The treatment of hematologic malignancies is increasingly complex as a result of the rapid pace and numerous advances in knowledge of their biologies and treatments. In mid-September, NCCN held the 2023 Annual Congress: Hematologic Malignancies, a 2-day hybrid symposium that addressed the latest in therapeutic advances, updates to the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines), and treatment debates across the broad spectrum of blood cancers. Returning to San Francisco for the first time since 2019, the meeting featured insights from world-renowned experts on providing optimal, evidence-based treatment for various blood cancers, plus best practices for protecting vulnerable populations in a changing health care landscape.

Chaired by Andrew D. Zelenetz, MD, PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, the program was designed to be comprehensive for the entire hematology and oncology team in order to allow attendees from all over the world to learn about the most up-to-date evidence and expert consensus for improving outcomes for patients with a variety of hematologic malignancies. The event also provided opportunities for networking and conversations with leading experts in the field. Sessions were also available for remote attendees via NCCN’s easy-to-use virtual platform.

Some of this year’s featured topics included identifying and managing toxicities in patients receiving CAR T-cell therapy, revolutionizing hematologic cancer treatment with bispecific T-cell engagers, tackling inequities in access and quality of care for patients with multiple myeloma, and preventing and managing blood clots.

Speakers also shared information and research pertaining to the treatment of adult acute lymphoblastic leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia, B-cell malignancies, chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma, Hodgkin lymphoma, multiple myeloma, and myelofibrosis.

This special issue of JNCCN presents select highlights of the proceedings.

The Hematologic Malignancies Annual Congress is just one of NCCN’s educational events and programs. For more information about educational opportunities, such as the upcoming 2024 Breast Cancer Congress and the NCCN 2024 Annual Conference, as well as the seminal NCCN Guidelines, NCCN Compendia, Patient Guidelines, NCCN Global initiatives, and many other webinars and programs, visit NCCN.org.


The ideas and viewpoints expressed in this editorial are those of the author and do not necessarily represent any policy, position, or program of NCCN.