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Decreased Early Mortality Associated with Treatment of Acute Myeloid Leukemia at National Cancer Institute-Designated Cancer Centers in California

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Abstract

Background—Few population-based studies have evaluated the association between location of care, complications with induction therapy and early mortality in acute myeloid leukemia (AML) patients.

Methods—Using linked data from the California Cancer Registry and Patient Discharge Dataset (1999–2014), we identified adult AML patients (18 years) who received inpatient treatment within 30 days of diagnosis. A propensity score was created for treatment at an NCI-CC. Inverse probability-weighted, multivariable logistic regression models were used to determine associations between location of care, complications and early mortality (death 60 days from diagnosis).

Results—Of the 7007 patients with AML, 1762 (25%) were treated at a NCI-CC. AML patients treated at NCI-CCs were more likely to be 65 years of age, live in higher socioeconomic status neighborhoods, have fewer comorbidities and have public health insurance. Patients treated at NCI-CCs had higher rates of renal failure (23% vs 20%, P=0.010) and lower rates of respiratory failure (11% vs 14%, P=0.003) and cardiac arrest (1% vs 2%, P=0.014). After adjustment for baseline characteristics, treatment at a NCI-CC was associated with lower early mortality (OR 0.46, CI 0.38–0.57). The impact of complications on early mortality did not differ by location of care except for higher early mortality in patients with respiratory failure treated at non-NCI-CC.

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Conclusions—Initial treatment of adult AML at NCI-CCs is associated with a 53% reduction in the odds of early mortality compared with treatment at non-NCI-CCs. Lower early mortality may result from differences in hospital or provider experience and supportive care.

Condensed abstract:

In this observational cohort study that included 7007 adult acute myeloid leukemia patients hospitalized in California, patients treated at National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated cancer centers had a 53% reduction in the odds of death at 60 days of diagnosis compared to those treated elsewhere. Patients treated at NCI-CCs were more likely to be younger, live in more affluent neighborhoods, have fewer comorbidities and have public health insurance.

INTRODUCTION

Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is the one of the most common leukemias in adults and is associated with a poor overall prognosis.¹ Initial standard treatment of AML consists of induction chemotherapy that usually requires an inpatient hospitalization of at least one month, a period that is associated with a high early mortality of 12–26% due to the underlying disease and complications of treatment.^{2–4} Early mortality, or death within 30–60 days of diagnosis, has improved over the last 40 years largely due to advances in supportive care, including treatment of infections and rigorous transfusions^{5,6}, but there continue to be disparities in outcomes between specific groups^{7,8}. We previously observed that race/ ethnicity, neighborhood socioeconomic status, marital status and location of care impacted early mortality in AML patients.⁹.

Recent research among patients with solid tumors has highlighted the impact of the cancer care delivery setting on patient outcomes. In patients with lung, prostate, breast and colorectal cancer, treatment at specialty cancer hospitals compared to community centers was associated with improved 1-year mortality after adjustment for cancer stage.¹⁰ In addition, patients undergoing cancer surgery for lung, gastrointestinal and bladder cancers have been shown to experience reduced surgical and late mortality rates when treated at National Cancer Institute designated cancer centers (NCI-CC) rather than community hospitals.^{11–13} Few studies have evaluated the association between location of care and outcomes in patients with hematological malignancies, including AML. One recent study showed that adolescents and young adults with acute lymphoblastic leukemia and acute myeloid leukemia treated at NCI-CCs or Children's Oncology Group sites had better survival compared to those treated elsewhere. This study, however, was limited to facilities in Los Angeles county and did not consider early mortality.¹⁴

In a previous report, we showed that early complications and early mortality were lower for AML patients treated at NCI-CC; however, that report did not examine potential reasons for this disparity nor utilize more robust analytical methods to mitigate the selection bias inherent in which patients receive treatment at an NCI-CC.⁹ In this present study, we examine differences in sociodemographic and clinical characteristics of AML patients treated at NCI versus non-NCI-CCs. We also evaluate the impact of hospital type on early mortality while controlling for these differences and examine whether complications during initial therapy by location of care impact early mortality. We hypothesized that AML

patients treated at NCI-CCs would have lower rates of complications related to induction therapy and lower early mortality compared to those treated elsewhere.

