Bellwave
ONCOLOGY CLINICAL TRIALS

# Clinical Trials for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia or Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma (CLL/SLL)

In this brochure, you will learn about Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia and Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma (CLL/SLL) and clinical trials for people with this disease.

# What is Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia or Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma (CLL/SLL)?

CLL and SLL are cancers of the blood. CLL and SLL are the same disease but found in different parts of the body. CLL is mostly in bone marrow and blood, while SLL is mostly in the lymph nodes.

# What is a clinical trial?

Clinical trials are research studies that help doctors find out if study drugs (alone or with other treatments) are safe and if they can help prevent, find, or treat diseases or conditions.


## Why are these trials being done?

The Bellwave trials are trying to learn more about the investigational study drug, nemtabrutinib, including:

- If it is safe
- How it compares to other treatments for CLL/SLL, when taken alone or with other treatments
- What side effects participants may have

## Who can join this clinical trial?

There are certain rules that you must meet to join a Bellwave trial, such as being diagnosed with CLL/SLL.

Other rules to join a Bellwave trial may include:

- The number of treatments you have had for your CLL/SLL
- If your CLL/SLL has not gotten better with other treatments

There are additional rules about who can join, which the study staff will discuss with you.

Your study team will give you certain tests. They may test your blood or bone marrow or lymph nodes.

You and your trial doctor will talk about if this trial is a good option for you and the possible benefits and risks of participation.

# What is the trial drug being studied?

The trial drug is called nemtabrutinib. It is a type of targeted therapy known as a Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor (BTKi) that may stop or slow cancer growth. Here's how it works:

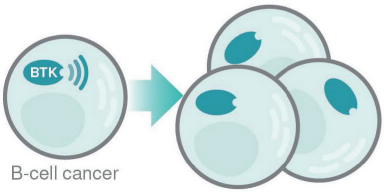
1. Proteins called Bruton's Tyrosine Kinases help cancer cells in CLL/SLL grow, multiply, and survive.
2. The trial drug, nemtabrutinib, blocks (inhibits) Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase. By blocking Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase, nemtabrutinib may stop or slow cancer growth.

A B-cell is a type of immune system cell, known as a white blood cell, which helps the body fight infections by making antibodies (substances that protect your body).

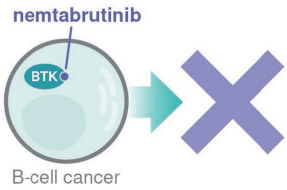
## About nemtabrutinib

The trial drug, **nemtabrutinib**, blocks a protein inside B-cell cancers called **BTK** (**B**ruton's **T**yrosine **K**inase).

**Here's how it works:**




**BTK** signals a cancer cell to make copies of itself.




**Nemtabrutinib** blocks **BTK**'s signal so the cancer cell can't make copies.

Nemtabrutinib is taken by mouth.


## If I join, what drug will I get?

If you join a Bellwave trial, you will either get nemtabrutinib, another drug for CLL/SLL, or nemtabrutinib in combination with another drug. The drugs you get will depend on the trial. The study staff will discuss with you the type of drugs being studied.


# If I join, what will happen during trial visits?

You will visit the trial site regularly so that the trial doctor can see how the treatment is working for you. During your trial visits, you may get:

- Nemtabrutinib, a combination of nemtabrutinib and another study drug or drugs, or another treatment, depending on the trial
- Blood tests
- Urine (pee) tests
- Physical exams
- A sample of tissue taken (biopsy)
- Imaging scans, such as CT or MRI

**If you are able and choose to join the trial, your trial doctor will need to stay in contact with you even after your trial visits are over.** This is very important because the clinical trial is studying how well the investigational study drug works over time.

# If I decide not to join a Bellwave clinical trial, what are my other treatment options?

Your cancer care team will discuss your treatment options with you and those close to you. Treatment options and decisions depend on many things, such as:

- The stage of your cancer, which describes how advanced your cancer is
- Your overall health
- Side effects you might have from the treatment
- How long the treatment might help extend your life
- How much the treatment might help reduce your symptoms

### Your care team may offer you one or more of these treatment options:

**Chemotherapy** – medicines (drugs) that kill cancer cells

**Immunotherapy** – medicines that boost the immune system to kill cancer cells

**Chemoimmunotherapy** – a combination of chemotherapy and immunotherapy

**Targeted therapy** – uses treatments to block a specific or unique feature of the cancer that helps it to grow and spread

**Stem cell transplant** – a treatment where doctors put healthy stem cells into your body through a vein (infusion). The healthy stem cells will make new blood cells that may fight cancer.

**Palliative care** – your care team will try to make you comfortable but not treat cancer. This type of care can be given alone or at the same time as other treatments.

**Clinical trials**, such as this one

# To learn more

Talk to your trial doctor or contact:

www.merckclinicaltrials.com

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