinician consenting the patient to HCT or CT and data can be reported later.
  - NO VISITS OR ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED THAT ARE NOT STANDARD OF CARE.
- Encourage centers to consent patients even if data reporting is delayed.
  - ASTCT Position Statement shared with centers’ IRBs.
  - Reminders to centers regarding reporting obligations and importance of research.
Potential Impacts to SCTOD Reports

• Center Specific Survival Analysis – highest impact report
• Incidence of COVID-19 infection and treatment resource availability is variable
  – By location of center, residence of patient
• Impact on patients may vary by underlying condition(s)
• Transplants performed as early as March/April 2019 could be impacted – within 1 year time post transplant window
• Lack of spirometry affects calculation of HCT-comorbidity index
• Unknown impact of COVID-19 pre-HCT on HCT outcomes
• Will first affect the 2021 report (HCT years 2017-2019)
Possibilities to accommodate COVID-19 in the center specific survival?

- Eliminate transplants performed during a specific time period of risk
- Adjust expected outcome based on geographic disease incidence and severity
  - By location of HCT center, residence of recipient?
- Don’t count deaths secondary to COVID-19
- Use an ‘adjusted’ HCT-CI without lung function across all centers for a fixed period of time
- Discussion topic of 2020 Center Outcomes Forum