

What are the treatment options for MF-related anemia?

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Hi, I'm Dr. Raajit Rampal and I'm frequently asked, what are treatment options for myelofibrosis-related anemia? Certainly, there are many options that may be considered and many emerging options for patients who have anemia with myelofibrosis, which is not an infrequent thing that we encounter. Standard therapies that have been tried and used for many years include immunomodulatory agents such as thalidomide and lenalidomide. All of which have roughly about a 30% response rate. If the patient's erythropoietin level is less than 250 endogenously, it is reasonable to consider a trial of erythropoietin-stimulating agents. Danazol can also be considered in patients although liver toxicity needs to be assessed, as well, there is a risk of virilization in female patients. These represent treatment options that are currently available. A number of different approaches are currently being investigated, such as the use of luspatercept, which is now being studied in clinical trials, but has shown efficacy in terms of increasing hemoglobin and decreasing transfusion requirements as well as converting a proportion of patients to transfusion independence when combined with ruxolitinib. Another option that is being investigated is the JAK inhibitor momelotinib which in fact in the phase 3 trials that were conducted with this agent, did demonstrate an increase in hemoglobin and to some degree, a decrease in transfusion independence in patients who are randomized to momelotinib. There are a number of agents that can be tried today and have been utilized for a number years, but importantly, there are a number of agents that are currently in clinical investigations and may benefit our patients in the relatively near future. Thank you for viewing this activity.