

# Systemic Therapy Update



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

October 2009

Volume 12, Number 10

For health professionals who care for cancer patients  
Available online at [www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/stupdate](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/stupdate)

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## EDITOR'S CHOICE:

### HIGHLIGHTS OF CHANGES IN PROTOCOLS, PRE-PRINTED ORDERS AND PATIENT HANDOUTS

The **Lymphoma Tumour Group** has revised all rituximab-based protocols and pre-printed physician orders to include exacerbation of existing symptoms as part of the monitoring parameters.

## CANCER DRUG MANUAL

**Nilotinib Monograph** and **Patient Handout** have been developed. Expert review was provided by Dr. Donna Forrest (Hematologist, Leukemia/BMT Tumour Group) and Judith Nyrose (Pharmacist, Leukemia/BMT Tumour Group). Nilotinib is an inhibitor of Abl tyrosine kinase activity, similar to imatinib, but maintaining activity in almost all imatinib-resistant forms.

Unlike imatinib, nilotinib has been reported to be associated with QT interval prolongation, which may lead to sudden death, and this toxicity appears to be concentration-dependent. Because absorption is enhanced to variable degrees when taken with food, it is important that nilotinib be taken *only on an empty stomach*. Absorption and elimination are also influenced by several cytochrome P450 pathways, particularly CYP 3A4. Therefore, concurrent medications should be checked carefully for potential interactions that could lead to changes in nilotinib concentrations.

**Lenalidomide Monograph** has been updated to include 15 mg and 25 mg strength capsules, now available in Canada in addition to the 5 mg and 10 mg strengths.

**Temsirolimus Monograph** has been updated to provide further direction in the management of interaction with anticoagulants. It is recommended that care be taken to maintain anticoagulation within the desired therapeutic range.

**Interferon Monograph** has been updated to modify the dosing information for patients with renal failure. Previously, it was recommended to avoid its use in patients with creatinine clearance lower than 50 mL/min. However, this was largely based on data from patients receiving both interferon and ribavirin for hepatic C. While the risk of adverse reactions with interferon may be greater in patients with impaired renal function, and dose adjustment may be necessary, no specific dose reduction can be recommended at this time.

**Dactinomycin Monograph** has been updated to harmonize all dose units within this monograph in the Dosage Guidelines section to milligrams, rather than a mix of micrograms (mcg) and milligrams (mg). This is in order to be consistent with other monographs. Also, the option of using a dose of 0.045 mg/kg every three weeks has been added, based on published literature.

### BENEFIT DRUG LIST

The following program has been changed from case-by-case review to Class II benefit effective 1 October 2009:

- **Imatinib** as adjuvant treatment of C-Kit positive high risk gastrointestinal stromal cell tumours (SAAJGI).

A Class II form must be completed and submitted to the Provincial Systemic Therapy Program before the drug will be dispensed at a regional cancer centre or reimbursed to a community hospital.

### LIST OF NEW AND REVISED PROTOCOLS, PRE-PRINTED ORDERS AND PATIENT HANDOUTS

**BC Cancer Agency Protocol Summaries, Provincial Pre-Printed Orders (PPPOs) and Patient Handouts** are revised periodically. New and revised protocols, PPPOs and patient handouts for this month are listed below. Protocol codes for treatments requiring “Compassionate Access Program” (previously Undesignated Indication Request) approval are prefixed with the letter **U**.

#### NEW PROTOCOLS, PPPOs AND PATIENT HANDOUTS (AFFECTED DOCUMENTS ARE CHECKED):

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Protocol Title
UGUTIP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced Therapy for Testicular Germ Cell Cancer Using Paclitaxel, Ifosfamide and Cisplatin (TIP)
SMAJIFN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adjuvant Therapy of High Risk Malignant Melanoma with High Dose Interferon (HDIFN) Alpha-2b

