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Clinical and Disease Characteristics From REVEAL at Time of Enrollment (Baseline): Prospective Observational Study of Patients With Polycythemia Vera in the United States

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Abstract

REVEAL is the first large, prospective observational study aimed at examining the contemporary demographics, burden of disease, clinical management, patient-reported outcomes, and health care resource utilization in patients with polycythemia vera in the United States.

Background: Polycythemia vera (PV) has a prevalence of 44 to 57 per 100,000 people in the United States. Prospective data concerning the demographics, clinical characteristics, and treatment patterns of patients with PV in the United States are lacking. **Patients and Methods:** The ongoing, prospective, observational REVEAL study evaluates demographics, disease burden, clinical management, patient-reported outcomes, and health care resource utilization of adult patients with PV in the United States. This report summarizes the demographics and clinical characteristics of patients at enrollment (baseline). **Results:** Patients (n = 2510) were a median age of 67.0 years, 54.2% were male, and 89.1% were white. The median time from PV diagnosis to study enrollment was 4.0 (range, 0–56.3) years. Most patients (89.7%) were diagnosed after an abnormal blood test. Less than half (49.2%) underwent *JAK2* mutation analysis, of whom 95.8% were *JAK2* V617F mutation positive; < 1% were positive for *JAK2* exon 12 mutations. At enrollment, 47.7% of patients had elevated hematocrit (> 45%), 35.8% had elevated platelets (> 400 × 10⁹/L), and 37.0% had elevated leukocytes (> 10 × 10⁹/L). Most patients (94.5%) were receiving active PV treatment, predominantly therapeutic phlebotomy alone (33.6%), hydroxyurea monotherapy (29.0%), or hydroxyurea plus phlebotomy (23.7%). Thrombotic events occurred in 11.9% of patients before PV diagnosis (venous, 6.7%; arterial, 5.7%), and 8.3% between diagnosis and enrollment. Hypertension (70.6%) was the most common previous medical condition. **Conclusion:** REVEAL enrollment data inform our understanding of the baseline demographics, diagnostic approach, disease characteristics, and treatment patterns of patients with PV in the United States. Longitudinal real-world data collected in this study will complement information collected during randomized controlled clinical trials.

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Keywords: Blood tests, Demographics, *JAK2* V617F mutation, Myeloproliferative neoplasm, Population characteristics

Introduction

Polycythemia vera (PV) is a myeloproliferative neoplasm in which clonal proliferation of a hematopoietic progenitor cell results

in erythrocytosis, leukocytosis, and thrombocytosis.¹ With respect to the epidemiology of PV in the United States, analyses of administrative claims from 2008 to 2010 reported a prevalence of

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approximately 44 to 57 per 100,000 people.² Most patients with PV have a Janus kinase 2 (*JAK2*) mutation that results in constitutive activation of hematopoietic signal transduction, thus explaining the exaggerated hematopoiesis. More than 95% of patients with PV carry the *JAK2* V617F mutation; ~4% have mutations in *JAK2* exon 12.³⁻⁷

Patients with PV have an increased mortality risk relative to the general population, primarily due to thrombotic events, transformation to leukemia or myelofibrosis, and solid tumors.⁸⁻¹² Patients also experience a broad range of symptoms that may lead to decreased quality of life and productivity.¹³⁻¹⁶

Large multicenter observational studies of PV have focused primarily on European patients,^{13,14,16-21} whereas US studies have been limited to single-center settings.^{22,23} Patterns of care can be characterized with administrative claims databases and electronic medical record audits. However, these data sources frequently lack important clinical information and do not capture patient-reported outcomes (PROs).

The Prospective Observational Study of Patients With Polycythemia Vera in US Clinical Practices (REVEAL; [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02252159), NCT02252159) was designed to collect contemporary demographics and data on the burden of disease, clinical management, PROs, and health care resource utilization of US patients with PV being seen at community and academic medical centers. This report describes the demographics as well as the clinical and disease characteristics of patients in the REVEAL study at the time of study enrollment.

