

Prognostic factors in Multiple Myeloma

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As in many hematopoietic malignancies, cytogenetics is the most powerful prognostic factor in multiple myeloma (MM). Among the many chromosomal changes observed in MM, several confer a poor outcome: del(17p), t(4;14), del(1p32), 1q gain. We recently detailed the prognostic value of all these abnormalities, and showed that some trisomies such as trisomies 3 and 5 did overcome (partially or totally) the prognostic value of HR changes, whereas trisomy 21 worsens the outcome. The other main prognostic parameter is response to treatment. Recent studies did show that the assessment of minimal residual disease using sensitive techniques is of major importance in defining the PFS and ultimately OS.