METHODS

Databases

This study used a linked database between the California Cancer Registry (CCR) and the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development Patient Discharge Database (PDD). The CCR contains sociodemographic, clinical, and pathologic information on nearly all patients diagnosed with cancer in California. Reporting is mandatory and completeness of cases is at least 98%.¹⁵ From the CCR, information on age at diagnosis, race/ethnicity, year of diagnosis, gender, marital status, neighborhood socioeconomic status (SES), health insurance at diagnosis or initial treatment, date of initial chemotherapy and vital status complete through 2014 was obtained.¹

The PDD contains information about all patients hospitalized in the California, except patients admitted to one of 14 Federal hospitals (12 Veterans Affairs hospitals and two military hospitals). Serial records from a single person are linked using an encrypted form of the social-security number, called the record linkage number.^{16,17} PDD records include a principal medical diagnosis, up to 24 additional 'secondary' diagnoses, and a principal and up to 20 secondary procedures coded using International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification codes (ICD-9-CM). From the PDD, we obtained information on chemotherapy administration, leukapheresis (a procedure used as a surrogate for a diagnosis of hyperleukocytosis; ICD-9, 99.72), and comorbidities up to 2 years prior to or at AML first admission using the Elixhauser index.¹⁸ We were also able to obtain information on complications which were included if they occurred within any hospitalization from the time of diagnosis to 60 days, or death. Complications determined included: major bleeding, sepsis, venous thrombosis, renal failure, liver dysfunction, respiratory failure, or cardiac arrest (ICD-9-CM codes in Supplementary Table 1). These complications were chosen as they have been previously identified as being common complications during AML induction treatment.³ The database also includes a hospital identifier. From this list of hospitals, we were able to classify hospitals into those associated with one of the eight NCI-CCs in California. All other hospitals were classified as non-NCI-CCs.

Study Population

Adult patients (18 years of age) diagnosed with a first primary AML and treated at a hospital with chemotherapy in California from 1999–2014 were eligible for the study. To identify cases of AML, we used the following morphology codes from the International Classification of Diseases for Oncology, 3rd edition (ICD-O-3) (World Health Organization, 2000): 9840, 9861, 9865 9867, 9869–9874, 9891, 9895–9898, 9910, 9911, 9920, and 9931. We excluded patients with a diagnosis of acute promyelocytic leukemia because the treatment and management differs from AML. In addition, we excluded patients without a record linkage number to hospital data; patients with an AML diagnosis at autopsy or death

certificate only; patients who did not receive chemotherapy within 30 days of diagnosis; and those without an inpatient hospitalization or known hospital type (Figure 1).

Statistical Analysis

The differences in baseline characteristics and complications by location of care (NCI-CC vs non-NCI-CC facilities) were assessed by Chi-square tests. Propensity score methodology was used to balance the baseline covariates between patients treated at an NCI-CC and those treated at non-NCI-CC facilities.

Multivariable logistic regression was used to estimate propensity scores for the variable location of care (NCI-CC/non-NCI-CC facilities), predicted from baseline characteristics: age, sex, race/ethnicity, year of diagnosis, marital status, neighborhood socioeconomic status, health insurance type and medical comorbidities. (Supplementary Figure 1). To obtain groups similar in baseline characteristics between those treated at NCI and non-NCI cancer centers, inverse probability weighting was used in the multivariable models for mortality. The quality of the propensity scores estimated are evaluated using two types of comparisons: comparing the distributions of propensity scores across the two groups (NCI-CC/non-NCI-CC facilities) and comparing the distribution of each covariate across the two groups. Furthermore, the standardized mean differences in baseline characteristics between the NCI-CC and non-NCI-CC groups were used to determine the effectiveness of the propensity score adjustment.

The primary outcome was death 60 days (early mortality) from AML diagnosis. Inverse probability weighted multivariable logistic regression models were used to determine associations between location of care and complications with early mortality, adjusting for baseline patient characteristics. Interactions of complications and location of care with early mortality were also determined for each covariate in the model. Analyses were performed using SAS® (9.4) and a two-sided p-value <0.05 was considered statistically significant, including interactions.

RESULTS

From a total of 13413 adult patients with first primary AML, we identified 7007 patients that fulfilled our inclusion criteria (Figure 1). Of these, 1762 (25.1%) were treated at an NCI-CC. The median number of new AML patients per year at a NCI-CC was 13.5 (range 0,43) compared to a median of 2 patients per year (range 1, 17) at non-NCI-CCs who admitted at least one AML patient. More than half of non-NCI-CCs had a median of zero new AML patients per year. By univariate analysis and chi-square tests, patients treated at a NCI-CC were more likely to be 65 years of age (73.9% vs. 60.1%), live in higher socioeconomic status neighborhoods (46.9% vs. 44.1%) and have public insurance (16.9% vs. 11.5%) (Table 1). Patients treated at a NCI-CC also had less comorbidities compared to those treated elsewhere (79.7% with 0–2 comorbidities at NCI-CC vs. 59.2% with 0–2 comorbidities at non-NCI-CC, p<0.001).