Patients and Methods

Study Design

REVEAL is a multicenter, noninterventional, prospective observational study of patients with PV conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki. Approval of all study materials by central (Sterling IRB; Atlanta, GA) and local institutional review boards and provision of informed consent by all patients was required, including a separate informed consent form documenting willingness to participate in an optional biological substudy to examine the molecular features of PV. Patients with a clinical diagnosis of PV were enrolled from community practices and academic centers in the United States over a 24-month enrollment period. Physician assessments and PRO outcomes (previously published²⁴) were recorded during routine care visits (approximately every 6 months). Blood samples were collected at enrollment and annually for patients agreeing to participate in an optional molecular substudy. All treatment decisions during the study were made by patients' treating physicians.

Eligibility Requirements

At enrollment, patients were ≥ 18 years old; had a clinical diagnosis of PV per physician judgment; were willing and able to provide informed consent and complete patient assessments and questionnaires, either alone or with minimal assistance from a caregiver or trained site personnel; and were currently under physician supervision for management of PV. Patients were excluded if they were participating in an active, blinded clinical trial; had a life expectancy < 6 months; had a diagnosis of myelofibrosis, acute myeloid leukemia, or myelodysplastic syndrome; had a history

of or active plan (within 3 months of enrollment) to proceed to allogeneic hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation; or had undergone splenectomy.

Assessments

This analysis describes patient demographics as well as clinical and disease characteristics at time of diagnosis and around the time of enrollment. Historic data pertaining to the evaluations and disease characteristics at time of diagnosis and physician-reported data from usual care visits, including information from the 6 months before enrollment, were collected and abstracted from electronic medical records into an electronic data capture system. For the purpose of this analysis, physician-reported data in the following categories were examined: demographics and PV disease characteristics; education, employment, insurance, and residency characteristics; laboratory tests and procedures used to determine a diagnosis of PV; signs and symptoms at time of PV diagnosis; laboratory values at time of enrollment; PV-directed therapy; comorbid conditions; thrombotic event history; concomitant medications; and health care resource utilization.

The Charlson Comorbidity Index (CCI) was used to assess morbidity.²⁵ The CCI uses a 6-point scale to rate diagnosis codes from the International Classification of Diseases for each comorbid condition, which are summed to generate a total index score for each patient; higher scores correspond with more severe morbidity.

Statistical Analysis

Descriptive statistics were used. Missing data were not imputed; however, missing dates for temporal end points were imputed when applicable. If the entire date (ie, day, month, and year) was missing, all corresponding data were excluded from analyses involving dates. If the day was missing but the month and year were available, the date was imputed as the first day of the month. If the day and month were missing but the year was available, the date was imputed as January 1.

Results

Patient Demographics and PV Disease Characteristics

In this ongoing study, 2510 patients were enrolled from July 22, 2014, to August 3, 2016, from 227 US sites (39 academic and 188 community [self-identified]; [Figure 1](#)). Patients had a mean (SD) age of 66.3 (12.3) years ([Table 1](#)), and 2.9% were young (aged < 40 years). Most patients were male (54.2%) and white (89.1%), and 48.1% had a history of smoking; 11.1% were active smokers at time of enrollment. Family history of PV was documented in 132 patients (5.3%).

Median (range) disease duration was 4.0 (0-56.3) years ([Figure 2](#)), 77.3% of patients were classified as having high-risk disease (aged ≥ 60 years and/or history of thrombotic events), and 72.6% were obese or overweight. Spleen assessment by physical examination was performed in 1601 patients (63.8%) at time of enrollment. Of these patients, 282 (17.6%) had palpable splenomegaly. Spleen length measurements were available for 122 patients, 51.6% of whom had spleen length ≥ 5 cm from the left costal margin to the point of greatest splenic extension.

Figure 1 IRB-Approved Study Sites Participating in REVEAL. A Total of 2510 Patients Were Enrolled From 227 Sites Across the United States (39 Academic and 188 Community [Self-identified])



Abbreviations: IRB = institutional review board; REVEAL = Prospective Observational Study of Patients With Polycythemia Vera in US Clinical Practices.

