4th Translational Research Conference
CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKAEMIA
March 5-7, 2026 – Stockholm, Sweden
Chairpersons: Jennifer Brown (Boston), Paolo Ghia (Milan), Michael Hallek (Cologne)

Thursday, March 5, 2026

08:30–08:40	**Welcome**	Conference Chairpersons

SESSION I – Spectrum of CLL - one disease or more
Chairs: Jennifer Brown (Boston), Sameer Parikh (Rochester)

08:40-08:55	MBL, in different forms (high vs low risk)	Julia Almeida (Salamanca)
08:55-09:00	*Discussion*	
09:00-09:15	MBL, clinical implications (role of genetic abnormalities)	Sameer Parikh (Rochester)
09:15-09:20	*Discussion*	
09:20-09:35	Is stereotyped BCR ready to use in the clinics?	Andreas Agathangelidis (Athens)
09:35-09:40	*Discussion*	
09:40-09:55	Chronic lymphocytic leukemia as a result of a multiclonal selection process	Davide Bagnara (Genoa)
09:55-10:00	*Discussion*	
10:00-10:07	Selected briel oral communication Dissecting the heterogeneity of CLL subset #8 at single-cell resolution: Distinct T-cell profiles and insights into clonal dynamics	Athanasios Roussos (Thessaloniki)
10:07-10:10	*Discussion*	
10:10-10:40	*Panel discussion*	
10:40-11:10	***Coffee break***	

SESSION II – Richter transformation
Chairs: Barbara Eichhorst (Cologne), Davide Rossi (Bellinzona)

11:10-11:25	Genomic characterization of RT	Davide Rossi (Bellinzona)
11:25-11:30	*Discussion*	
11:30-11:45	Prevention of evolution	Ferran Nadeu (Barcelona)
11:45-11:50	*Discussion*	

11:50-12:05	New RT recommendations	Adam Kittai (New York)
12:05-12:10	*Discussion*	
12:10-12:25	Novel therapies using checkpoint inhibitors and kinase inhibitors	Barbara Eichhorst (Cologne)
12:25-12:30	*Discussion*	
12:30-12:37	Selected briel oral communication Targeting non-canonical NF-κB signalling in Richter Transformation: Rationale for NIK inhibition as a microenvironment-directed therapeutic strategy	Iona Ashworth (Brighton)
12:37-12:40	*Discussion*	
12:40-13:10	*Panel discussion*	
13:10-15:00	***Lunch***	

13:55-14:55 **SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM**
The Evolving Role of Risk Stratification in CLL Management: IGHV, TP53, and Beyond
Speakers: Anne-Sophie Michallet (Lyon), Ferran Nadeu (Barcelona)
This symposium is organised and supported by BeOne Medicines

SESSION III – Drivers of disease progression - from genetics, epigenetics, and proteomics (complexity of the evolution)
Chairs: Jennifer Brown (Boston), Christof Schneider (Ulm)

15:00-15:15	Clonal evolution of CLL	Romain Guièze (Clermont Ferrand)
15:15-15:20	*Discussion*	
15:20-15:35	The CLL 10.000 project: value of the relevant genetic aberrations in CLL	Christof Schneider (Ulm)
15:35-15:40	*Discussion*	
15:40-15:55	Insights from SEQUOIA and ALPINE	Jennifer Brown (Boston)
15:55-16:00	*Discussion*	
16:00-16:07	Selected briel oral communication TLR9-dependent migration defines chronic lymphocytic leukemia subgroups and their response to BTK inhibitor monotherapy	Emma Kennedy (Brighton)
16:07-16:10	*Discussion*	
16:10-16:40	*Panel discussion*	
16:40-17:10	***Coffee break***	

SESSION IV – The microenvironment of CLL
Chairs: Michael Hallek (Cologne), Martina Seiffert (Heidelberg)

17:10-17:25	Overcoming immune exhaustion in CLL: toward more effective CAR-T and bispecific antibody therapy	Martina Seiffert (Heidelberg)
17:25-17:30	*Discussion*	

17:30-17:45	Extracellular vesicles and the communication of CLL cells with their microenvironment	Daniel Bachurski (Cologne)
17:45-17:50	*Discussion*	
17:50-18:05	Proliferative reservoire in CLL: the dynamics of the cells	Shih-Shih Chen (Manhasset)
18:05-18:10	*Discussion*	
18:10-18:17	Selected briel oral communication Progressive immune remodeling in Eμ-TCL1 mice reveals coordinated T-Cell exhaustion and myeloid-driven immune suppression in CLL	Hannah Briesch (Heidelberg)
18:17-18:20	*Discussion*	
18:20-18:50	*Panel discussion*	

19:00-20:15 **Mentored Poster Walks and Welcome Get-together**
Biology Poster Walk Leaders: Lukas Frenzel (Cologne), Martina Seiffert (Heidelberg)
Clinical Poster Walk Leaders: Barbara Eichhorst (Cologne), William Wierda (Houston)

Friday, March 6, 2026

08:00-09:00 **Simultaneous Meet the Expert sessions**

1. Selection of fixed duration therapy in front line CLL	William Wierda (Houston) Barbara Eichhorst (Cologne)
2. One or two copies of *TP53*: does it matter?	Christof Schneider (Ulm)
3. Is there a need for in vitro screening systems?	Marco Haselager (Amsterdam)