In the multivariable model, several sociodemographic and clinical factors were associated with treatment at a NCI-CC (Table 2). Age 65 years and being diagnosed after 2002 was

significantly associated with treatment at a NCI-CC. Having Medicare insurance (OR 1.89, CI 1.58–2.24) or other public insurance (OR 1.71, CI 1.44–2.03) was associated with higher odds of treatment at a NCI-CC when compared to private insurance. Patients who were Hispanic (OR 0.79, CI 0.68–0.92), African American (OR 0.66, CI 0.50–0.87), lived in low socioeconomic status neighborhoods (OR 0.84, CI 0.75–0.95) and had more than 3 comorbidities (0.67, CI 0.57–0.78) were less likely to receive treatment at a NCI-CC.

Differences in complication rates within 60 days of AML diagnosis between NCI-CC and non-NCI-CCs are described in Table 3. Leukapheresis occurred more frequently amongst patients treated at a NCI-CC (5.5% vs 2.7%, p<0.001). Patients treated at NCI-CCs had higher rates of renal failure (22.8% vs 19.9%, p=0.010), but lower rates of respiratory failure (11.6% vs 14.3%, p=0.003) and cardiac arrest (1.1% vs 2.0%, p=0.014) than patients treated at non-NCI-CCs. At 60 days after diagnosis, more patients treated at NCI-CC were alive (88.0% vs 76.3%, p<0.001). Other complications did not significantly differ by location of care.

Early mortality amongst AML patients improved over time at both NCI-CCs and non-NCI-CCs (Figure 2). However, throughout the study period, patients treated at NCI-CCs had a persistently lower early mortality (average 12%) relative to those treated at non-NCI-CC (average 24%).

After inverse probability weighting and adjustment for sociodemographic factors, comorbidities, and complications, treatment at an NCI-CC was associated with significantly lower early mortality compared with treatment at a non-NCI-CC (OR 0.46, CI 0.40–0.54) (Table 4). Complications associated with increased early mortality included major bleeding, liver, renal and respiratory failure, and cardiac arrest. The impact of complications on early mortality did not differ by location of care with the exception of respiratory failure (P for interaction=0.009) and thrombosis (P for interaction=0.034). AML patients with respiratory failure had higher odds of early mortality when treated at non-NCI-CCs (OR 9.48, CI 7.06–12.74) versus NCI-CCs (OR 4.20, CI 2.61–6.78). Though the association between thrombosis and early mortality differed between NCI-CCs and non-NCI-CCs, neither association reached statistical significance (Table 4). Similar results were seen in the traditional multivariate model (Supplementary Table 2).

DISCUSSION

In our analysis using a large and diverse cohort of hospitalized AML patients receiving initial chemotherapy, treatment at NCI–CCs was associated with a 53% reduction in the odds of early mortality compared with treatment at non-NCI-CCs. This association persisted in propensity-weighted analyses adjusted for sociodemographic factors, comorbidities, and complications. We did not find substantial differences in the rates of complications by location of care, except that patients treated at NCI-CCs had higher rates of renal failure and lower rates of respiratory failure and sepsis. While most complications were associated with increased early mortality, patients with respiratory failure had worse outcomes when treated at a non-NCI-CC. This study adds to the growing body of research that suggests that access to, and type of, hospital may impact cancer outcomes.^{19,20}

While there have been many successful advances in the care and support of AML patients, our findings of such striking variation in early mortality outcomes by cancer care setting suggest that these advances may not have disseminated across all treatment settings. This is supported by the conclusion of a recent Institute of Medicine report that the cancer care system is in crisis with inconsistency in the quality of care being delivered to patients.²¹ Further research should evaluate specific differences in the care provided to AML patients hospitalized at NCI-CCs compared to other facilities in order to implement policies and practices that will ensure that all patients receive high-value and effective care. The NCI cancer center designation specifically requires depth and breadth in clinical and basic science research and population sciences, cancer prevention programs, and wide-ranging clinical resources. Recent research has suggested that the designation may also serve as a benchmark to assess the quality of cancer care.^{10,11,22,23}