Patient Education, Employment, Insurance, and Residency Characteristics

Most patients (62.7%) had at least some college education, 33.5% were employed full time or part time, 51.1% were retired, and 4.4% were disabled or unable to work (Supplemental Table 1). The vast majority of patients (99.1%) had health insurance (public only, 47.8%; private only, 40.4%; both public and private, 10.9%). Most patients (94.9%) were living independently at home, 3.7% were living as a dependent at home, and 0.8% were living in assisted housing; 0.1% and 0.4% were living in long-term care facilities or other residency settings, respectively.

PV Diagnosis

The majority of patients were reported to have abnormal hemoglobin (59.0%) or hematocrit (57.5%) results at time of diagnosis (Table 2). An abnormal platelet count or erythropoietin level was reported in only 28.7% and 20.1% of patients at time of diagnosis, respectively. In almost half (49.2%) of patients, *JAK2* mutational testing results were reported; most of these patients were positive for *JAK2* V617F (95.8%), with only 0.8% positive for *JAK2* exon 12 mutations. A *JAK2* test was reported for 19.9% of patients diagnosed before January 1, 2006, compared to 54.3% of patients diagnosed after January 1, 2006. Bone marrow biopsy/aspiration results were reported in 24.4% of patients. Palpable splenomegaly was reported as a factor in the diagnosis of 7.0% of

patients. With respect to PV-specific symptoms, the most commonly reported symptoms noted at diagnosis were tiredness (22.0%), itching (13.9%), muscle aches and/or bone pain (8.8%), and difficulty sleeping (7.8%; Table 2).

Laboratory Values

At time of enrollment, 5.3% of patients had an elevated hemoglobin level (> 18.5 g/dL in men or > 16.5 g/dL in women), 47.7% had elevated hematocrit ($> 45\%$), 35.8% had elevated platelets ($> 400 \times 10^9/L$), and 37.0% had elevated leukocytes ($> 10 \times 10^9/L$). Mean hemoglobin, hematocrit, platelet, and leukocyte values at enrollment were 14.5 g/dL, 45%, $367.5 \times 10^9/L$, and $10.4 \times 10^9/L$, respectively (Table 3).

PV-Directed Therapy at Time of Enrollment

At time of enrollment, the majority (54.6%) of patients with low-risk disease were being managed with therapeutic phlebotomy. However, 18.1% and 15.8% of low-risk patients were being managed with hydroxyurea alone and phlebotomy plus hydroxyurea, respectively. Only 4.9% of patients with low-risk PV were managed with watchful waiting. In contrast, hydroxyurea alone (32.2%) and phlebotomy alone (27.4%) were the most commonly reported PV-directed therapies in patients with high-risk PV. Management with watchful waiting was reported for 5.7% of patients with high-risk disease (Figure 3). The most common

Table 1 Demographics and PV Disease Characteristics at Enrollment for 2510 Patients

Characteristic	Value
Age (y)	
Mean (SD)	66.3 (12.3)
Median (range)	67.0 (22.0-95.0)
Male sex	1360 (54.2)
BMI (kg/m²) (n = 2502)	
Mean (SD)	28.7 (5.8)
Median (range)	28.0 (13.7-56.6)
Smoking	
Ever smoked	1208 (48.1)
Smoking at baseline	279 (11.1)
Race	
White	2237 (89.1)
Black or African American	143 (5.7)
Asian	37 (1.5)
Other	19 (0.8)
No information/missing	74 (2.9)
Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic/Latino	2293 (91.4)
Hispanic/Latino	98 (3.9)
No information/missing	119 (4.7)
Time from PV diagnosis to enrollment (y) (n = 2485), median (range)	4.0 (0-56.3)
Spleen Palpation	
Spleen palpation performed	1601 (63.8)
Patients with palpable spleen	282 (11.2)
PV Risk	
Low	570 (22.7)
High ^a	1940 (77.3)
History of thrombosis (venous or arterial)	500 (19.9)
Positive family history of PV	132 (5.3)

Data are presented as n (%) unless otherwise indicated. Sample size is 2510 unless otherwise indicated.

