**THE ROLE OF BTK INHIBITION TO DISRUPT CANCEROUS B CELL FUNCTION**

**Normal B cells and the immune system**

B cells play an essential role in the immune system. These lymphocytes, a type of white blood cell, produce antibodies that attack invading pathogens such as bacteria, viruses, and toxins.¹

**B cells and cancer**

Cancerous B cells crowding out normal B cells in a lymph node

When B cells become cancerous, such as in mantle cell lymphoma (MCL), some normal cell processes aren’t regulated properly, resulting in increased production of B cells. The excess B cells crowd out the normal cells in the bone marrow and lymph nodes.²,³

**BTK Expression**

BTK expression has been reported to be higher in certain B-cell malignancies compared to normal B cells, which may allow cancerous B cells to grow and multiply.⁵

**BTK Inhibition**

BTK inhibition has been shown to reduce the growth and cell survival among cancerous B cells *in vitro*.⁷

---

**References**