

# Practices in the care of the critically ill CAR patient

The goal of this research study is to learn more about the clinical practices at different intensive care units (ICUs) when complications occur after treating patients with Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) therapy. The results of this study may help understand how research efforts can be allocated to better serve these patients. Further research in the care of CAR-related complications will help outcomes in this complex patient populations. If you agree to take part in this study, you will complete a questionnaire about your ICU's practices in the care, monitoring, and treatment of CAR patients with severe complications. The questionnaire should take about 10 minutes to complete. Your identity and your institution's identification will be kept strictly confidential and will be de-identified before analysis.

Consent Statement You have read the description of the study, and have decided to participate in the research project described here. You understand that you may refuse to answer any (or all) of the questions at this or any other time. You understand that there is a possibility that you might be contacted in the future about this, but that you are free to refuse any further participation if you wish.

You may withdraw your authorization at any time, in writing, for any reason as long as that information can be connected to you. You can learn more about how to withdraw your authorization by calling [REDACTED] or by contacting the study doctor.

ALL OF YOUR ANSWERS SHOULD REFLECT ONLY ADULT CAR PATIENTS

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Hospital name

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Do you have an ICU solely for cancer patients?

- Yes  
 No

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Number of medical ICU beds

- 1-10  
 11-20  
 21-30  
 >30

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What CAR products are being used in your institution?  
Choose all that apply

- Yescarta  
 Kimryah  
 Products from protocols  
 Products created by our institution  
 All

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How many CAR patients are being treated a month in your institution?

- 1-5  
 5-10  
 >10

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Approximately how many CAR patients are admitted to your ICU a month?

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Approximately how many Kymriah patients have you treated in your ICU since FDA approval?

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Approximately how many Yescarta patients have you treated in your ICU since FDA approval?

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Are you already using the ASBMT guidelines for grading of CRS and ICANS (neurotoxicity)?

- Yes  
 No  
 Yes but some protocols require the older guidelines

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What guidelines are being used at your institution for Managing CAR toxicities?  
Choose all that apply

- Own (unique to your institution)  
 Penn Grading scale (Porter 2018)  
 Lee (Blood, 2014)  
 Neelapu (Nature 2018)  
 Other

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Specify which

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Is there a specialized group of physicians treating CAR patients in your ICU?

- Yes  
 No (all ICU practitioners are trained)

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Do you have a "committee" that helps monitor, review and create guidelines for the care of CAR patients in your institution?

- Yes  
 No

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Are you treating any patients with TCRs?

- Yes  
 No

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Do you have guidelines for antibiotic prophylaxis specific for this patient population?

- Yes  
 No

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Have you had any CAR patients in the ICU made DNR, no escalation of care or withdrawal of care?(due to patients preference, presence of multi organ failure, progression of disease)

- Yes  
 No

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Would you be interested in participating in future research projects involving critically ill CAR patients?

- Yes  
 No

Are you using the current ASBMT guidelines to grade CRS?

- Yes  
 No

Do you ever admit patients with CRS grade 1 or 2 to the ICU?

- Yes  
 No

Please comment on specifics that might be relevant to this decision of monitoring in ICU low grade toxicities

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Do you ever admit patients with CRS who are not on vasopressors, high flow nasal cannula or BiPAP, or require continuous renal replacement therapy?

- Yes  
 No

First vasopressor of choice for shock in CRS?

- norepinephrine  
 phenylephrine  
 vasopressin  
 angiotensin 2 agonist  
 epinephrine  
 dopamine

2nd vasopressor of choice?

- norepinephrine  
 phenylephrine  
 vasopressin  
 angiotensin 2 agonist  
 epinephrine  
 dopamine

Third vasopressor of choice?

- norepinephrine  
 phenylephrine  
 vasopressin  
 angiotensin 2 agonist  
 epinephrine  
 dopamine  
 We don't use more than 2 vasopressors

What is your inotrope of choice in patients with CRS and cardiomyopathy?

- dobutamine  
 milrinone  
 epinephrine  
 other  
 Have not used any yet  
 Choice depends on the clinical situation

How do you guide fluid resuscitation in these patients?  
Choose all that apply

- ml/kg of fluid bolus  
 US guided  
 Pulse pressure variation on arterial line  
 Non-invasive modes of SVV, CO, SVR  
 Other

What fluids do you usually use for their resuscitation?  
Choose all that apply

- NS  
 Lactate ringers  
 Albumin 5%  
 0.45% saline  
 Other

Please specify "other"

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Do you always obtain an echocardiogram on your patients with hypotension/shock in view of CRS? (An echocardiogram obtained on the floors prior to ICU is considered a "yes")

- Yes  
 No

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Do you consider cardiomyopathy a frequent finding on your CART patients with CRS?

- Yes  
 No

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How do you treat respiratory failure in patients with CRS?

- We are aggressive with intubation and generally transition from HFNC to mechanical ventilation  
 We give a trial of Bipap prior to intubation  
 We avoid intubation as much as possible on these patients, therefore keep them as long as possible on HFNC or BiPAP  
 N/A (have not experienced a patient with significant respiratory failure yet)

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For how long do you do a BiPap trial on these patients?

- < 12 hours  
 12-24 hrs  
 24-48hrs  
 >48hrs  
 N/A (have not treated patients with Bipap)

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Would you consider non-cardiogenic pulmonary edema (ALI/ARDS) a frequent finding in CAR patients with CRS?

- Yes  
 No

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Have your CAR patients required Renal replacement therapy?