Abbreviations: BMI = body mass index; PV = polycythemia vera.

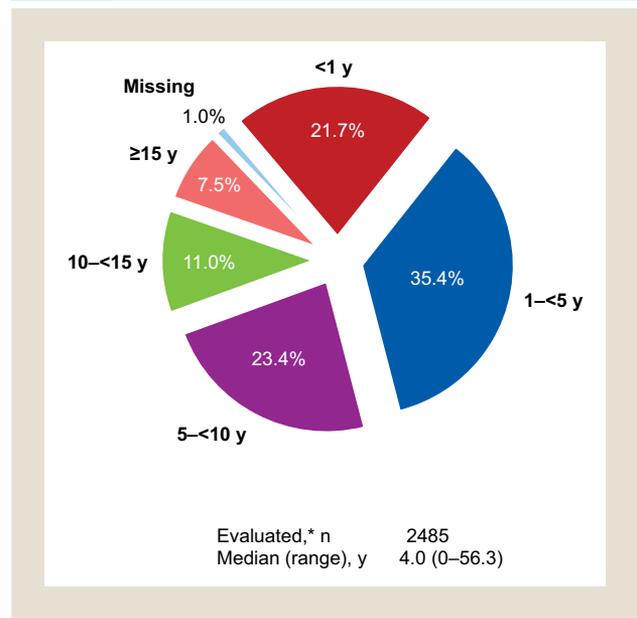
^aAged ≥ 60 years and/or history of thrombotic events.

hydroxyurea daily doses were 500 mg (35.4%) and 1000 mg (30.2%). The mean hydroxyurea daily doses were 769.5 and 834.9 mg for patients undergoing and not undergoing phlebotomy, respectively. Among patients who were treated with therapeutic phlebotomy, mean number of phlebotomies was 2.5 (median, 2) during the 6 months before enrollment. A small proportion of patients were treated with other agents (8.2%), including ruxolitinib (3.8%), anagrelide (2.0%), and interferon (1.4%).

Comorbid Conditions

The most common comorbid conditions were hypertension (70.6%), hyperlipidemia (30.4%), obesity (17.5%), and diabetes mellitus (15.7%). Mean (SD) CCI was 3.4 (0.83). A history of skin cancer (not otherwise specified) and nonmelanoma skin cancer was documented in 3.5% and 3.3% of patients, respectively. Malignant melanoma was noted in 1.1% of patients. A history of other

Figure 2 Duration of Disease at Enrollment. *Excluding 25 Patients With Missing Diagnosis Date



malignancies included prostate (2.9%), breast (1.9%), and colon (1.0%) cancers (Supplemental Table 2).

History of Thrombosis

At time of study enrollment, for patients with a known PV diagnosis date (n = 2485), 468 patients (18.8%) had a documented thrombotic event (Table 4), and 4.6% had at least 2 thrombotic events. Venous thrombotic events had occurred in 279 patients (11.2%); the most common were deep vein thrombosis (6.1%) and pulmonary embolism (2.6%). Arterial thrombotic events had occurred in 218 patients (8.8%); the most common were cerebrovascular arterial thrombosis (5.1%) and acute myocardial infarction (1.8%). A total of 29 patients (1.2%) experienced both a venous and arterial thrombotic event. Before PV diagnosis, 296 patients (11.9%) experienced thrombotic events (venous, 6.7%; arterial, 5.7%). Between diagnosis and enrollment, 207 patients (8.3%) experienced a thrombotic event (venous, 5.2%; arterial, 3.5%). Of the patients who experienced thrombotic events before PV diagnosis, 35 (11.8%) had a subsequent thrombotic event after PV diagnosis. The exposure-adjusted thrombotic event rate between diagnosis and enrollment was 1.55 per 100 patient-years. Among patients who did not have a history of thrombotic events at time of diagnosis, 7.0% had a thrombotic event after diagnosis.

