



**AIDS MALIGNANCY CLINICAL TRIALS  
CONSORTIUM (AMC)**

AMC Operations & Data Management Center (ODMC)  
The EMMES Corporation  
401 N. Washington Street, Suite 700  
Rockville, MD 20850  
[amcpm@emmes.com](mailto:amcpm@emmes.com)  
Phone: 301-251-1161  
Fax: 240-238-2842

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **A Phase II Trial of Doxil, Rituximab, Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, and Prednisone (DR-COP) in Patients with Newly Diagnosed AIDS-Associated B-Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**

Rockville, MD, October 18, 2013: The AIDS Malignancy Consortium, a National Cancer Institute funded group that conducts novel clinical trials involving patients infected with HIV and cancer have completed a phase II trial of liposomal Doxorubicin, Rituximab, Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, and Prednisone (DR-COP) in Patients with Newly Diagnosed AIDS-Associated B-Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Forty volunteers with HIV and Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma participated in this trial.

The purpose of this study was to determine whether a treatment regimen called DR-COP is likely to be as effective as another regimen called R-EPOCH. R-EPOCH proved to be an effective regimen in a prior AMC study. Other groups have also achieved good results with this regimen and it is now recommended as a preferred option for treatment of AIDS-related lymphoma.

This study was important to perform because although R-EPOCH is effective, it must be given as a slow intravenous infusion over 5 days, which at most medical centers requires hospitalization. R-EPOCH may also be associated with serious infection and other complications. In contrast, DR-COP is given as a short intravenous infusion over several hours in the clinic without the need for hospitalization, and offers the potential to produce fewer side effects.

From this study, we learned that DR-COP was an effective treatment for some patients, although it may not be as effective as R-EPOCH. About two-thirds of the patients had no signs of lymphoma after DR-COP therapy, and serious or life-threatening infections occurred in about 5% of study volunteers. No patients died of infection while on the trial. This study adds to our knowledge of how best to treat people with HIV infection and cancer.

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Reference: Levine AM, Noy A, Lee JY, Tam W, Ramos JC, Henry DH, Parekh S, Reid EG, Mitsuyasu R, Cooley T, Dezube BJ, Ratner L, Cesarman E, Tulpule A. Pegylated liposomal doxorubicin, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and prednisone in AIDS-related lymphoma: AIDS Malignancy Consortium Study 047. *J Clin Oncol*. 2013 Jan 1;31(1):58-64. [\(PubMed Link\)](#)

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AIDS Malignancy Study # 047: A Phase II Trial of Doxil, Rituximab, Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, and Prednisone (DR-COP) in Patients with Newly Diagnosed AIDS-Associated B-Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

**For more information about HIV cancer malignancies, visit the AMC Web site at:**

<http://www.AIDSCancer.org>