

Patient Resources



National Comprehensive Cancer Network®

NCCN Guidelines for Patients®

<https://www.nccn.org/patients/guidelines/content/PDF/systemic-mastocytosis-patient-guideline.pdf>



The Mast Cell Disease Society

<https://tmsforacure.org/>



GARD

Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center

Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center

<https://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/>



NORD
National Organization for Rare Disorders

National Organization for Rare Disorders

<https://rarediseases.org/>



American Initiative in Mast Cell Diseases

American Initiative in Mast Cell Diseases

<https://aimcd.net/>

Routine Monitoring of Patients With Nonadvanced SM

Every 6-12 months depending on symptom presentation and burden

- Serum tryptase level
- KIT D816V VAF
- CBC/Diff
- CMP
- Physical examination, including skin/lesions
- QoL/Symptom burden
- DEXA scan every 1-3 years
- Abdominal sonography (if palpable hepatosplenomegaly)
- Repeat BM biopsy is only necessary with clinical or laboratory changes



DEXA, dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry.

Common Triggers for Patients With SM

TRIGGERS	EXAMPLES
Venoms	Bee, wasp, mixed vespids, fire ants
Food & Beverages	Alcohol consumption
Allergens	Pollen, pet dander, dust mites
Medications	Opioids, some antibiotics, NSAIDs, contrast dyes
Acute infection	Viral, bacterial, fungal
Pain	Emotional, physical
Environment	Heat, cold, sudden changes in temperature, natural and chemical odors, sun/sunlight
Fatigue	Lack of sleep/sleep deprivation
Physical triggers	Mechanical irritation, friction, vibration, exercise
Surgery	Anesthesia
Procedures	Colonoscopy, endoscopy, interventional radiology
Vaccinations	

NSAID, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

Nonadvanced Systemic Mastocytosis (SM):

A Clinician's Reference Pocket Guide

Nonadvanced SM Subtypes

Indolent SM (ISM, most common)

Bone marrow mastocytosis (BMM)

Smoldering SM (SSM, highest risk of progression)

Clinical Suspicion Cues

- Pigmented cutaneous lesions that urticate with pressure (Darier's sign positive)
- Anaphylaxis to insect venom
- History of anaphylaxis, especially if associated with baseline or event-related tryptase increases
- BST >8 ng/mL
- History of fractures (especially vertebral)
- History of hypotensive episodes resulting in presyncope or syncope + absence of urticaria and angioedema + elevated BST level
- History of flushing, itching, or hives
- History of unexplained abdominal pain or other GI symptoms
- History of fatigue, brain fog, or headaches
- Symptoms triggered by temperature changes, friction, stress, alcohol, or medications

BST, basal serum tryptase; GI, gastrointestinal.



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If laboratory results or symptoms change, therapeutic adjustment should be considered.

WHO 2022 SM Diagnostic Criteria

MAJOR CRITERIA	MINOR CRITERIA
Multifocal dense infiltrates of MCs (≥15 MC in aggregates) detected in BM and/or ECO(s).	>25% of all MCs with atypical MC morphology on BM smears or in other ECO(s)
1 major criterion + 1 minor criterion OR ≥3 minor criteria	KIT D816V or other activating KIT mutation detected
	Baseline serum tryptase >20 ng/mL; in the case of known HcT, adjust tryptase level
	CD2, CD25, and/or CD30 on MCs

In the case of HcT, the expected level of tryptase can be calculated via

BST

1 + extra copy numbers of *TPSAB1*

BM, bone marrow; BST, basal serum tryptase; ECO, extracutaneous organ; HcT, hereditary alpha tryptasemia; MC, mast cell; *TPSAB1*, tryptase alpha/beta 1; WHO, World Health Organization.

NCCN Guidelines: Symptom-Directed Treatment Strategies



Organ Involvement/ Symptom	Additional Treatments
Skin: pruritus, flushing, urticaria, angioedema dermatographism ^a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. H₁ and H₂ blockers 2. Leukotriene receptor antagonist 3. Aspirin 4. Ketotifen 5. Cromolyn sodium, topical
GI: abdominal pain, cramping, diarrhea, GERD/heartburn, nausea, vomiting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. H₂ blockers 2. Cromolyn sodium 3. Proton pump inhibitor 4. Leukotriene receptor antagonist 5. Ketotifen
Hypotensive episodes/ anaphylaxis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epinephrine IM (acutely), supine positioning
Cardiovascular/pulmonary: presyncope, tachycardia, wheezing, throat swelling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. H₁ and H₂ blockers 2. Corticosteroids 3. Omalizumab
Osteopenia/osteoporosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplemental calcium and vitamin D, bisphosphonate; BMD assessment
Neurologic: headache, cognitive impairment (eg, brain fog, poor concentration and memory), depression	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. H₁ and H₂ blockers 2. Cromolyn sodium 3. Aspirin 4. Ketotifen

BMD, bone mineral density; GERD, gastroesophageal reflux disease; H, histamine; IM, intramuscular; NCCN, National Comprehensive Cancer Network; QoL, quality of life; R, receptor.

^aPsoralen and ultraviolet A (PUVA) therapy can improve cutaneous manifestations of SM, in some cases resulting in disappearance of skin lesions; however, lesions recur with cessation of treatment.

NCCN. 2025. https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/mastocytosis.pdf

Most Commonly Used Antihistamines for Patients With Nonadvanced SM

ANTIHISTAMINE CLASS	MOST COMMONLY USED FOR SM SYMPTOMS
H ₁ R Blockers (1st generation)	Diphenhydramine, hydroxyzine
H ₁ R Blockers (2nd generation)	Cetirizine, fexofenadine, levocetirizine
H ₂ R Blockers	Famotidine

Avapritinib is FDA-approved for adults with ISM.

Consider adding avapritinib when optimized symptomatic treatment regimens are not adequately mitigating QoL and symptom burdens.

FDA, United States Food and Drug Administration.

For Patients With ISM: Adding Avapritinib

- Dosing: 25 mg QD on an empty stomach
- Avoid coadministration with strong and moderate CYP3A inhibitors and inducers
- Not recommended for the treatment of patients with ISM with platelet counts of less than 50 x 10⁹/L

Avapritinib Monitoring Suggested Best Practice

Bloodwork (CMP, CBC/Diff) and physical assessment at **3 and 6 months after starting avapritinib**, then **every 6-12 months** depending on symptom presentation and burden.

CBC/Diff, complete blood count with differential; CMP, comprehensive metabolic panel; CYP, cytochrome P450; QD, once daily.
Drugs@FDA. https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2023/212608s013bl.pdf