- Yes  
 No

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Have you treated any patients with Hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)?

- Yes  
 No

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Are there any other findings you have found to be significant or important to note on CART patients with CRS treated at your institution?

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Which are the ICU admission criteria for neurotoxicity in your ICU?  
Choose all that apply

- Easily controlled seizures (Ativan and one Anti-epileptic drug)
- Difficult to control seizures or status epilepticus
- Focal edema on brain MRI (independent of clinical status)
- Diffuse edema on MRI
- CARTOX/ICE score < 4
- Motor deficits
- Depressed level of consciousness (Grade 3 or 4 on ASBMT consensus)

Do you ever admit to the ICU Grade 2 neurotoxicity for close monitoring?

- Yes
- No

Is this a frequent reason for ICU admission?

- Yes
- No

Is delirium a frequent reason for admission to the ICU?

- Yes
- No

Have you had any patients with ischemic stroke or intracranial hemorrhage?

- Yes
- No

State approximately how many

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Do you have any experience with external ventricular devices on this patient population?

- Yes
- No

How do you measure ICP in these patients?  
(choose all that apply)

- fundoscopy
- EVD
- ocular ultrasound
- We use mainly imaging to monitor for cerebral edema

Do you perform lumbar punctures on these patients?

- Yes -routinely
- No- never
- Yes but depends on the clinical situation

Specify the clinical situation

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What is your practice of EEGs on these patients?

- Always perform an EEG once symptoms begin
- We only perform EEGs if there is any clinical suspicion of seizures on the patient
- We only perform when neurotoxicity is >Grade2

How long is the EEG?  
choose all that apply

- Everyone gets a 24 hr EEG
- We start with a "spot"EEG and according to findings we perform longer EEGs
- We have no capability for 24 hr EEG

Do you perform routinely MRI brain?

- Yes
- No
- We try, however due to the patients clinical status it might not always be feasible

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Have you treated patients with diffuse cerebral edema?

- Yes  
 No

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Have you treated any patients with only focal edema?

- Yes  
 No

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Does your aggressiveness in treatment vary between patients with focal vs diffuse edema (e.g: use of mannitol, hypertonic saline, EVD placement)?

- Yes  
 No

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What is your institutions preference for management of cerebral edema in this patient population?

- acetazolamide  
 Hypertonic saline  
 Mannitol  
 Pharmacological coma  
 Short course of hyperventilation  
 EVDs to guide CPP  
 Hypothermia

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Does your institution use seizure prophylaxis?

- Yes  
 No  
 depends on the product

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Which agent?

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Do you have specific protocols for the management of cerebral edema, seizures and status epilepticus on CART patients?

- Yes  
 No- we use the institutional protocols used in our institution to treat ANY patient with cerebral edema or status epilepticus

Do you perform daily CRP and ferritin?

- Yes  
 No

Do you perform serum cytokines on these patients?  
(choose all that apply)

- Yes daily or routinely  
 No- we don't have the capabilities  
 Only as needed

Which cytokines are you measuring?

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Do you feel any of these markers (cytokines, ferritin, CRP) play an important role in guiding treatment in the ICU?

- Yes  
 No  
 Sometimes

Have you ever performed flow cytometry to look for CARs (in serum or fluid) to help guide treatment?

- Yes  
 No

What is the lowest grade of CRS and ICANS at which corticosteroids are administered in your institution? (Choose all that apply).

- Grade 1 CRS  
 Grade 2 CRS  
 Grade 3 CRS  
 Grade 4 CRS  
 Grade 1 ICANS  
 Grade 2 ICANS  
 Grade 3 ICANS  
 Grade 4 ICANS

Find space below if you think of any specific examples or situations that require explanation:

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Which doses of corticosteroids have you used for the treatment of CRS or neurotoxicity/ICANS? Check all that apply

- Dexamethasone 10mg q/6hr,  
 Dexamethasone 20mg q/6hr  
 Solumedrol 250 mg q/12hr  
 Solumedrol 500 mg q/12 hr (or 1gm single dose)  
 Higher doses if needed

Once you have used >250 mg daily of solumedrol how do you taper?

- If patients responds rapidly we quickly taper the steroids and observe  
 Independent of clinical response with such high doses of steroids we always taper slowly

Does your institution follow strict recommendations for tapering corticosteroids?

- Yes  
 No-it all depend on the clinical response

Do you use >3 doses of tocilizumab to treat CRS?

- Yes  
 No

How frequently do you dose tocilizumab? (e.g: q/8hrs)

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Do you use siltuximab for CRS and if so when?

- When the patient is refractory to tocilizumab  
 Prior to using tocilizumab  
 On any patient with grade 3-4 toxicity  
 We don't use it

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Do you use anti-IL-6 therapy (siltuximab, tocilizumab) for neurotoxicity?

- Never  
 Only when associated to CRS symptoms

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Have you used anakinra ?

- Yes  
 No

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When have you used anakinra? (choose all that apply)

- refractory grade 3-4 CRS  
 refractory Grade 3-4 neurotoxicity  
 Every time a patient is refractory to anti-IL6 treatment  
 On every patient once they reach grade 3-4 toxicity

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Have you used any of the following salvage treatments? Choose all that apply

- ATG  
 etanercept  
 suicide genes  
 Ruxolitinib  
 Other

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Specify other

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Have you ever used continuous renal replacement therapy as a way to clear cytokines in patients with refractory CRS or neurotoxicity/ICANS?

- Yes  
 No