Concomitant Medications

The 3 most common categories of concomitant medications were statins (26.3%), selective β-blocking agents (18.9%), and angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (16.6%). Aspirin use was reported in 62.9% of patients.

Health Care Resource Utilization

There were 667 patients (26.6%) who reported at least one hospital, urgent care, emergency room, or outpatient visit within the

Table 2 Abnormal Laboratory Tests and Polycythemia Vera–Related Signs and Symptoms at Time of Diagnosis in 2510 Patients

Characteristic	Value
Abnormal Laboratory Test^a	
Hemoglobin	1482 (59.0)
Hematocrit	1443 (57.5)
Platelet count	720 (28.7)
White blood cell count	499 (19.9)
Erythropoietin level	505 (20.1)
Red blood cell count	454 (18.1)
Red cell mass	105 (4.2)
Serum LDH	88 (3.5)
EEC growth	8 (0.3)
Palpable splenomegaly	175 (7.0)
Mutational Test	
<i>JAK2</i> V617F, n/N (%) ^b	1184/1236 (95.8)
<i>JAK2</i> other, n/N (%) ^b	10/1236 (0.8)
Missing, n/N (%) ^b	42/1236 (3.4)
Bone marrow test	612 (24.4)
Symptoms (Documented by Physician)	
Tiredness	552 (22.0)
Itching	349 (13.9)
Muscle aches and/or bone pain	220 (8.8)
Difficulty sleeping	195 (7.8)

Data are presented as n (%) unless otherwise indicated. Abbreviations: EEC = endogenous erythroid colony; *JAK2* = Janus Kinase 2; LDH = lactate dehydrogenase. ^aAs reported by survey respondents; definitions of "abnormal" were not available. A patient could be counted in > 1 category. ^bDenominator of 1236 is number of patients who had mutational analysis data from peripheral blood test or other test.

6 months before enrollment. Most of these patients (82.6%) reported having outpatient medical care visits. PV was a causal factor for 39.9% of all hospital, urgent care, emergency room, and outpatient visits.

Discussion

The REVEAL study is the first large, prospective observational study to examine the contemporary demographics, burden of disease, clinical management, PROs, and health care resource utilization among US patients with PV. Enrolled patients represent a broad, real-world segment of the PV population who are actively being managed at community or academic centers. In this analysis of clinical and disease characteristics at time of enrollment to REVEAL, patients were mostly male (54.2%) and had a mean (SD) age of 66.3 (12.3) years, with a median (range) PV disease duration of 4.0 (0-56.3) years. In the Cytoreductive Therapy in Polycythemia Vera (CYTO-PV) study, which had similar eligibility criteria, 62.2% were male, mean (SD) age at recruitment/enrollment was 65 (12) years, and mean (SD) time from diagnosis to enrollment was 4.3 (5.4) years.²⁶ Baseline data reported from the 1638 patients included in the database collected during the observational study of the European Collaboration on Low-Dose Aspirin

Table 3 Polycythemia Vera–Related Laboratory Values at Enrollment in 2510 Patients

Characteristic	Value
Hemoglobin	
No. evaluated	2241
Mean (SD; range) (g/dL)	14.5 (1.9; 8.2-22.1)
Elevated ^a	118 (5.3%)
Hematocrit	
No. evaluated	2242
Mean (SD; range) (%)	45 (5.7; 25-70)
> 45%	1070 (47.7%)
Platelet Count	
No. evaluated	2212
Mean (SD; range) ($\times 10^9/L$)	367.5 (186.4; 15.0-1542.0)
> 400 $\times 10^9/L$	792 (35.8%)
Leukocyte Count	
No. evaluated	2219
Mean (SD; range) ($\times 10^9/L$)	10.4 (7.2; 0.70-151.3)
> 10 $\times 10^9/L$	821 (37.0%)

