BC CANCER
Provincial Health Services Authority

Systemic Therapy Education Bulletin

BC Cancer news and updates from across the province for Systemic Therapy teams

Provincial Systemic Therapy Drug Programs Under Consideration

The goal of the Education Bulletin is to support health care staff as they prepare for new treatments and to ensure safe patient care during the administration, distribution and management of new and complex treatments. These new drug treatments may also be delivered to patients prior to formal listing through manufacturer patient support programs or clinical trials. Exact details around the funded indication and patient eligibility will be available through the Systemic Therapy Update once a decision has been finalized on funding. More details about the drugs, approved indications, and side effects can be found on the Cancer Drug Manual Drug Index website.

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Treatment Programs	Indication (Refer to protocol for more details)	Associated Adverse Events

Ribociclib plus Letrozole OR Anastrozole	Treatment of patients with **advanced breast cancer**.	Possible adverse events:
		• Nausea and vomiting
		• Myelosuppression
		  ○ Anemia
		  ○ Neutropenia
		  ○ Thrombocytopenia
		  ○ Leukopenia
		• Fatigue
		• Diarrhea
		• Loss of appetite
		• Skin rash
		• Mucositis
		• QT interval prolongation
		• Pulmonary embolism
		• Hepatotoxicity
		  ○ Elevated ALT & AST
		• Hot flashes

Treatment Regimens: Dosing and Administration Schedules

1. Ribociclib: ER-positive, HER2-negative advanced breast cancer

Dosing and Schedule:

- **Oral ribociclib** 600 mg once daily for 21 days, followed by 7-day rest (each cycle consists of 28 days) plus **oral letrozole** 2.5 mg OR **oral anastrozole** 1 mg once daily continuously until disease progression.
- Ribociclib must be taken in the morning (QT prolongation risk may be increased when it is taken in the evening), with food or on an empty stomach.
- Crushing or chewing tablets may lead to increased ribociclib exposure.
- Grapefruit and grapefruit juice must be avoided for the duration of treatment.

*** For women needing chemically-induced menopause***

- **Buserelin** 6.3 mg SC every 6 weeks for two treatments, then every 8 weeks
- **Goserelin** 3.6 mg SC every 4 weeks
- **Leuprolide** 7.5 mg IM every 4 weeks

Blood Work and Diagnostics:

- Baseline:
  - CBC & diff, platelets, creatinine, albumin, ALT, alkaline phosphatase, total bilirubin, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, GGT, LDH, ECG
- Cycles 1-2:
  - Prior to each cycle and on day 15: CBC & diff, platelets, albumin, ALT, alkaline phosphatase, total bilirubin, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, ECG
- Cycles 3-6:
  - Prior to each cycle: CBC & diff, platelets, ALT, alkaline phosphatase, total bilirubin
- Cycle 7 and onward:
  - Prior to each cycle OR prior to every third cycle (depending on history of neutropenia in first 6 cycles): CBC & diff, platelets
- If clinically indicated:
  - albumin, creatinine, ALT, alkaline phosphatase, total bilirubin, GGT, LDH, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, cholesterol, triglyceride, CA 15-3, ECG

Website Resources and Contact Information

CONTACT INFORMATION	EMAIL
To subscribe or update contact information, please contact:	
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