There are many potential reasons to explain the decreased early mortality seen for patients treated at NCI-CCs. It has been reported that high volume centers such as NCI-designated cancer centers may have better expertise at performing specialized care than low volume non-NCI designated facilities.^{13,24–26} In this study, NCI-designated cancer centers saw a median of 13 AML patients annually while non-NCI cancer centers saw a median of only 2 patients. A recent study showed reduced inpatient mortality rates in AML patients treated at high versus low volume centers,²⁷ High volume centers, defined as those in the highest quartile of annual number of AML patients admitted for chemotherapy, had an inpatient mortality rate of 1.59% compared to 4.97% in low volume centers (those in the lowest quartile). High volume centers may have greater hospital resources, including advanced intensive care units, lower nursing staffing ratios and more diagnostic capabilities, factors that have been speculated to account for part of the mortality differences seen in surgical procedures.^{28,29} Differences in health care delivery practices between institutions may also play a role in outcomes. Prior studies have noted substantial hospital variation in adherence to diagnosis, treatment and follow-up guidelines for several malignancies due to both patient and hospital specific characteristics including cancer type, availability of multidisciplinary consultation, and hospital region.^{30–33}

Because the NCI cancer center designation requires a robust research program, AML patients treated at NCI designated cancer centers may have increased access to clinical trials with novel agents beyond the standard of care. Prior studies that have evaluated the impact of clinical trial enrollment on mortality in cancer found an improvement in lower overalland cancer-specific mortality among common cancer sites.^{34–36} This access to clinical trials may contribute to the improved outcomes seen in AML patients treated at NCI-designated cancer centers. This may be especially relevant in AML where molecular discoveries and the development of targeted therapies have led to recent approvals of several new drugs based on survival improvements demonstrated in clinical trials.³⁷

Patients treated at NCI-CCs had higher rates of renal failure and lower rates of respiratory failure and sepsis. Prior studies have noted renal failure as a known complication in acute leukemias.³⁸ We speculate that patients at NCI-CCs had higher rates of renal failure due to potential administration of nephrotoxic drugs, such as novel agents or antimicrobials. The higher rates of leukapheresis we observed at NCI-CCs suggests that patients treated at NCI-

CCs may have higher white blood cell counts, which is known to be a risk factor for kidney dysfunction.³⁹ Renal failure was associated with higher early mortality, but associations did not differ by location of care. Patients treated at NCI-CCs who had respiratory failure, however, did have lower early mortality than those with respiratory failure treated at non-NCI-CCs. The higher patient volume at NCI-CCs may result in improved recognition and management of common clinical sequelae of AML treatment such as renal and respiratory failure.

There are several limitations to our findings. Selection bias was introduced because we included only those patients who received chemotherapy and did not include patients who received treatment only in the outpatient setting. We did not have information on the specific type of chemotherapy given or whether patients were treated on clinical trial protocols at NCI-CCs. While this may have contributed to the differences in outcomes seen, we speculate that the majority of patients were treated similarly, as induction chemotherapy for AML had not significantly changed for the last 40 years despite more recent trends in the use of hypomethylating agents for older patients.⁴⁰ We did not have details on important prognostic and predictive factors, including laboratory and molecular data, to consider in our early mortality and propensity analyses. As a result, there is likely to be some residual confounding from the imbalance in baseline characteristics among patients treated at NCI-CCs versus non-NCI-CCs. Similar to prior studies^{41,42}, we did observe differences in baseline characteristics of patients treated at NCI-CCs: specifically, that they were younger. White or Asian race, lived in more affluent neighborhoods and had less comorbidities. However, after using propensity score methodology which reduced the standardized mean differences to <10% for most variables, the early mortality benefit associated with NCI designation persisted. Therefore, it is less likely that the differences in these patient characteristics could solely account for the difference noted in outcomes.

Despite these limitations, our study includes a large and diverse patient population with findings that are representative of contemporary treatment and health care delivery of AML patients at the population-level. The use of these large administrative databases provided the statistical power to identify disparities in early mortality that could have implications for cancer care and delivery.