09:10-10:10 **SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM**
Bridging Emerging Evidence with Clinical Practice in post-cBTKi CLL
Chair: Kerry Rogers (Columbus)
Speakers: Gianluca Gaidano (Novara), Per-Ola Anderson (Gothenburg), Alessandra Tedeschi (Milan)
This symposium is organised and supported by Eli Lilly

10:10-10:35 ***Coffee break***

SESSION V – Time limited therapies: which combination? which duration? which markers to stop therapy?
Chairs: Paolo Ghia (Milan), Kerry Rogers (Columbus)

10:35-10:50	MRD as a driver for treatment optimization (FLAIR)	Andy Rawstron (Leeds)
10:50-10:55	*Discussion*	
10:55-11:10	Lessons to be learned from the CLL17 trial	Othman Al-Sawaf (Cologne)
11:10-11:15	*Discussion*	
11:15-11:30	Amplify, Captivate, and other trials - lessons to be learned	Paolo Ghia (Milan)
11:30-11:35	*Discussion*	

11:35-11:42	Selected briel oral communication UVI5008: the first reversible, non-covalent Bruton's tyrosine kinase epi-inhibitor for B-cell malignancies	Carmela Dell'Aversana (Casamassima)
11:42-11:45	*Discussion*	
11:45-12:15	*Panel discussion*	
12:15-14:10	***Lunch***	

13:00-14:00 **SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM**
Optimising first-line CLL treatment: From continuous BTKi to fixed-duration regimens
Chair: George Follows (Cambridge)
Speakers: Barbara Eichhorst (Cologne), Clemens-Martin Wendtner (Munich)
This symposium is organised and supported by AstraZeneca

SESSION VI – BTK inhibition or degradation?
Chairs: Matthew Davids (Boston), Alessandra Tedeschi (Milan)

14:10-14:25	Role of BTK degraders in CLL	Justin Taylor (Miami)
14:25-14:30	*Discussion*	
	Debate:	
14:30-14:37	Continuous BTK inhibitor treatment is still the standard of care for most patients	Kerry Rogers (Columbus)
14:37-14:44	Fixed duration therapy is the standard of are with venetoclax combinations (Ven Obi or Ven BTKi)	Alessandra Tedeschi (Milan)
14:44-14:51	The therapeutic sequence is more relevant than the initial therapy	William Wierda (Houston)
14:51-15:31	*Roundtable discussion*	
15:31-16:00	***Coffee break***	

SESSION VII – The new challenge: resistance to one or two inhibitor classes? - Double refractory CLL
Chairs: Paula Cramer (Cologne), William Wierda (Houston)

16:00-16:15	Reinvigoration of T cells: strategies and tools for combination therapies	Alan Ramsay (London)
16:15-16:20	*Discussion*	
16:20-16:35	BTK resistance and mutations for different BTK inhibitors	Kerry Rogers (Columbus)
16:35-16:40	*Discussion*	
16:40-16:55	Venetoclax resistance	Matthew Davids (Boston)
16:55-17:00	*Discussion*	
17:00-17:15	What is the biology of double refractory CLL?	Lukas Frenzel (Cologne)
17:15-17:20	*Discussion*	

17:20-17:27	Selected briel oral communication Clinical emergence of BTK mutations limiting BTK degrader therapy in chronic lymphocytic leukemia	Allison Cool (Miami)
17:27-17:30	*Discussion*	
17:30-18:00	*Panel discussion*	

Saturday, March 7, 2026

08:00-09:00 Simultaneous Meet the Expert sessions

1. Triple refractory: what to do?	Michael Hallek (Cologne)
2. Sequencing after failing BTK inhibitors	Jennifer Brown (Boston) Othman Al-Sawaf (Cologne)
3. Preventive therapie in CLL	Paolo Ghia (Milan)

SESSION VIII – Future therapies, new compounds
Chairs: Romain Guièze (Clermont Ferrand), Sigrid Skanland (Oslo)

09:10-09:25	In vitro strategies to predict treatment outcomes	Sigrid Skanland (Oslo)
09:25-09:30	*Discussion*	
09:30-09:45	3D CLL spheroid model recapitulates lymph node phenotypes and in vivo responses to ibrutinib; a single-cell characterization	Marco Haselager (Amsterdam)
09:45-09:50	*Discussion*	
09:50-10:05	Strategies to enhance the efficacy of CART cells in CLL	Jessica Schmidt (Würzburg)
10:05-10:10	*Discussion*	
10:10-10:25	BcR as a therapeutic target	Jean Lemoine (Philadelphia)
10:25-10:30	*Discussion*	
10:30-11:00	*Panel discussion*	

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

SESSION IX – Directions and strategies to use the best agents in the optimal way: sequencing, combinations, costs of therapy, availability
Chairs: Jennifer Brown (Boston), Paolo Ghia (Milan), Michael Hallek (Cologne)

11:30-11:45	Do we need to perform trials on the optimal sequencing of therapeutic agents? How should they be designed?	Paula Cramer (Cologne)
11:45-11:50	*Discussion*	
11:50-12:05	When and how shall we bring new agents into 1L therapy?	Michael Hallek (Cologne)
12:05-12:10	*Discussion*	

12:10-12:25	What is the role of cellular immunotherapies in CLL? A critical summary and look into the future	Peter Dreger (Heidelberg)
12:25-12:30	*Discussion*	
12:30-13:00	Roundtable discussion: strategy to design future trials or therapies	
13:00-13:10	***Closing remarks***	Conference Chairpersons

MEETING CLOSURE