

Small Molecules VS CAR-T In CLL

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KEY TAKEAWAYS

- CLL transformed by BTK inhibitors (acalabrutinib/zanubrutinib) and venetoclax combinations; fixed-duration venetoclax achieves MRD negativity in 50-70% enabling treatment-free periods
- CAR-T in CLL: TRANSCEND CLL 004 shows 18% CR, 45% ORR in BTKi/venetoclax-refractory disease - challenging due to T cell dysfunction
- Richter's transformation to DLBCL is the clearest CAR-T indication within the CLL spectrum
- Early T cell collection before BTK inhibitor therapy may improve CAR-T product quality when needed

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