In conclusion, this large population-based study in adult hospitalized patients with AML, we found a significant reduction in early mortality associated with care at an NCI-designated cancer center. This difference persisted even after consideration for differences in rates of and outcomes after complications and sociodemographic factors. This finding suggests potential disparities in the effectiveness of care for patients with AML across treatment facilities, and reinforces the need to further evaluate and measure how care is delivered in order to improve outcomes in all care settings.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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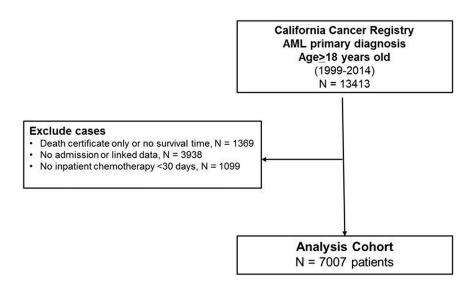


Figure 1.

Analysis cohort of patients with first primary acute myeloid leukemia in California.

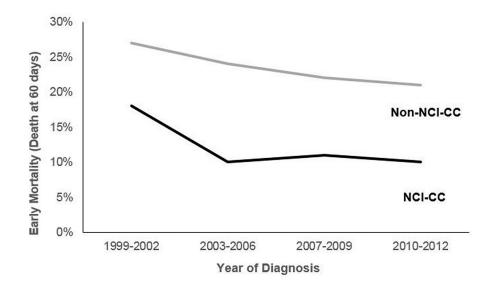


Figure 2.

60-day Mortality in hospitalized acute myeloid leukemia patients receiving chemotherapy by location of care, California, 1999–2014.

*NCI-CC = National Cancer Institute designated cancer center

Table 1.

Sociodemographic and clinical characteristics of hospitalized acute myeloid leukemia patients receiving chemotherapy by location of care, California, 1999–2014.

	Total	NCI	non NCI	
	N = 7007	N = 1762	N = 5245	P-value*
Age				
18–39	1071 (15.3%)	330 (18.7%)	741 (14.1%)	
40–54	1624 (23.2%)	475 (27.0%)	1149 (21.9%)	
55-65	1761 (25.1%)	497 (28.2%)	1264 (24.1%)	
66	2551 (36.4%)	460 (26.1%)	2091 (39.9%)	<.0001
Gender				
Male	3874 (55.3%)	972 (55.2%)	2902 (55.3%)	
Female	3133 (44.7%)	790 (44.8%)	2343 (44.7%)	0.9045
Race/Ethnicity				
White	4292 (61.3%)	1098 (62.3%)	3194 (60.9%)	
African American	366 (5.2%)	71 (4.0%)	295 (5.6%)	
Hispanic	1381 (19.7%)	330 (18.7%)	1051 (20.0%)	
Asian	927 (13.2%)	253 (14.4%)	674 (12.9%)	
Other/unknown	41 (0.6%)	10 (0.6%)	31 (0.6%)	0.0359
Year of diagnosis				
1999–2002	1745 (24.9%)	400 (22.7%)	1345 (25.6%)	
2003-2006	1628 (23.2%)	424 (24.1%)	1204 (23.0%)	
2007-2010	1816 (25.9%)	489 (27.8%)	1327 (25.3%)	
2011-2014	1818 (25.9%)	449 (25.5%)	1369 (26.1%)	0.0361
Marital status at diagnosis				
Married	4182 (59.7%)	1055 (59.9%)	3127 (59.6%)	
Not married	2700 (38.5%)	693 (39.3%)	2007 (38.3%)	
Unknown	125 (1.8%)	14 (0.8%)	111 (2.1%)	0.0098
Neighborhood Socioecono	mic status (SES)			
Low SES	3698 (52.8%)	874 (49.6%)	2824 (53.8%)	
High SES	3139 (44.8%)	827 (46.9%)	2312 (44.1%)	
Unknown	170 (2.4%)	61 (3.5%)	109 (2.1%)	<.0001
Health insurance status				
Public insurance	902 (12.9%)	298 (16.9%)	604 (11.5%)	
Private insurance	3513 (50.1%)	814 (46.2%)	2699 (51.5%)	
Medicare	2011 (28.7%)	467 (26.5%)	1544 (29.4%)	
Self-pay	116 (1.7%)	35 (2.0%)	81 (1.5%)	
Unknown	465 (6.6%)	148 (8.4%)	317 (6.0%)	<.0001
Comorbidities				
0 comorbidities	1419 (20.3%)	408 (23.2%)	1011 (19.3%)	
1-2 comorbidities	2912 (41.6%)	819 (46.5%)	2093 (39.9%)	
3+ comorbidities	2676 (38.2%)	535 (30.4%)	2141 (40.8%)	<.0001

* Chi-square test

Table 2.

