**Event report of highlights of ASH 2021**

First, I would like to thank the Malaysian Society of haematology (MSH) for giving me the opportunity to participate in this year’s highlight of ASH.

The main highlight was the advancement in therapeutics. The field of haematology has evolved rapidly in recent years, especially in prognostication using cytogenetics and somatic mutations; followed by targeted treatment with monoclonal antibodies and varies receptors/ligands inhibitors. The outcome of haematology patients at the same time improved with such advancement.

There are a few topics that drew my attention:

1. Emerging treatment options in high risk MDS: Pevonedistat, Macroglimab(anti-CD47), Sabatolimab(anti TIM-3) , APR-246( PRIMA-1met) in combination with azacytidine.
2. Achieving MRD negativity in treatment naïve CLL with combined ibrutinib and venetoclax in CAPTIVATE trial; UNITY-CLL trial combining umbralisib and ublituximab showing superior PFS to Obinutuzumab + chlorambucil; Pirtobrutinib in BRUIN study showing efficacy in R&R B cell malignancy.
3. CAR-T and T-cell engager in relapse and refractory multiple myeloma.

It is exciting to see such fascinating drugs and strategies. After attending the ASH highlights, I ‘dreamed’ for a short period of time, using such drugs and strategy in my own patients with good outcome. Once I stop ‘dreaming’, I started to wonder when our patients in Malaysia can get such treatments. More and more questions start coming into my mind; why can’t Malaysian design/invent any new drug treatment? Why can’t our researchers learn and modify the available biological/cellular treatment and make it available to our patients? Cost is always a big issue in getting advance and effective treatment for our patients.

Attending Highlights of ASH had enlightened me on the recent advance in haematology treatment. A lot more efforts, time and challenges are needed to bring it into our clinical practise in Malaysia.

Lastly, I would again, thank MSH for sponsoring me for this event.

Your sincerely,

Wong tien gen

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