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Ac2orn Encourages Provinces to Finalize Funding Approval of Kymriah

With the Health Canada approval of the chimeric antigen receptor T cell (CAR-T) therapy, Kymriah (tisagenlecleucel/CTL019), Ac2orn encourages the provincial health funding agencies to finalize their funding agreements for Kymriah to add it to the provincial formularies.

Vancouver, British Columbia -

On September 6, 2018, Health Canada approved its first CAR T-cell therapy, Kymriah (tisagenlecleucel/ CTL019), for children, adolescents and young adults with relapsed and refractory acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). Kymriah is a personalized therapy that uses the patient's own T cells to find and kill cancer cells – it heralds a new era of targeted cancer treatment beyond traditional chemotherapy, radiation or surgery. ALL patients in second relapse or greater, who have received many rounds of treatment prior to Kymriah, are experiencing an overall remission rate of over 80%.ⁱ

Advocacy for Canadian Childhood Oncology Research Network, Ac2orn, calls upon the provincial health funding agencies to ensure that funding approvals for Kymriah are in place in a timely manner. NHS England successfully negotiated payment terms for Kymriah less than 10 days after the treatment received marketing authorization by the European Commission.ⁱⁱ Ac2orn encourages the provincial health authorities to follow the NHS England example and seek timely funding approval to ensure that Canadian children with relapsed and refractory ALL continue to have access to this vital and life-saving cancer therapy.

About Ac2orn:

Advocacy for Canadian Childhood Research Network, Ac2orn, is committed to advocating for Canadian researchers as they implement the dream of curing childhood, adolescent and young adult cancers through translational research and effective treatments. Ac2orn is a national organization made up of childhood, adolescent and young adult cancer families and survivors who are dedicated to breaking down barriers and building bridges in cancer research. Ac2orn was formed in 2014. <http://www.cureseforourkids.com>

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ⁱ <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1709866>

ⁱⁱ <https://pharmaphorum.com/news/nhs-to-fund-novartis-car-t-therapy-kymriah/>