

Thank You

A wholehearted "thank you" goes out to the following companies for their support of this conference:

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We hope to see you in Florida for our Physician/Practice Manager Conference January 21-22, 2005.



Members reconnected with colleagues, OA staff and manufacturer partners at this year's OA Annual Physician Conference. Attendees enjoyed a historic trolley tour visiting the hot spots of Philadelphia, including dinner at the famous restaurant Twenty21. Physicians appreciated the clinical speakers during the weekend, such as author Dr. Dan Shapiro (shown above right). We would like to thank everyone for making this conference a success!

have significant activity not only in the relapsed setting, but also for untreated patients as well.

In the lymphoma trials, 2 large series have been reported to date. First, Goy and colleagues reported a single agent bortezomib trial using the standard dosing schedule (days 1,4,8, and 11) with a dose of 1.5 mg/m² (1.3 mg/m² is the myeloma dose). Among the 29 patients with mantle cell lymphoma, 11 achieved a CR or PR, with an additional 4 patients having stable disease. Among the non-mantle cell patients, there was minimal activity in the large cell setting, but 1 patient with follicular NHL did achieve a CR. O'Conner and colleagues reported a series of patients of who received bortezomib at a dose of 1.5 mg/m² using the same dosing schedule. For the 12 patients with follicular NHL, 2 achieved a CR/CRu and 5

additional patients achieved a PR. For the mantle cell patients, 6 of 11 evaluable patients achieved a PR, with the remaining 5 patients achieving stable disease.

Taken together, these data support the continued investigation of bortezomib either alone or in combination with other agents for the treatment of lymphoma and myeloma. Currently, a number of trials are ongoing, addressing treatment combinations in both the clinical and pre-clinical settings. Such investigations will help to further define the role of bortezomib in the management of B-cell neoplasms.

Special Presentation

**Delivering Dr. Amelia,
The Psychology of a Physician's Mistake
Presented by Dr. Dan Shapiro, PhD**

Burnout rates are alarmingly high among front line health care workers, particularly physicians who divorce, use substances, and commit suicide in greater numbers than peers. Dan Shapiro, PhD., clinical psychologist and associate professor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine began his presentation with an exploration of one physician's struggle and then traced the contributing factors back to medical training, the malpractice system, and predisposing personal issues. Isolation, competing instead of relating, denying one's own needs, working too much, and ignoring symptoms of burnout were highlighted. Dr. Shapiro is the author of "Delivering Doctor Amelia," a book about one physician's struggle with burnout.

Summary

This conference provided significant discussion and networking time for the members. During these group discussions, members agreed that clinical trials are a good source of bringing in valuable research opportunities. With this in mind, OA is committed to notifying members when these opportunities become available through our pharmaceutical partners.

After having the opportunity to speak with industry experts at the conference and compare notes with colleagues, members left Philadelphia armed with individual strategies to put into place for 2005. It is our hope that you will use Oncology Associates as a resource to find the unique strategy that works best for your practice. **OA**