#### REVISED PROTOCOLS, PPPOs AND PATIENT HANDOUTS (AFFECTED DOCUMENTS ARE CHECKED):

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Changes	Protocol Title
HNLAPRT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Bloodwork clarified, dose modifications for renal dysfunction and weight loss revised</i>	Combined Chemotherapy Cisplatin and Radiation Treatment for Locally Advanced Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Changes	Protocol Title
LYCHOPR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Treatment of Lymphoma with Doxorubicin, Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Prednisone and Rituximab
LYCODOXMR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Treatment of Burkitt Lymphoma and Leukemia (ALL-L3) with Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Doxorubicin, Methotrexate, Leucovorin (CODOX-M) and Rituximab
LYCVPR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Treatment of Advanced Indolent Lymphoma using Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Prednisone and Rituximab (CVP-R)
LYFLUDR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Treatment of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia or Prolymphocytic Leukemia with Fludarabine and Rituximab
LYHDMRP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Treatment of Primary Intracerebral Lymphoma with High Dose Methotrexate and Rituximab
LYIVACR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Treatment of Burkitt Lymphoma and Leukemia (ALL-L3) with Ifosfamide, Mesna, Etoposide, Cytarabine (IVAC) and Rituximab
LYRITUX	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Treatment of Lymphoma with single agent Rituximab
LYRITZ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Palliative Therapy For Lymphoma Using Radioimmunotherapy: Rituximab-Priming for Ibritumomab <sup>90</sup> Y
ULYRMTN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monitoring for infusion reactions clarified</i>	Maintenance Rituximab for Indolent Lymphoma
UMYLENDEX	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Dosing schedule in renal failure revised</i>	Therapy of Multiple Myeloma Using Lenalidomide with Dexamethasone
UMYMPT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Maximum number of melphalan and prednisone cycles increased, duration of thalidomide therapy clarified</i>	Treatment of Multiple Myeloma Using Melphalan, Prednisone and Thalidomide
SAAJAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Cisplatin infusion time reduced</i>	Adjuvant Therapy for Osteosarcoma Using Doxorubicin and Cisplatin
SAAJGI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>CAP approval replaced by Class II benefit, GIST mutation analysis clarified</i>	Adjuvant Treatment of C-Kit Positive High Risk Gastrointestinal Stromal Cell Tumours Using Imatinib
SAAVAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Cisplatin infusion time reduced</i>	Therapy of Advanced Osteosarcoma Using Doxorubicin and Cisplatin
SAAVGI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>GIST mutation analysis clarified</i>	Treatment of Advanced c-kit positive Gastrointestinal Stromal Cell Tumours (GIST's) Using Imatinib (GLEEVEC®)

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Changes	Protocol Title
SAAVGIDD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>GIST mutation analysis clarified</i>	Treatment of Advanced c-kit positive Gastrointestinal Stromal Cell Tumours (GIST's) Using 800 mg Dosing of Imatinib (GLEEVEC®)
USAAVGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Recommendation on close monitoring of blood pressure added</i>	Second Line Treatment of Advanced C-kit Positive Gastrointestinal Stromal Cell Tumours (GIST's) After Imatinib Using Sunitinib (SUTENT®)
SAVAC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Reformatted; Tests, Premedications, Treatment, Dose Modifications and Precautions clarified</i>	Adjuvant Therapy for Newly Diagnosed Ewing's Sarcoma/Peripheral Neuroectodermal Tumour (PNET) or Rhabdomyosarcoma Using Vincristine, Doxorubicin and Cyclophosphamide
SAVACM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Reformatted; Tests, Premedications, Treatment, Dose Modifications and Precautions clarified</i>	Adjuvant Therapy for Newly Diagnosed Ewing's Sarcoma/Peripheral Neuroectodermal Tumour (PNET) or Rhabdomyosarcoma With Pelvic Primaries or Chemotherapy Induced Hematuria Using Vincristine, Doxorubicin, Cyclophosphamide and Mesna
SMAJIFN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Reformatted</i>	Adjuvant Therapy of High Risk Malignant Melanoma with High Dose Interferon (HDIFN) Alpha-2b

### WEBSITE RESOURCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

WEBSITE RESOURCES	<a href="http://www.bccancer.bc.ca">www.bccancer.bc.ca</a>
REIMBURSEMENT AND FORMS: BENEFIT DRUG LIST, CLASS II, BC CANCER AGENCY COMPASSIONATE ACCESS PROGRAM	<a href="http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/Forms">www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/Forms</a>
CANCER DRUG MANUAL	<a href="http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm">www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm</a>
CANCER MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES	<a href="http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/CaMgmtGuidelines">www.bccancer.bc.ca/CaMgmtGuidelines</a>
CANCER CHEMOTHERAPY PROTOCOLS, PRE-PRINTED ORDERS, PROTOCOL PATIENT HANDOUTS	<a href="http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/ChemoProtocols">www.bccancer.bc.ca/ChemoProtocols</a>
SYSTEMIC THERAPY PROGRAM POLICIES	<a href="http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/Policies">www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/Policies</a>
SYSTEMIC THERAPY UPDATE	<a href="http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/stupdate">www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/stupdate</a>

<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>		
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