

# Prophylaxis (Px) and Response to Treatment (Tx) of Invasive Mold Infections (IMI) in Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation (HCT)

J. KRIENKAUYKIAT<sup>1,2</sup>, B. TEGTMEIER<sup>1</sup>, S. DADWAL<sup>1</sup>, S. FORMAN<sup>3</sup>, J. ITO<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Infectious Diseases, <sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmacy, <sup>3</sup>Department of Hematology/HCT; City of Hope, Duarte, CA

Correspondence to:  
James Ito, M.D.  
Division of Infectious Diseases  
City of Hope, 1500 E. Duarte Rd.,  
Duarte, CA 91010, USA  
Tel: 626-256-4673 ext 62202  
Fax: 626-301-8954  
Email: jito@coh.org

## Abstract

**Background:** Background: Breakthrough IMI despite antifungal Px and poor responses to Tx continue to be a problem in HCT.

**Methods:** Chart review of HCT patients were identified by pathology and microbiology database as having a probable or proven IMI as defined by the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer/Mycoses Study Group from 1998 to 2008. Evaluation included: Px, Tx, and response to Tx at 90-days post onset.

**Results:** 214 cases were evaluable: 83% probable and 17% proven. 73% of cases were due to *Aspergillus* (IA), and 8% *Zygomycetes* (ZY). 90% were allogeneic HCT. 30% (65/214) of IMI cases were not on Px prior to onset. However, IMI cases due to multiple organisms, 82% (9/11) were not on Px prior to onset. For ZY, 88% (15/17) were not on ZY active Px.

| Breakthrough IMI            | IA<br>N=156 (%) | ZY<br>N=17 (%) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| No Px                       | 47 (30)         | 1 (6)          |
| Echinocandin (EC)           | 36 (23)         | 5 (29)         |
| Fluconazole/Itraconazole    | 36 (23)         | 6 (36)         |
| Amphotericin B product (AB) | 28 (18)         | 1 (6)          |
| Voriconazole (V)            | 5 (3)           | 4 (24)         |
| Posaconazole (P)            | 4 (3)           | 0              |

Overall 90-day response to Tx for all IMI was 29% (61/214). Overall response for IA was 30% (46/156). Tx for ZY: overall response was 18% (3/17), and 25% (3/12) if AB was in the regimen. Response rates for other IMI were 20% or less, and most were treated with an azole.

| Response to Tx | V (alone or with EC)<br>26/36 (72%) | AB (alone or with EC)<br>4/16 (25%)    | P-value |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------|
| IA             |                                     |  | 0.002   |
| ZY             | AB alone<br>3/9 (33%)               | No AB in regimen<br>0/5 (all 5/5 died) | NS      |

**Conclusion:** IMI occurred in cases where no Px was used or where Px may not have provided adequate coverage, specifically, there were no breakthrough ZY on P Px. Response rates were highest if V regimen was used for IA and AB regimen for ZY.

## Study Objectives

- To review the antifungal regimens patients with IMI received as prophylaxis and treatment
- To evaluate the 90-day response to therapy

## Introduction

- The number of IMI has continued to persist due primarily to the increased numbers of patients subjected to severe immunosuppression, such as HCT.
- Despite the use of prophylaxis, breakthrough IMI continue, and the resulting IMI may vary depending on the antifungal agent [1,2]
- IMI continues to be a significant factor in HCT outcomes resulting in high mortality rates [3].

## Methods

### •Patient Selection:

- Microbiology records and hematology database from 1998 to 2008 were used to identify patients with IMI and HCT

### •Data Collection:

- Retrospective review using medical record and chart review
- Patient information collected: age, gender, hematological diagnosis, type of transplant, prophylaxis, treatment, and response at 90-days.

### •Definitions/Criteria:

- Patients with proven and probable fungal infection were included. Criteria for probable and proven IFI were based on the definitions established by the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer/Mycoses Study Group (EORTC/MSG) [4].
- Definitions of responses and outcomes were also based on those established by EORTC/MSG [5].

Responders = patients with complete or partial response to therapy  
Non-Responder = patients with stable or failed response to therapy

GVHD = graft-versus-host disease

## Results

Table 1: Patient Demographics

| Patient Characteristics      | N=214 (%)   |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Type of HCT                  |             |
| Autologous HCT               | 21 (10)     |
| Allogeneic HCT               | 192 (90)    |
| MRD                          | 104 (47)    |
| MUD                          | 76 (35)     |
| Cord                         | 12 (6)      |
| Hematologic Malignancy       |             |
| Acute leukemia               | 109 (51)    |
| Chronic leukemia             | 25 (12)     |
| Lymphoma                     | 41 (19)     |
| Myelodysplastic syndrome     | 11 (5)      |
| Multiple Myeloma             | 12 (6)      |
| Other                        | 16 (7)      |
| GVHD (Allogeneic recipients) | N=192       |
| Acute                        | 34/192 (18) |
| Chronic                      | 72/192 (38) |
| None                         | 14/192 (7)  |

