

A Survey on Relevance of Blood Tests Before Bortezomib in Myeloma Patients in Leicester Royal Infirmary

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Introduction

- Bortezomib-based regimen are often used as the first-line treatment for Myeloma patients outside clinical trials.
- In University Hospital of Leicester (UHL), patients are first seen in clinics on Mondays or Thursdays with the Bortezomib treatment scheduled on Tuesdays and/or Fridays.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						

- This is intended as a precautionary measure to allow blood tests to be taken and reviewed by day case nurses and consultants prior to treatment.
- Perception was that results were rarely problematic enough to warrant treatment changes.
- View shared by nursing and medical staff is that the process has been lengthy and time consuming for patients.
- A prospective survey was therefore carried out to evaluate the relevance of such practice

Survey period:

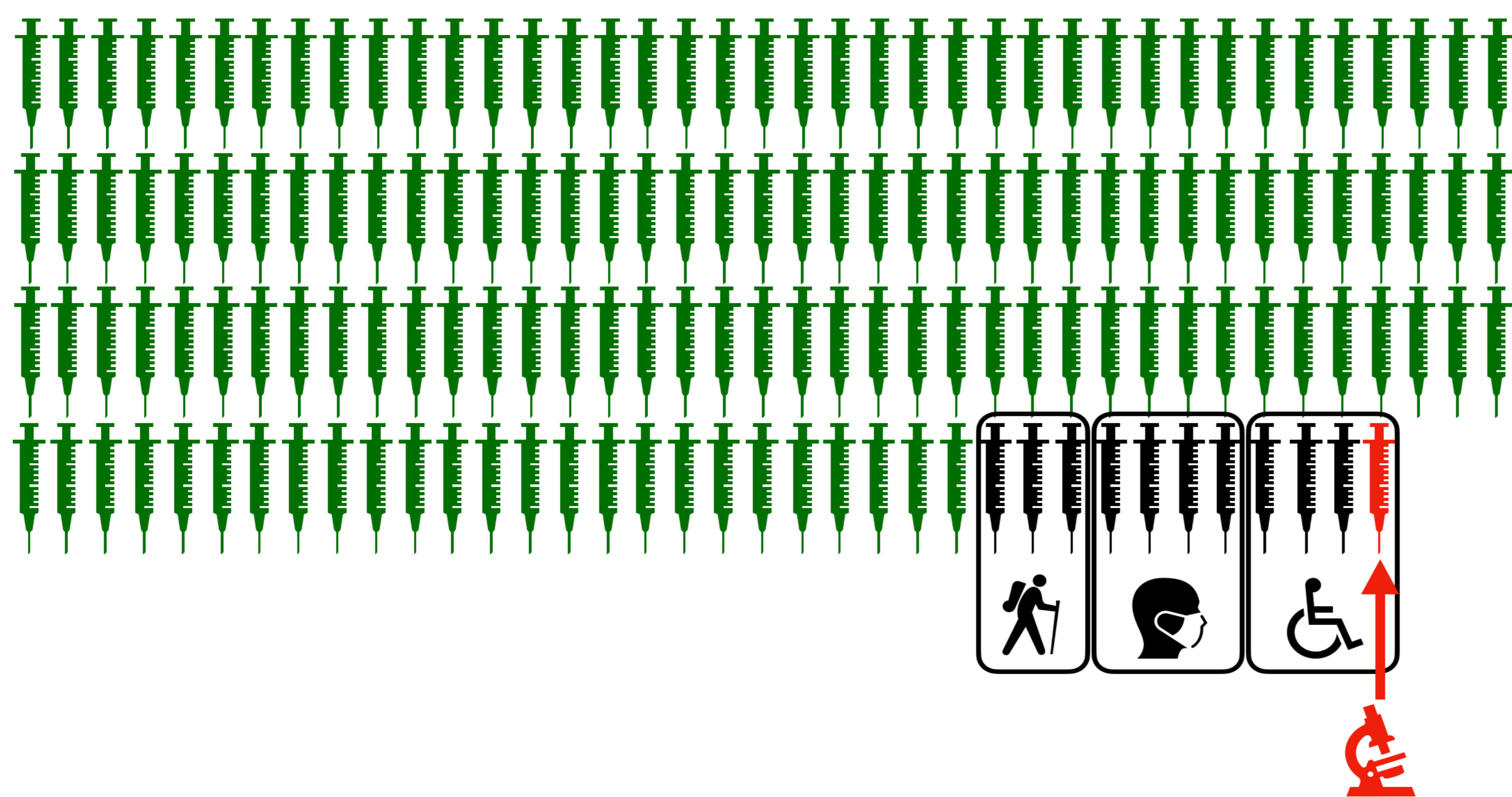
9 weeks from April to May 2018

Patients number:

36 (23 males, 13 female; age range 47-89, median 74.9)

Scheduled treatment count:

153



Treatment included	Number of patients
VCD weekly	6
VTD weekly	6
VTD twice weekly	4
VP	1
VMP - lite	17
VMP - superlite	2

Survey has identified **11 deferrals** out of the **153** scheduled episodes.

- 3 due to patients' choice
- 4 due to one patient receiving operation
- 4 due to patient hospitalisation
- **of which ONE was identified with raised CRP**

Bortezomib is a popular treatment option even in the elderly group as its side effects generally well tolerated.

Patients are consented for risk of cytopenia though in practice these are not commonly observed.

Conclusion

1. Blood tests may be relevant to ensure resolution of infection before Bortezomib treatment.
2. Routine blood tests prior to treatment are not necessary.
3. Elimination of this routine practice has freed up nursing time within a very busy day case and improved patients' treatment experience



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