



WANTED:

Patients and family members to help design a clinical study of a new treatment for blood cancers

About the Project

Our team of researchers is planning a future clinical study to test chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy for treating blood cancers. CAR-T therapy is the latest potential treatment for blood cancers – it allows us to engineer the patient’s own immune cells to recognize and attack cancer cells.

To date, only a few small clinical trials have been completed – largely in the USA. Our team (“GO-CART” – Getting better Outcomes with Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell therapy) is planning to test this therapy and make it available to Canadians suffering from blood cancers.

Over the next year, our team plans to:

- Review current evidence of CAR-T therapy
- Look at the economics of this therapy
- Run a study to find out patient and physician thoughts on this therapy

About Patient Participation

We are looking for a small group of patients and family members that will partner with our team.

We want patients and family members to help us plan the study. Members of this patient group can either be patients who have blood cancers or members of their family. They should be interested in helping us plan our future clinical study to treat blood cancers. No previous experience with clinical trials or research is needed. Your participation and input will help contribute to the design of a study plan that addresses the concerns of patients and their caregivers.

What is involved?

This will involve:

- Participation in regularly scheduled group meetings with the study’s research team and provide any relevant patient input as the study progresses (one-hour duration, online and/or in person if you are in Ottawa).
- Helping the team review what is published in the literature and providing your perspective on the findings.
- Providing your input on how the trial will be run to ensure the needs and concerns of the patient are recognized and addressed.
- Identifying key patient specific needs and concerns and helping to determine what outcomes are tracked throughout the study and in future clinical trials.

These meetings will be held once a month until December 2018. Not all members of the panel need to attend every meeting.

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X58V4G3EWaU>

Ottawa Citizen Article: <http://ottawacitizen.com/news/local-news/ottawa-poised-to-become-manufacturing-centre-for-cancer-fighting-agent>

Please contact Dr. Manoj Lalu at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute if you are interested and/or for more information (mlalu@toh.ca).