BCCA Protocol Summary for Palliative Therapy for Advanced Breast Cancer Using Letrozole (FEMARA®)

Protocol Code *BRAVLET*

Tumour Group *Breast*

Contact Physician *Dr. Susan Ellard*

ELIGIBILITY:
- First or second line hormonal treatment for advanced breast cancer in postmenopausal women.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA:
- Premenopausal women.
- Patients who have progressed on an alternate aromatase inhibitor (note: may be used by patients who cannot tolerate an alternate aromatase inhibitor).

TESTS: None required.

TREATMENT:

Letrozole 2.5 mg po daily until evidence of progression.

PRECAUTIONS:
1. Hepatic dysfunction: Letrozole is considered safe in mild-to-moderate hepatic dysfunction but has not been studied in severe hepatic dysfunction.

Contact Dr. Susan Ellard or tumour group delegate at (250) 712-3900 or 1-888-563-7773 with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program.

Date Activated: 01 Sept 1998
Date Revised: 01 May 2009 (unsafe abbreviations and symbols replaced, physician contact revised)

References

1. Dombernowsky P, Smith I, Falkson, G et al. Letrozole, a new oral aromatase inhibitor for advanced breast cancer: double-blind randomized trial showing a dose effect and improved efficacy and tolerability compared with megestrol acetate. J Clin Oncol 1998;16:453-461.
2. Mouridsen H, Gershanovich M, Yan S et al. Superior efficacy of letrozole versus tamoxifen as first-line therapy for postmenopausal women with advanced breast cancer: results of a phase III study of the International Letrozole Breast Cancer Group. J Clin Oncol 2001;19:2596-2606.