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The Netherlands

Acute leukaemia in children : aspects of diagnosis and treatment

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Citation

Willemze, A. J. (2009, September 3). *Acute leukaemia in children : aspects of diagnosis and treatment*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/13950>

Version: Corrected Publisher's Version

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Stellingen behorend bij het proefschrift

Acute leukaemia in children Aspects of diagnosis and treatment

1. Specific chemokine receptor expression by leukaemic blasts contributes to the migration and survival of leukaemic blasts in extramedullary sites. (this thesis)
2. Evaluation of the biologically effective dose (BED) of total body irradiation (TBI) schemes, as part of the conditioning regimen before allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplantation, ensures optimal leukaemic cell kill. (this thesis)
3. Adequate measurement of systemic exposure (~AUC) by the use of limited sampling in combination with population pharmacokinetics improves our understanding of the relationship between Cyclosporin A dose and biological effect in children following haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (SCT). (this thesis)
4. Donor-derived cells are involved in the repair of damaged endothelium as well as in the maintenance of vascular homeostasis, following haematopoietic SCT. (this thesis)
5. Improvements in treatment of childhood leukaemia may come from improved risk-group stratification, based either on novel genetic abnormalities, or on the monitoring of minimal residual disease. (Kaspers et al. Haematologica., 2007)
6. Haplo-identical HSCT from an NK-alloreactive relative could become a first option for treatment of children with high risk leukaemia (Locatelli et al. Clin Immunology, 2009).
7. The off-label prescription of pharmaceutical drugs in current paediatric practice is not a self-evident part of medical care, but an inevitable harm, since many of them have not been sufficiently studied in children. (According to a NVK press release, 2008)
8. The global reaction of stress, even panic, caused by the worldwide economic crisis may suppress the immune system and therefore contribute to the spread of the new variation of recent influenza pandemic coming from Mexico.
9. The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails. (William Arthur Ward)
10. Moeder is de overtreffende trap van moe. (Daphne Deckers)
11. Everything will be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end. (Unknown)

**Annemieke J. Willemze
Leiden, 3 september 2009**