

Of the five cases treated with Myleran four are still surviving, and the survival periods vary from one to fourteen months. Excluding the most recent case, which has been on Myleran therapy for only one month, the survival periods to date of the other three cases are 11 months, 11.5 months and 14 months respectively. All these patients are at the moment in clinical remission. In the one patient who died in relapse, the survival period was 11 months. It is as yet too early to assess the long-term value of Myleran therapy in the treatment of chronic myeloid leukaemia and to compare it with radiotherapy. However, there is little doubt that it has a potent effect on the disease, restores the peripheral blood and bone marrow and reduces the size of infiltrated organs. The long-term follow-up of treated cases will supply useful information which will allow us to assess more accurately the true value of Myleran in the therapy of chronic myeloid leukaemia.

Summary.

Five cases of chronic myeloid leukaemia which have been treated with Myleran are presented. In common with others we have found Myleran to be a satisfactory method of inducing and maintaining remissions in chronic myeloid leukaemia. Despite strict haematological control during treatment, one patient developed a toxic pancytopenia. Initial therapy required to be maintained from 4 to 7 weeks before a satisfactory response was obtained. The total dosage required to induce a complete remission varied from 146 to 378 mgm.

References.

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Erratum.

We much regret that in the February issue a serious typographical error appeared in the paper by Nelson and Lowry on the Treatment of Acute Leukaemia: on page 62, third line from bottom of the page the statement "leucocytes, 420,000 per c. mm." should read "leucocytes, 4,200 per c. mm."