Imatinib withdrawal syndrome after imatinib discontinuation and longer duration of imatinib were associated with a lower rate of molecular relapse

Korean Imatinib Discontinuation Study

90 patients with follow-up ≥12 months

Imatinib discontinuation

median follow-up 26.6 months

37 patients lost major molecular response

- probability of sustained major molecular response
  - 12 months 62.2%
  - 24 months 58.5%

Imatinib retreatment for a median of 16.9 months

37 patients achieved major molecular response after resuming imatinib therapy (median= 3.9 months)

- 27 patients newly developed or worsened musculoskeletal pain and pruritus defined as Imatinib withdrawal syndrome

- Imatinib withdrawal syndrome was associated with a higher probability of sustained major molecular response (P = 0.003)