

# HOVON 140 tricks and tips

## 1. Step 1: Determine specific risks per arm (table 1)

Study arm	Study drugs	IRR risk*	TLS risk
1	FCR / BR	Unlikely	Unlikely
2	Ven+R	Unlikely	Likely if high risk category (see Table 2)
3	Ven+Obi	Likely	Likely if high risk category (see Table 2)
4	Ven+Obi+Ibrut	Likely	Likely if high risk category (see Table 2)

Table 1

IRR = Infusion related reaction

TLS = Tumor Lysis Syndrome

\*Obinutuzumab-related IRR is very common, specifically at day 1 of the first gift. See Table 2 for dosing:

Treatment day	dosage	Infusion rate
1	100 mg	Fixed infusion rate: 25 mg/h over approximately 4 hours. Infusion rate may not be increased.
2	900 mg	Starting infusion rate: 50 mg/h. Infusion rate can be escalated in increments of 50 mg/h approximately every 30 minutes to a maximum rate of 400 mg/hr.
All other	1000 mg	Starting infusion rate: 100 mg/h. Infusion rate can be escalated in increments of 100 mg/h approximately every 30 minutes to a maximum rate of 400 mg/h.

Table 2

### Supportive treatment in case of IRR

In case of IRR, the following measures should be considered depending on the severity of the IRR:

- acetaminophen/paracetamol 1000 mg if not administered during the last 4 hrs.
- antihistamines including a H1- (e.g. dimetindene 4 mg i.v.) and a H2-antagonist (e.g. ranitidine 50mg i.v.) if not yet administered during the last 4 hrs.
- prednisolone or prednisone 100 mg i.v. in case of urticarial, bronchospasm and dyspnea
- intravenous fluids
- bronchodilators and oxygen in case of bronchospasm and dyspnea
- vasopressors in case of hypotension

**2. Step 2:** In case of arm 2-4 (venetoclax), determine TLS risk category **DIRECTLY PRIOR** to venetoclax intake (table 3)

<b>TLS risk category</b>	<b>Largest diameter of all measurable lymph nodes*</b>		<b>Absolute lymphocyte count (ALC)**</b>		
Low	<5 cm	AND	< 25 x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L		
Intermediate	≥ 5 and < 10 cm	OR	≥ 25 x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L		
High	≥ 5 and < 10 cm	AND	≥ 25 x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L		
	> 10 cm		Irrelevant		
	≥ 5 and < 10 cm	OR	≥ 25 x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	AND	Creatinine clearance < 80 ml/min
	Irrelevant		Irrelevant		Signs of chemistry TLS
	Irrelevant		Irrelevant		Massive splenomegaly (≥20cm)

*Table 3*

\*As measured by CT at baseline

\*\* As measured minimum one day before first venetoclax gift

**3. Step 3:** Venetoclax guidance during ramp-up based on TLS risk profile (table 3)

**Venetoclax ramp-up**

Due to the risk of adverse events, especially tumor-lysis-syndromes (TLS), the dose of venetoclax will be increased slowly every week until the final dose of 400 mg is reached (ramp-up).

***Venetoclax p.o.:***

- Cycle 1: Days 22-28: venetoclax 20 mg (2 tabl. at 10 mg)
- Cycle 2 Days 1-7: venetoclax 50 mg (1 tabl. at 50 mg)
- Days 8-14: venetoclax 100 mg (1 tabl. at 100 mg)
- Days 15-21: venetoclax 200 mg (2 tabl. at 100 mg)
- Days 22-28: venetoclax 400 mg (4 tabl. at 100 mg)
- Cycles 3-12: Days 1-28: venetoclax 400 mg (4 tabl. at 100 mg)

All patients must receive the intended dose of venetoclax for at least 7 days before increasing to the next ramp-up dose.

Safety measures for TLS prophylaxis during venetoclax ramp-up (20 mg, 50 mg, 100 mg, 200 mg and 400 mg)

<b>TLS risk</b>	<b>Low-risk</b>	<b>Intermediate-risk</b>	<b>High-risk</b>
Hospitalization	No	No	Yes for first day 20mg and 50mg; continue at higher dose if TLS was present
TLS Laboratory assessments (K, phosphate, Calcium, Kreat, Uric acid, LDH)	Pre-dose, post-dose 6-8hrs, post-dose 24hrs  Extra for pts at home: pre-dose 24hrs, post-dose 2hrs	Pre-dose, post-dose 6-8hrs, post-dose 24hrs  Extra for pts at home: pre-dose 24hrs, post-dose 2hrs	Pre-dose, post-dose 6-8hrs, post-dose 24hrs
<b>Hydration</b>			
- Oral hydration (>2 l/24hrs)	Yes	Yes	No
- Intravenous (>2 l/24hrs)	No	No	Yes (20mg, 50mg)
<b>Uric acid reducer</b>			
- Allopurinol (start 2-3 days pre-dose)	Yes	Yes	Yes
- Rasburicase	No	No	Yes

Table 4

#### 4. Step 4: How to handle in case of lab changes

Further actions need to be taken in case of:

