

A cross-sectional survey to evaluate the impact of physicians' uncertainty aversion on their medical decision making in older patients with acute myeloid leukemia

Problem



Elderly patients with acute myeloid leukemia (AML), age ≥ 60 years



Treatment options

- Intensive chemotherapy (IC)
- Low-intensity therapy (LIT)
- Best supportive care (BSC)



The treatment choice is a function of:

- patient-related factors
- physician-related factors

National cross-sectional online survey



230 French hematologists



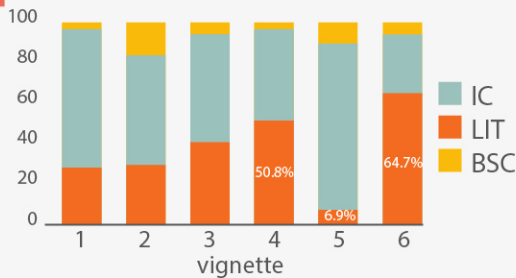
Questionnaire

- Demographic characteristics
- Occupational characteristics
- Behavioral characteristics



6 clinical vignettes representing elderly AML patients

Results



Multivariate model

	OR	[95% CI]	p
Physician aversion towards uncertainty	1.17	[1.01;1.30]	0.039
Physician activity in AML pts 60y, per year	0.98	[0.96;0.99]	0.032
Physician expected utility among male physicians	3.45	[1.34;8.85]	0.010

The significant association between medical decision and individual behavioral characteristics of the physician identifies a novel non-biological factor that may affect AML patient's outcomes and explain practice variations