

Only about half of elderly newly diagnosed with ALL receive Tx

March 8 2019



(HealthDay)—Almost half of elderly patients newly diagnosed with

acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) do not receive treatment, according to a study recently published in *Leukemia & Lymphoma*.

Christopher Kim, M.P.H., Ph.D., from Amgen Inc. in Thousand Oaks, California, and colleagues analyzed Medicare ALL data from 2007 to 2015 to describe patient characteristics and [treatment](#) patterns among [elderly patients](#) (≥ 66 years) newly diagnosed with ALL.

The researchers found that 53.5 percent of the 1,428 patients received treatment within 90 days of diagnosis: 32.4, 8.8, 9.8, and 2.6 percent received chemotherapy without [tyrosine kinase inhibitors](#) (TKIs), chemotherapy and TKIs, steroids only, and TKIs only, respectively. Overall, 65.8 percent of the 717 patients receiving chemotherapy any time during follow-up received only one course of treatment. Compared with untreated patients, patients treated with chemotherapy or TKIs were younger (

Citation: Only about half of elderly newly diagnosed with ALL receive Tx (2019, March 8) retrieved 16 March 2023 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-03-elderly-newly-tx.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.