- potassium increase by  $\geq 0.5$  mmol/l from baseline and/or any potassium value  $> 5.0$  mmol/L
- phosphorus increase of  $> 0.162$  mmol/L and  $> 1,454$  mmol/L
- any other significant laboratory change, especially electrolyte imbalances

These actions should be according to the institutional practice and include but are not limited to:

- discontinuation of administration of venetoclax, no further dosage should be taken until resolution
- hospitalization for more aggressive monitoring (especially regular laboratory assessments, telemetry/ECG monitoring, observation for signs/symptoms of tumor lysis syndrome (e.g. fever, chills, tachycardia, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, sweating, hypotension, muscle aches, weakness, paresthesias, mental status changes, confusion and seizures)
- administration of intravenous fluids at a rate of  $\geq 1$  ml/kg/h ( $\geq 50$  ml/hr., target 150 to 200 ml/hr.; as clinically appropriate)
- in case the diagnosis of TLS is established, further measures, such as administration of rasburicase (Fasturtec®) as per institutional practice should be considered
- consultation of nephrology (or acute dialysis service) to ensure emergency dialysis is available

**Please note:** A rapidly rising serum potassium level is a medical emergency.

5. **Step 5: when to apply dose venetoclax modification (Table 5)**

<b>Hematologic toxicity (unless directly attributable to the underlying CLL)</b>	
<b>Event</b>	<b>Dose delay or dose modification</b>
Neutropenia (with or without fever and infection) CTC Grade 3 or 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If afebrile neutropenia occurs during ramp-up, G-CSF or growth factors should be administered and ramp should continue if neutropenia improves with growth factors</li> <li>• If neutropenia is occurring after ramp-up during the treatment with-hold of venetoclax for 7 days is due to the investigator's discretion               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Administer G-CSF or growth factors for neutropenia as indicated</li> <li>- When counts recover to ANC <math>\geq 1 \times 10^9/l</math> resume venetoclax at one dose level reduction</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Thrombocytopenia CTC Grade 4 and/or symptomatic bleeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If thrombocytopenia grade 4 occurs during ramp-up consider platelet transfusion, but continue with ramp if clinically possible.</li> <li>• If thrombocytopenia grade 4 occurs after ramp-up withhold venetoclax               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Platelets may be transfused at the discretion of the investigator</li> <li>- When platelet level rises to <math>&gt; 50 \times 10^9/l</math> without transfusional support for 5 consecutive days, restart venetoclax at <b>previous dose</b></li> <li>- Patients with thrombocytopenia due to CLL infiltration in bone marrow prior to start of therapy should achieve at least baseline levels</li> <li>- When platelet level does not rise to <math>&gt; 50 \times 10^9/l</math> or to baseline level in patients with preexisting thrombocytopenia within 28 days, restart venetoclax at <b>one dose level reduction</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>For a second episode:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Withhold venetoclax</li> <li>○ When platelet level rises to <math>&gt; 50 \times 10^9/l</math> without transfusional support for 5 consecutive days, restart venetoclax at <b>one dose level reduction</b></li> </ul> <p><i>For subsequent episodes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Withhold venetoclax</li> <li>○ When platelet level rises to <math>&gt; 50 \times 10^9/l</math> without transfusional support for 5 consecutive days, restart venetoclax at <b>one dose level reduction</b></li> </ul> <p><i>For recurrent episodes please consult the GCLLSG study office.</i></p>

<b>Non-hematologic events (e.g. infections)</b>	
<b>CTC Grade</b>	<b>Dose delay or dose modification</b>
Grade 3 or 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delay venetoclax for a maximum of 28 days.</li> <li>• <i>First episode:</i> If improvement to Grade <math>\leq 1</math> or baseline, re-sume <b>previous doses</b> of venetoclax.</li> <li>• <i>For subsequent episodes:</i> If improvement to Grade <math>\leq 1</math> or baseline, restart venetoclax at <b>one dose level reduction</b>.</li> </ul> <p><i>Certain treatment emergent non-hematologic adverse events (e.g., venous thromboembolic events) may be managed and become clinically stable following medical intervention but may not improve to Grade <math>\leq 1</math> according to the NCI CTCAE definitions. In such cases resumption of study drug may be possible after consultation with the GCLLSG study office.</i></p>
Grade 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delay venetoclax for a maximum of 28 days.</li> <li>• <i>First episode:</i> If improvement to Grade <math>\leq 1</math> or baseline, re-sume <b>previous doses</b> of venetoclax.</li> <li>• <i>For subsequent episodes:</i> If improvement to Grade <math>\leq 1</math> or baseline, restart venetoclax at <b>one dose level reduction</b>.</li> </ul> <p>• <i>Certain treatment emergent non-hematologic adverse events (e.g., venous</i></p>

	<i>thromboembolic events) may be managed and become clinically stable following medical intervention but may not improve to Grade ≤ 1 according to the NCI CTCAE definitions. In such cases resumption of study drug may be possible after consultation with the GCLLSG study office.</i>
Grade 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No dose reduction or delay</li> </ul>

*Table 5*