Figure 1: Proportion not on Prophylaxis

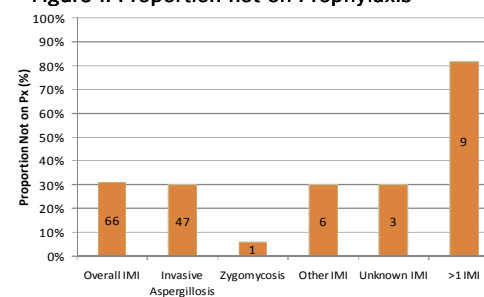


Table 2: Proportion of Breakthrough IMI on Prophylaxis

| Prophylactic Agent          | IA<br>N=156 (%) | ZY<br>N=17 (%) | Other*<br>N=41 (%) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Echinocandin (EC)           | 36 (23)         | 5 (29)         | 8 (20)             |
| Fluconazole/Itraconazole    | 36 (23)         | 6 (36)         | 7 (17)             |
| Amphotericin B product (AB) | 28 (18)         | 1 (6)          | 7 (17)             |
| Voriconazole (V)            | 5 (3)           | 4 (24)         | 1 (2)              |
| Posaconazole (P)            | 4 (3)           | 0              | 0                  |

\*IMI caused by other organisms & multiple organisms including IA or ZY

Figure 2: Proportion of Fungal Organisms

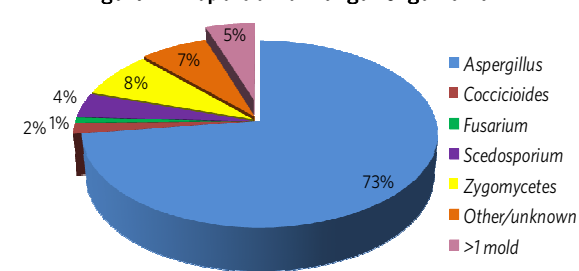
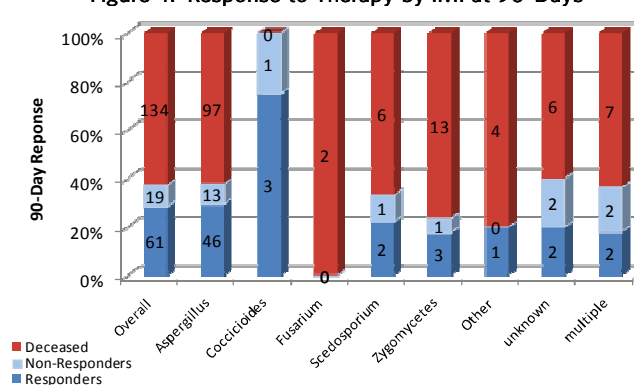


Figure 4: Response to Therapy by IMI at 90-Days



## Conclusion

- IMI occurred in cases where no Px was used or where Px may not have provided adequate coverage, specifically, there were no breakthrough ZY on P Px and only 1 breakthrough on AB Px.
- Response rates were lowest for IMI caused by *Fusarium spp.* (0%), followed by ZY (21%), and multiple IMI (22%).
- Response rates were highest if V regimen (72%) was used for IA and AB regimen (33%) for ZY.

Figure 4: IA Response to Therapy at 90-Days

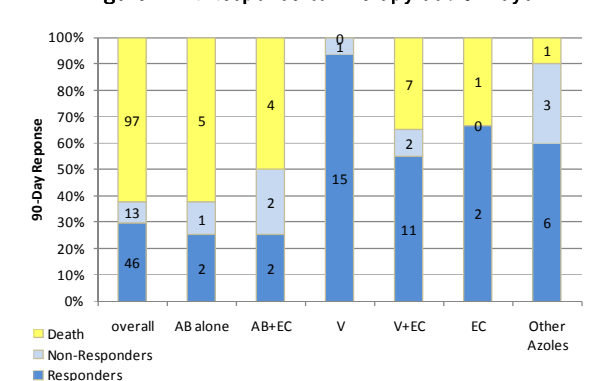
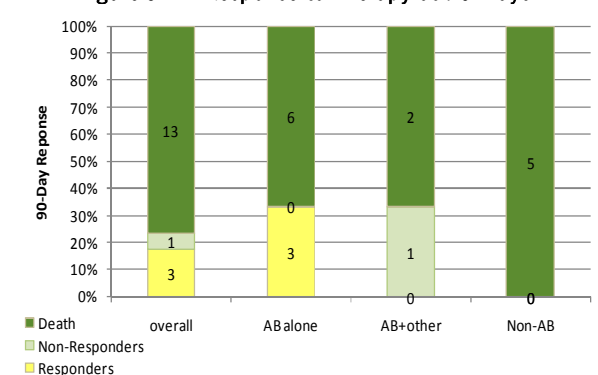


Figure 5: ZY Response to Therapy at 90-Days



## References

- Van Burik JA, et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2004; 39:1407-16.
- Trifilio SM, et al. *Bone Marrow Transpl* 2007; 39:425-9.
- Kontoyiannis DP, et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2010; 50:1091-1100.
- De Pauw et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2008; 46:1813-21.
- Segal et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2008; 47:674-83.