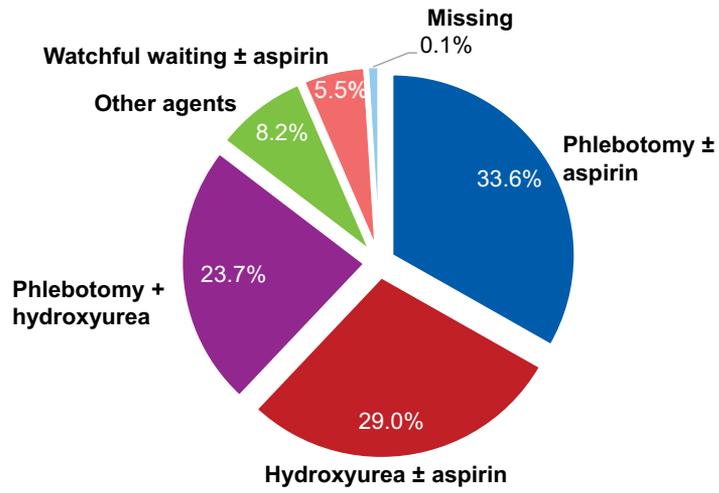
^aDefined as > 18.5 g/dL for men and > 16.5 g/dL for women.

in Polycythemia Vera (ECLAP) project revealed that 57.5% were male, mean (SD) age at recruitment/enrollment was 60 (13) years, and mean (SD) time from diagnosis to enrollment was 5.0 (5.0) years.²⁷ Demographic statistics from REVEAL are similar to those reported by other highly regarded studies.

Bone marrow biopsy and *JAK2* mutation testing are important to differentiate between a PV diagnosis and myelofibrosis or essential thrombocythemia; confirmation of diagnosis by bone marrow biopsy may affect treatment selection and potentially outcomes. At the time of diagnosis, it was reported that < 25% of patients underwent bone marrow biopsy/aspiration, and < 50% underwent *JAK2* mutation testing. Of the patients who did undergo *JAK2* mutation testing, approximately 96% had a *JAK2* V617F mutation, and approximately 1% had other *JAK2* mutations (eg, exon 12). Because the majority of patients did not have *JAK2* mutation testing to verify diagnosis, it is possible that some do not truly have PV. Importantly, *JAK2* mutation testing is increasing over time. According to data reported in this study, of the patients diagnosed in the 3-year intervals of 2005-2007, 2008-2010, 2011-2013, and 2014-2016, 38%, 57%, 57%, and 61% underwent *JAK2* mutation testing, respectively. However, even when taking into consideration that the *JAK2* mutation was discovered in 2005 and the time needed for this mutation testing to become widely available to all practice settings, the rates of *JAK2* mutation testing reported in this study seem low. Similarly, the percentage of patients who reportedly underwent bone marrow biopsy and/or erythropoietin testing seems low. These low rates may be related to the various ways in which these data are acquired, recorded, and abstracted from electronic medical records.²⁸

Regarding the management of patients with low-risk disease, in line with National Comprehensive Cancer Network clinical practice guidelines,²⁹ the majority (54.6%) of patients were managed with phlebotomy with or without aspirin. However, > 40% of low-risk

Figure 3 PV-Related Treatment at Enrollment. For “Other Agents,” Patients Could Be Counted in More Than One Category; Treatment Included Ruxolitinib (3.8%), Anagrelide (2.0%), Interferons (1.4%), and Other (1.2%). Treatment Was Unknown for 2 Patients



