

## **Response Criteria in Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia**

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Waldenström's macroglobulinemia (WM) is a malignant disorder of lymphoplasmacytic cells that produce a monoclonal immunoglobulin M (IgM), which leads to several different symptoms. Standardized criteria for response to therapy are important. Reduction of the IgM and improvement of bone-marrow involvement is of benefit for the patient to get rid of symptoms. Strict response criteria are needed to facilitate comparisons of response in different clinical trials. This is of particular importance as new treatments are developed.

In patients with WM responses after treatment is sometimes delayed, why the time point for assessing response is important. Different methods to evaluate response are required and definitions of complete and partial remissions will be discussed. The aim of all therapies is to attain a good long-lasting response of real benefit for the patient.