



# Considerations for Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy (PML) Clinical Trial Designs

## Virtual FDA Workshop

September 21, 2021

### **Opening Remarks, Workshop Overview, and Logistics**

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# PML – Unmet Need for Therapeutics

- Rare, opportunistic brain infection in patients with impaired cellular immunity
- Presents with a variety of neurologic symptoms including mental status changes, hemiparesis, gait ataxia, and visual symptoms
- Immune reconstitution (when possible) is the only effective treatment
- No approved or effective medical products

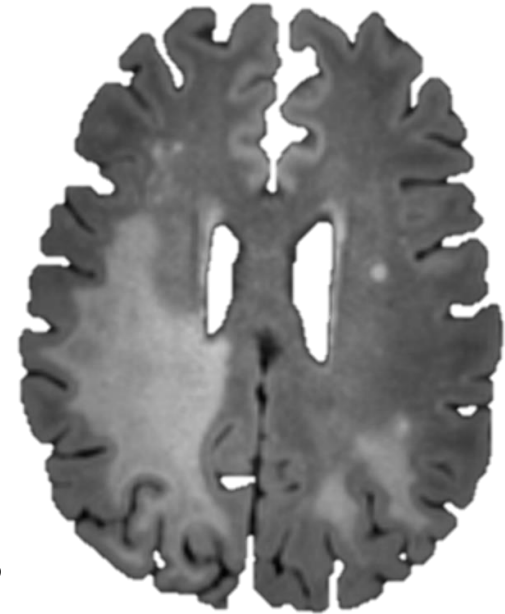


Image Courtesy of Dr.  
Daniel Reich.

# PML Clinical Trial Design Challenges

- Rare
- Rapidly progressive, often fatal
- Diagnosis of PML often made late into presentation
- Neurologic presentation and course varies based on location and characteristics of brain lesions
- Natural history differs by underlying immune impairment and disease.
- Mobility and communications difficulties common

# Workshop Purpose

The purpose of today's workshop is to foster an exchange of ideas on the challenges and clinical trial design considerations for developing products for the treatment of PML.

- Not product specific.
- Not for regulatory decision-making.
- All opinions, recommendations, and proposals are unofficial and nonbinding on FDA, NIH, and all other participants.

# FDA/NIH PML Collaboration

- Collaborative effort between FDA, NINDS, and academic experts focused on facilitating the clinical development of effective therapeutic products for the treatment of PML. Project is product non-specific.
- Working groups established for each of 5 key areas of focus:
  - JC Virus Biomarkers
  - Brain imaging
  - Patient Focused Drug Development
  - Clinical Outcomes
  - Clinical Trial Design
- 2 main project aims:
  - Identify knowledge gaps and develop plans for filling gaps
  - Develop one or more Phase 3 PML clinical trial designs that may be acceptable to regulators, clinicians and patients — and that might foster industry engagement

# Workshop Overview

Background	10:15am – 11:05pm EST
<i>10-minute break</i>	
Endpoints for PML clinical trials <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Panel Discussion</li></ul>	11:15am – 12:50pm EST
<i>30-minute break (lunch)</i>	
PML Patient Perspectives	1:20pm - 1:55pm EST
Selection of Control Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Panel Discussion</li></ul>	1:55pm – 2:55pm EST
<i>10-minute break</i>	
PML Clinical Trial Designs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Panel Discussion</li></ul>	3:05pm – 4:10pm EST

# Workshop Logistics

- This meeting is being recorded. Speaker slides, transcripts, and recordings will be available for this meeting in the coming days.
- Speaker and panelist affiliations, disclosures, and bios are available on the meeting's webpage under "Meeting Materials".
- If you are not a workshop speaker or panelist, your microphone, and video are automatically be turned off.
  - Submit questions using the "Q&A" feature at the bottom center of your screen in Zoom.
  - Questions and comments submitted via the "Chat" will not be collated for Panelists.
- If you are experiencing any Zoom difficulties, please reach out to the Public Meeting Team at [ONDPublicMTGSupport@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:ONDPublicMTGSupport@fda.hhs.gov)



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ADMINISTRATION



# Background

JC Virus Virology and PML Pathogenesis	Eugene Major, PhD (NIH/NINDS)
PML Drug Development History, Current Standard-of-Care, and PML Therapeutic Landscape	David Clifford, MD (Washington University in St. Louis)
Clinical Outcomes among PML Patient Populations	Bryan Smith, MD (NIH/NINDS)

Speaker and panelist affiliations, disclosures, and bios are available on the meeting's webpage under "Meeting Materials": <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/news-events-human-drugs/considerations-progressive-multifocal-leukoencephalopathy-clinical-trial-designs-09212021-09212021>  
[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)