

Review of: "Progression-free survival as a primary end-point: Counting the cost"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for your work on writing this piece. It is good information and the author has done great thoughtful analysis of using PFS as a surrogate marker for OS. As pointed out by the author, the side effects and deaths related to treatment was significant in BELLINI trial, which was an exception rather than rule, and taught us some good lessons, including using the biomarkers to drive our research forwards, as venetoclax is still useful in t(11:14) myeloma patients. The other thing that muddles the whole picture is the options of treatment that we have at this point, and sequencing of treatment, many patients who will not get polatuzumab in the first line, will get after relapse. So OS difference is not easy to tease out. In the end it is about selecting the best patient for the most suitable treatment.

The only comment I have is to use generic names instead of commercial names, like polatuzumab instead of polivy, otherwise, very thoughtful piece written.