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This issue of *Oncology & Hematology Review* covers a wide variety of topics on neoplastic diseases. An underlying theme to many of these timely articles is a snapshot of ongoing trials, as well as a glimpse into the future of potential new therapies within these important subspecialties.

Prostate Cancer

Bologna et al. present data assessing the value of serum leptin as a risk factor for prostate cancer, which could be important for future biomarker development. Westesson and Stephenson review the salvage therapy treatment options after the clinically important, and not uncommon, scenario of prostate cancer recurrence after initial definitive treatment. Koletsky provides an overview on the treatment of castrate-resistant metastatic prostate cancer with an emphasis on the recent advances using approved novel agents as well as those currently under investigation.

Breast Cancer

Gradisher summarizes the preclinical and clinical data on *nab*-paclitaxel and provides a perspective on its growing role in the management of metastatic breast cancer.

Lung Cancer

Mellema et al. speculate on the use of sorafenib in metastatic non-small cell lung cancer. They review the completed clinical trials as well as the ongoing combination trials with other targeted agents.

Rectal Cancer

Overton and colleagues summarize the evolution of the complex multimodality treatment for rectal cancer. Importantly, they also discuss the thought-provoking concept of organ-sparing approaches given recent data, ongoing trials, and future trials attempting to increase efficacy and minimize toxicities.

Esophageal Cancer

Liu and Gibson provide an update on the changes in diagnostic and follow-up standards in esophageal cancer, and how these have impacted upon and guide the various therapeutic options.

Melanoma

Joseph et al. emphasize that despite the recent approvals of new agents for metastatic melanoma, there remains a critical need for more effective agents. They review the current clinical data on sequencing and combination therapies and discuss future therapeutic strategies.

Hematologic Malignancies

Belli et al. review the myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) with a focus on the different cytogenetic risk stratifications and the molecular backgrounds of the most relevant chromosomal findings.

Gynecological Oncology

Stringer and Fleming hypothesize that the combination of mTOR inhibitors and hormonal therapies may be a useful therapeutic approach for endometrial carcinoma and discuss the growing interest to study this approach in clinical trials.

Supportive Oncology

Hui and Bruera highlight the importance of supportive and palliative care in oncology and the need for oncologists to have a good working knowledge of major palliative care principles in order to maximize the quality of life for cancer patients.

Patient Care

Pipas et al. consider the promises and the future of individualized therapy (e.g. personalized medicine) given the rapid advances in cancer genetics and the novel targeted agents that are emerging in the clinical setting.

Oncology & Hematology Review is grateful to all of the authors for sharing their expertise in order to provide an outstanding and thought-provoking issue reviewing the latest developments and future directions in these fast-moving fields. We trust that you will enjoy reading this issue!