PV-Related Treatment at Enrollment in Low- and High-Risk Patients

Treatment, n (%)	Low risk (n=570)	High-risk patients			All patients (N=1940)
		Age ≥60 y (n=1440)	TE History (n=125)	Age ≥60 y + TE history (n=375)	
Phlebotomy ± aspirin	311 (54.6)	402 (27.9)	48 (38.4)	82 (21.9)	532 (27.4)
Hydroxyurea ± aspirin	103 (18.1)	464 (32.2)	35 (28.0)	125 (33.3)	624 (32.2)
Phlebotomy + hydroxyurea	90 (15.8)	388 (26.9)	20 (16.0)	96 (25.6)	504 (26.0)
Other agents	38 (6.7)	106 (7.4)	16 (12.8)	46 (12.3)	168 (8.7)
Watchful waiting ± aspirin	28 (4.9)	78 (5.4)	6 (4.8)	26 (6.9)	110 (5.7)
Missing	0	2 (0.1)	0	0	0

PV, polycythemia vera; TE, thrombotic event.

patients received hydroxyurea or some other cytoreductive therapy with or without aspirin. Conversely, approximately one third of high-risk patients were managed without cytoreductive medications with or without aspirin. These data suggest variance from guideline-defined risk-adapted treatment of PV, which was published after many of these patients were diagnosed and enrolled.³⁰ It is important to note that treatment with aspirin was reported in 62.9% of patients, but it is likely that, in some patients, over-the-counter use of aspirin was not reported or recorded.

With respect to thrombotic events, 11.9% of patients in REVEAL experienced thrombotic events before PV diagnosis (venous, 6.7%; arterial, 5.7%), and 8.3% experienced a thrombotic event between diagnosis and enrollment. In comparison, 14% of patients with PV had thrombotic events before diagnosis, and 19% had a thrombotic event during a 20-year follow-up in a retrospective study of 1213 patients in Italian hematology institutions conducted in 1995.¹⁸

Conclusion

As the first prospective observational study of its size to assess US patients with PV, REVEAL is expected to provide information that will improve our understanding of the demographics, diagnosis, management, and outcomes of these patients. This analysis describes patient demographics as well as clinical and disease characteristics at the time of diagnosis and around the time of enrollment. REVEAL baseline data indicated that the *JAK2* V617F mutation rate among patients who underwent molecular testing was consistent with previous reports.^{4,31} However, the reported percentage of patients who underwent testing was much lower than expected, which could be related to the challenges of capturing retrospective data from medical records. Many patients had poorly controlled hematocrit, platelet, and leukocyte counts at enrollment, with elevated hematocrit values observed in nearly half of all evaluated patients. Additional prospective data from REVEAL (eg, treatment patterns, PROs, and cardiovascular risk assessments) will be

Table 4 History of Thrombotic Events in 2485 Patients With Evaluable Data

Thrombotic Event	N (%)
Any Events Before Enrollment^a	468 (18.8)
Before diagnosis ^b	296 (11.9)
Venous	166 (6.7)
Arterial	142 (5.7)
Between diagnosis and enrollment ^b	207 (8.3)
Venous	130 (5.2)
Arterial	87 (3.5)
More than one thrombotic event	115 (4.6)
Venous Events Before Enrollment	279 (11.2)
Deep-vein thrombosis	151 (6.1)
Pulmonary embolism	64 (2.6)
Superficial venous thrombosis	30 (1.2)
Portal vein thrombosis	20 (0.8)
Cerebral vein/sinus thrombosis	17 (0.7)
Splenic vein thrombosis	9 (0.4)
Retinal vein thrombosis	7 (0.3)
Visceral/splanchnic vein thrombosis	1 (<0.1)
Other	42 (1.7)
Arterial Events Before Enrollment	218 (8.8)
Cerebrovascular arterial thrombosis	126 (5.1)
Acute myocardial infarction	44 (1.8)
Peripheral arterial thrombosis	14 (0.6)
Splenic infarction	6 (0.2)
Retinal artery thrombosis	4 (0.2)
Visceral arterial thrombosis	1 (<0.1)
Other	38 (1.5)

Patients without known PV diagnosis date were excluded from evaluable patient population.
^aThrombotic events without event dates were excluded.
^bPatient groups reporting events "before diagnosis" and "between diagnosis and enrollment" are not mutually exclusive.

important for understanding how the disease progresses and how management changes with time.

