INPLASY PROTOCOL

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Review Stage at time of this submission: Data analysis.

Conflicts of interest: None declared.

Chemo-Free Treatments in Relapsed and/or Refractory Follicular Lymphoma: A Network Meta-Analysis

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Review question / Objective: FL is the most common indolent B cell lymphoma worldwide and patients with FL always have long term survival. However, advanced FL remains incurable and there is no universal agreement on optimal regimen to manage relapsed FL.

Condition being studied: The efficacy of chemo-free regimens, including CD20 antibodies and targeted agents, in relapsed and/or refractory Follicular lymphoma.

Information sources: We used the MEDLINE, Embase, and Cochrane Library databases to search the RCTs met our selection criteria. We also searched clinicalTrials.gov and the international clinical trial registry platform for completed and ongoing trials. In addition, we searched abstracts that published on American Society of Hematology (ASH), The European Hematology Association (EHA) or American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) meetings.

INPLASY registration number: This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 30 November 2021 and was last updated on 30 November 2021 (registration number INPLASY2021110111).

INTRODUCTION

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METHODS

Search strategy: We used the MEDLINE, Embase, and Cochrane Library databases to search the RCTs met our selection criteria. We also searched clinicalTrials.gov

and the international clinical trial registry platform for completed and ongoing trials. In addition, we searched abstracts that published on American Society of Hematology (ASH), The European Hematology Association (EHA) or American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) meetings. The trials should be published in English since January 2010. Various combinations of the following MeSH terms and keywords were used to search for studies of interest: "Lymphoma, Follicular", "indolent", "recurrence" and so on.

Participant or population: Relapsed and/or refractory Follicular lymphoma.

Intervention: Chemo-free regimens, including CD20 antibodies and targeted agents.

Comparator: Could be placebo or any other chemo-free regimens, including CD20 antibodies and targeted agents.

Study designs to be included: Randomized controlled trials.

Eligibility criteria: We included all prospective, randomized controlled trials (RCTs) compared the survival data and/or response rate of chemo-free regimens in adult RRFL patients. All trials should be published in English language from 2010 to 2021. We excluded the RCTs that compared the efficacy of different dosage or usage in a single drug, or studies that didn't report at least one of the primary outcomes or secondary outcomes, such as economic outcomes and health-related quality of life assessments. We also excluded all study designs, reviews, non-comparative, in vitro and animal studies, poor quality studies as well as those with incomplete data or duplicate reports.

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Main outcome(s): PFS.

Additional outcome(s): ORR, adverse events.

Data management: R software (V. 3.5.3) package Gemtc along with the Markov Chain Monte Carlo engine JAGS (V. 3.4.0) and STATA/MP14.0 (StataCorp LLC) were used to conduct this analysis..

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis: We used the Cochrane Collaboration's tool to assess the quality of selected trials.

Strategy of data synthesis: Bayesian method with the random effect model was used to perform network meta-analyses.

Subgroup analysis: NA.

Sensitivity analysis: NA.

Language: English.

Country(ies) involved: China.

Keywords: Follicular lymphoma; chemo-free therapy

Contributions of each author:
Author 1 - Zhijuan Lin involved in data collection and drafted the manuscript.
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