Organ-specific supportive care recommendations for cGvHD

Prevention

Photoprotection (both UVA and UVB blockade)

Avoid sun exposure

Apply sunscreen (≥ SPF 20 with broad spectrum UVA and UVB coverage)

Treatment

Undamaged skin

Emollients and antipruritic agents to provide symptomatic relief

Topical corticosteroids

PUVA, UVAI, UVB, or narrowband UVB light therapy

Ulcerated and eroded skin

Debridement and dressing of wounds

Swelling control

Sclerotic manifestations causing contractures or joint stiffness

Massage of fascia/deep muscle to improver range of movement

Physical therapy, occupational therapy, or physical medicine and rehabilitation referral

Isotonic, isokinetic, isometric, and strengthening exercises

Other

Depigmentation: trial of creams for depigmentation containing hydroquinone, topical tretinoin, or corticosteroids

Hair loss: once or twice daily dermovate scalp lotion

Dry skin: regular moisturizers

Itching: bath in tepid (not hot) water, topical corticosteroids, oral antihistamine, doxepin, or gabapentin

Mucosal disease: mild to moderate

High-strength topical corticosteroid application in a localized area

Generalized application of upper mid-strength topical corticosteroids

Topical application of analgesics

Mucosal disease: moderate to severe

Supportive care for oral cGvHD

Supportive

care for skin

cGvHD

Upper mid-strength topical corticosteroid application in a localized area

Tacrolimus 0.1% cream topically applied

High-strength steroids applied intralesionally for refractory wounds

Cyclosporine rinse topically applied

Oral phototherapy

Salivary gland disease

Fluoride therapy at home

Saliva substitutes and sipping water often

Sugar-free gum or sweets to stimulate salivation

Cevimeline, pilocarpine (sialogogues)





Oral and topical treatments

Preservative-free artificial tears

Viscous tears during the day/viscous ointment at bedtime

Topical steroid eye drops and cyclosporine

Oral cevimeline and pilocarpine

Doxycycline as an anti-inflammatory

Supportive care for ocular cGvHD

Surgery

Punctal occlusion (temporarily can be achieved with silicone plugs)

Thermal cautery to achieve permanent occlusion

Superficial debridement of filamentary keratitis

Partial tarsorrhaphy



Environmental adaptations and eyewear

Warm compressors/humid environment/lid care

Moisture chamber goggles

Bandage contact lenses

Limited availability treatments

Autologous serum eye drops

Scleral lens prosthesis

Supportive care for

Vulvar irritation

Avoid mechanical and chemical irritants

Cleansing with warm water, allow air circulation, and front to back wiping

Simple emollients used sparingly

Water-based lubricants

Low estrogen causing vulvovaginal symptoms

Topical estrogen with/without dilator therapy



vulvar and vaginal

cGvHD

Topical therapy for vulvovaginal GvHD

Ultra-high- and high-strength corticosteroids

- Clobetasol gel 0.05% (vagina)
- Betamethasone dipropionate augmented gel (vagina) or ointment (vulva)
- Tacrolismus ointment 0.1% (vulva)

Surgery

Surgery for treatment of strictures

Supportive care for pulmonary cGvHD

Pulmonary function test and high-resolution expiratory phase chest CT to assess for chronic GvHD of the lung

In high-risk populations, routine monitoring of pulmonary function test is advised

Systemic therapy with corticosteroid and chronic GvHD agents

Macrolides, inhaled steroids, and leukotriene inhibitors are helpful as an adjunctive therapy (i.e., FAM therapy)

Consider intravenous Igs, particularly for those with low IgG levels

Vaccination against pneumococcus and seasonal influenza

Referral to pulmonology and consider pulmonary rehabilitation if necessary

Abbreviations: cGvHD, chronic graft-versus-host disease; CT, computed tomography; FAM, fluticasone, azithromycin, and montelukast; Ig, immunoglobulin; PUVA, psoralen + ultraviolet light; UV, ultraviolet.

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