Clinical Practice Points

- PV is a Philadelphia chromosome–negative myeloproliferative neoplasm that can be diagnosed on the basis of absolute erythrocytosis (hemoglobin > 16.5 g/dL in men, hemoglobin > 16 g/dL in women), bone marrow biopsy, and the presence of *JAK2* V617F or *JAK2* exon 12 mutation. According to World Health Organization PV diagnostic criteria, bone marrow biopsy may not be required in cases of sustained absolute erythrocytosis (hemoglobin > 18.5 g/dL in men or > 16.5 g/dL in women) in the presence of one of the *JAK2* mutations and a subnormal serum erythropoietin level.
- In this observational study, the retrospective review and abstraction of data from electronic medical records limits definitive conclusions regarding diagnostic approach.
- The primary goal of treatment is prevention of arterial and venous thrombotic events. In general, risk-adapted treatment consists of phlebotomy and aspirin in low-risk patients (< 60 years and no

history of thrombosis). In high-risk patients (≥ 60 years and/or with a history of thrombosis), cytoreductive therapy is usually added to phlebotomy and aspirin. Data collected from REVEAL suggest variance from guideline-defined risk-adapted treatment of PV.

- During treatment, patients with PV should be monitored every 3 to 6 months for new thrombohemorrhagic events, increased need/intolerance of phlebotomy, progressive/symptomatic splenomegaly, symptomatic thrombocytosis, progressive leukocytosis, and progressive disease-related symptoms. This close clinical surveillance is necessary to determine whether a cytoreductive therapy is indicated for low-risk patients or whether a different medication should be selected for high-risk patients.
- Baseline characteristics of patients with PV enrolled in REVEAL are similar to those reported by other highly regarded studies.

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Disclosure

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Supplemental Data

Supplemental tables accompanying this article can be found in the online version <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clml.2018.08.009>.

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REVEAL Preliminary Report

Supplemental Table 1 Education, Employment, Insurance, and Residency Characteristics at Enrollment for 2510 Patients

Characteristic	N (%)
Highest Level of Education	
Less than high school	114 (4.5)
High school graduate/equivalent	805 (32.1)
Some college	556 (22.2)
College degree	686 (27.3)
Graduate degree	332 (13.2)
Missing	17 (0.7)
Current Employment Status^a	
Full-time employee	721 (28.7)
Part-time employee	119 (4.7)
Homemaker	89 (3.5)
Student	7 (0.3)
Retired	1282 (51.1)
Unable to work/disabled	110 (4.4)
Other	73 (2.9)
Unknown	107 (4.3)
Missing	2 (0.1)
Health Insurance^b	
Medicare	1350 (53.8)
Preferred provider organization	629 (25.1)
Health maintenance organization	289 (11.5)
Medicaid	109 (4.3)
TRICARE	73 (2.9)
Self-insured	32 (1.3)
Veterans Affairs/Department of Defense	24 (1.0)
Other ^c	353 (14.1)
None	16 (0.6)
Patient Residency Setting	
At home, living independently	2381 (94.9)
At home, living as dependent	93 (3.7)
Assisted living	20 (0.8)
Long-term care facility	3 (0.1)
Other	9 (0.4)
Missing	4 (0.2)

^aFirst choice as listed in sequence of electronic data captured.

^bPatients may have been included in more than one health insurance category.

^cIncludes range of health insurance and prescription plans and may include some that are reported within other categories.

Supplemental Table 2 Most Common Comorbid Conditions in 2510 Patients

Condition	N (%)
Select Cardiovascular Disease–Related Conditions	
Hypertension	1772 (70.6)
Hyperlipidemia	763 (30.4)
Obesity ^a	440 (17.5)
Diabetes mellitus	395 (15.7)
History of Cancer in ≥ 1% of Patients	
Skin	88 (3.5)
Nonmelanoma skin cancer	83 (3.3)
Prostate	73 (2.9)
Breast	48 (1.9)
Malignant melanoma	27 (1.1)
Colon	25 (1.0)

^aPer discretion of managing physician.