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Advances in Lupus Nephritis

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Cyclophosphamide or mycophenolate mofetil combined with high dose corticosteroids are now the standard-of-care induction treatment for patients with active proliferative lupus nephritis. Over the last decade, a better understanding of the pathogenesis of lupus nephritis has led to the use novel therapy to improve the clinical outcomes.

In this lecture, we would discuss some latest clinical trials of calcineurin inhibitors (eg. tacrolimus and voclosporin), as well as biologic agents (eg. belimumab, orbinutuzumab). Voclosporin and belimumab are now approved by FDA for lupus nephritis. We would also review other management strategies such as steroid minimization and look into the role of repeating renal biopsy.