Multivariable model of the relationship of sociodemographic and clinical factors to treatment at a National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated cancer center (versus non-NCI designated cancer center) in hospitalized acute myeloid leukemia patients receiving chemotherapy, California 1999–2014.

Variable	OR (95% CI)	P-value		
Age (vs 66)				
18–39	2.58 (2.09, 3.20)	<.001		
40–54	2.46 (2.03, 2.98)	<.001		
55-65	2.29 (1.92, 2.74)	<.001		
Gender (vs Male)				
Female	0.98 (0.88, 1.10)	0.749		
Race/Ethnicity (vs Whit	te)			
Asian	0.99 (0.84, 1.17)	0.920		
Hispanic	0.79 (0.68, 0.92)	0.003		
African American	0.66 (0.50, 0.87)	0.004		
Other/unknown	0.92 (0.44, 1.92)	0.819		
Year of diagnosis (vs 1999–2002)				
2003-2006	1.19 (1.01, 1.40)	0.034		
2007-2010	1.28 (1.09, 1.50)	0.002		
2011-2014	1.21 (1.03, 1.42)	0.024		
Marital status at diagno	sis (vs Married)			
Not married	0.99 (0.88, 1.12)	0.876		
Unknown	0.40 (0.23, 0.70)	0.002		
Neighborhood Socioeconomic status (vs High)				
Low SES	0.84 (0.75, 0.95)	0.004		
Unknown	1.53 (1.10, 2.14)	0.013		
Health insurance status (vs Private insurance)				
Medicare	1.89 (1.58, 2.24)	<.001		
Public insurance	1.71 (1.44, 2.03)	<.001		
Uninsured	1.49 (0.99, 2.26)	0.057		
Unknown	1.62 (1.31, 2.02)	<.001		
Comorbidities (vs 0 comorbidities)				
1-2 comorbidities	0.99 (0.86, 1.15)	0.906		
3+ comorbidities	0.67 (0.57, 0.78)	<.001		

* Adjust for all the variables in the table (age, sex, year of diagnosis, marital status, insurance and comorbidities)

Table 3.

Complications in hospitalized acute myeloid leukemia patients receiving chemotherapy by location of care, California, 1999–2014.

	Total	NCI-CC	non-NCI-CC	P-value
	N = 7007	N = 1762	N = 5245	
Leukapheresis	236 (3.4%)	97 (5.5%)	139 (2.7%)	<.001
Sepsis	2,497 (35.6%)	594 (33.7%)	1,903 (36.3%)	0.051
Major bleeding	869 (12.4%)	211 (12.0%)	658 (12.5%)	0.530
Thrombosis	136 (1.9%)	41 (2.3%)	95 (1.8%)	0.175
Renal failure	1,445 (20.6%)	401 (22.8%)	1,044 (19.9%)	0.010
Liver failure	105 (1.5%)	21 (1.2%)	84 (1.6%)	0.221
Respiratory failure	956 (13.6%)	204 (11.6%)	752 (14.3%)	0.004
Cardiac arrest	127 (1.8%)	20 (1.1%)	107 (2.0%)	0.014
Death	1,454 (20.8%)	212 (12.0%)	1,242 (23.7%)	<.001

NCI-CC = National Cancer Institute designated cancer center

*Chi-square test

Table 4.

Inverse probability weighted multivariable model of the relationship of location of care and complications with 60-day mortality in hospitalized acute myeloid leukemia patients receiving chemotherapy, California 1999–2014**

Variable	OR (95% Cl)	P-value
NCI-CC vs non-NCI-CC	0.46 (0.38, 0.57)	<.001
Complications		
Major bleeding	1.79(1.39,2.31)	<.001
Sepsis	1.12(0.92, 1.37)	0.263
Thrombosis *	0.63(0.37, 1.09)	0.100
NCI-CC	0.12(0.01, 1.07)	
non-NCI-CC	1.06(0.49,2.28)	
Liver failure	1.95(0.96, 3.99)	0.066
Renal failure	2.33(1.86,2.91)	<.001
Respiratory failure*	6.46(5.01,8.34)	<.001
NCI-CC	4.20(2.61,6.78))	
non-NCI-CC	9.48(7.06, 12.74)	
Cardiac arrest	13.33(5.50,32.32)	<.001
Leukapheresis (vs none)	1.51 (0.95,2.39)	0.085

* interaction OR are from stratified models

** adjusted for age, sex, year of diagnosis, marital status, insurance, comorbidities