A. JANSSENS, MD, PHD

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

We invite you to read issue 6, 2024 of the *Belgian Journal of Hematology*.

For **REVIEW HEMATOLOGY,** the editorial board has chosen **"Systemic mastocytosis (SM): Overview of recent updates and novel therapies"** by P. Sriskandarajah *et al.* (Department of Haematology, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London). SM is a rare, clinically heterogeneous haematological disorder with a serious impairment of quality of life and reduced overall survival in some patients. This review will give an overview of the diagnostic work-up as well as therapeutic management, including updates from recent clinical trials.

In **PRACTICE GUIDELINES,** we can again read "two very important papers" for daily clinical practice of haematologists in Belgium. The Multiple Myeloma committee of the Belgian Hematology Society (BHS) provides the first updated guideline. **"Practical recommendations for the management of relapsed and refractory (R/R) multiple myeloma (MM) in 2024"** by N. Kint *et al.* (Department of Haematology, Ghent University Hospital, Ghent), which focus on novel combinations, T-cell redirection therapies, and novel modalities for R/R MM. The second guideline is a position statement offered by the Belgian Cytogenomic group for Hemato-Oncology. K. Rack *et al.* (Center for Human Genetics, Leuven University Hospital, Leuven) summarise **"Current advances in cytogenomics – Implementation of Optical Genome Mapping into diagnostic workflows for haematological neoplasms".**

In **HEMATOCASE,** two interesting case reports were also selected. E. De Backer *et al.* (Department of Haematology, University Hospital Antwerp, Antwerp) present **"Concurrent chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) and myelodysplastic/myeloproliferative neoplasm (MDS/MPN) with SF3B1 mutation and fulminant thrombocytosis".** Although co-existence of JAK2 V617F mutation and BCR::ABL1 fusion gene have been described, the concomitant diagnosis of CML and MDS/MPN overlap syndrome with SF3B1 mutation and thrombocytosis (MDS/MPN-SF3B1-T) has not been reported before. T. Van Weyenbergh *et al.* (Department of Internal Medicine, University Hospital Leuven, Leuven) discuss **"Drug-induced agranulocytosis in mixed connective tissue disease"**. They conclude the necessity of a thorough drug history in every agranulocytosis work-up while also considering infectious, malignant and autoimmune aetiologies.

In **HEMATOTHESIS,** H. Lismont (Department of Haematology, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven) presents the results of her master thesis **"Understanding hairy cell leukaemia after analysing the University Hospitals Leuven database retrospectively".** The good and long outcome after purine analogues as first-line and at relapse are confirmed. Neutropenic fever seems to be a frequent complication and the use of myeloid growth factors stays controversial. Awareness for second cancers is crucial identical to other indolent lymphomas.

Enjoy reading,

A. Janssens, MD, PhD

Editor-in-Chief