

# BC Cancer Protocol Summary for First-line Palliative Treatment of Advanced Biliary Tract Cancer using Durvalumab, Gemcitabine and Platinum

**Protocol Code**

*GIAVDURPG*

**Tumour Group**

*Gastrointestinal*

**Contact Physician**

*GI Systemic Therapy*

## ELIGIBILITY:

Patients must have:

- Metastatic or unresectable biliary tract (cholangiocarcinoma or gallbladder) cancer, and
- Unresectable or metastatic disease at diagnosis with no prior treatment, or
- Recurrent disease and greater than 6 months since completion of adjuvant therapy or curative surgery

Patients should have:

- Good performance status,
- Adequate hepatic and renal function,
- Access to a treatment centre with expertise to manage immune-mediated adverse reactions of durvalumab

Notes:

- Patients are eligible to receive GIAVDURPG or GIAVPEMPG, but not sequential use of these agents
- Patients who are currently on treatment with gemcitabine and platinum per protocol GIAVPG and who have not progressed may switch to GIAVDURPG if all other eligibility criteria are met

## EXCLUSIONS:

- Patients with ampulla of Vater cancer

## CAUTIONS:

- Inadequate renal function (creatinine clearance less than 45 mL/min by GFR measurement or Cockcroft formula) unless treated with CARBOplatin
- Active or previous autoimmune disease
- Patients with long term immunosuppressive therapy or systemic corticosteroids (requiring more than 10 mg predniSONE/day or equivalent)

## TESTS:

- Baseline: CBC & Diff, creatinine, sodium, potassium, ALT, alkaline phosphatase, total bilirubin, albumin, TSH, morning serum cortisol, chest x-ray or CT chest
- Baseline if clinically indicated: GGT, lipase, random glucose, serum or urine HCG (required for women of childbearing potential if pregnancy suspected), serum ACTH levels, testosterone, estradiol, FSH, LH, creatine kinase, troponin, free T3 and free T4, ECG, CEA, CA 19-9
- Prior to each treatment:
  - Day 1: CBC & Diff, creatinine, sodium, potassium, total bilirubin, ALT, TSH
  - Day 8: CBC & Diff,
  - **Day 8, if using CISplatin:** creatinine
- If clinically indicated: alkaline phosphatase, albumin, morning serum cortisol, lipase, random glucose, serum or urine HCG (required for women of childbearing potential if pregnancy suspected), free T3 and free T4, creatine kinase, troponin, serum ACTH levels, testosterone, estradiol, FSH, LH, GGT, CEA, CA 19-9, ECG, chest x-ray
- For patients on warfarin, weekly INR during gemcitabine and platinum therapy until stable warfarin dose established, then INR prior to each cycle.
- Weekly telephone nursing assessment for signs and symptoms of side effects while on treatment (Optional)

## PREMEDICATIONS:

- For CISplatin: antiemetic protocol for moderately emetogenic chemotherapy protocols
- For CARBOplatin: antiemetic protocol for highly emetogenic chemotherapy (see SCNAUSEA)
- If prior infusion reactions to durvalumab: diphenhydramINE 50 mg PO, acetaminophen 325 to 975 mg PO, and hydrocortisone 25 mg IV 30 minutes prior to treatment

**TREATMENT:**

Drug	Dose	BC Cancer Administration Guideline
durvalumab	20 mg/kg (maximum 1500 mg)	IV in 100 mL NS over 60 min Using a 0.2 micron in-line filter
gemcitabine	1000 mg/m <sup>2</sup> on Days 1 and 8	IV in 250 mL NS over 30 min
CISplatin	25 mg/m <sup>2</sup> on Days 1 and 8	IV in 100 to 250 mL NS over 30 min

- Repeat every 3 weeks x 8 cycles
- durvalumab monotherapy to begin 21 days after last cycle; see protocol GIAVDUR4
- If patients are intolerant of the chemotherapy after at least one cycle, durvalumab can be continued as single agent until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity (see protocol GIAVDUR4)

**DOSE MODIFICATIONS:**

- No specific dose modifications for durvalumab. Toxicity managed by treatment delay and other measures (see SCIMMUNE for management of immune-mediated adverse reactions to checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapy:  
[http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/chemotherapy-protocols-site/Documents/Supportive%20Care/SCIMMUNE\\_Protocol.pdf](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/chemotherapy-protocols-site/Documents/Supportive%20Care/SCIMMUNE_Protocol.pdf)).

**1. Hematology:**

ANC (x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L)		Platelets (x 10 <sup>9</sup> /L)	Day 1		Day 8	
			Gemcitabine	CISplatin	Gemcitabine	CISplatin
Greater than or equal to 1.0	and	Greater than or equal to 100	100%	100%	100%	100%
0.5 to less than 1.0	or	75 to less than 100	75%	100%	75%	100%
Less than 0.5	or	Less than 75	Delay	Delay	Omit	Omit

## 2. Renal Dysfunction:

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Day 1		Day 8	
	Gemcitabine	CISplatin	Gemcitabine	CISplatin
Greater than or equal to 60	100%	100%	100%	100%
45 to 59	100%	50%	100%	50%
Less than 45	Delay	Delay	100%	Omit

Alternatively, CARBOplatin may be used instead of CISplatin:

Drug	Dose	BC Cancer Administration Guidelines
CARBOplatin	AUC 5 DAY 1 only Dose = AUC x (GFR* +25)	IV in 100 to 250mL NS over 30 minutes.

\* Measured GFR (e.g., nuclear renogram) is preferred whenever feasible, particularly in circumstances of co-morbidity that could affect renal function (third-space fluid accumulations, hypoproteinemia, potentially inadequate fluid intake, etc.). The lab reported GFR (MDRD formula) may be used as an alternative to the Cockcroft-Gault estimate of GFR; the estimated GFR reported by the lab or calculated using the Cockcroft-Gault equation should be capped at 125 mL/min when it is used to calculate the initial carboplatin dose. When a nuclear renogram is available, this clearance would take precedence.

Cockcroft-Gault Formula

$$\text{GFR} = \frac{N \times (140 - \text{age in years}) \times \text{wt (kg)}}{\text{serum creatinine (micromol/L)}}$$

\*For males N = 1.23; for females N = 1.04

Note: The same method of estimation should be used throughout the treatment course (i.e. if lab reported GFR was used initially, this should be used for dosing in all subsequent cycles and not the Cockcroft-Gault estimate).

## PRECAUTIONS:

1. **Serious immune-mediated reactions to durvalumab:** can be severe to fatal and usually occur during the treatment course, but may develop months after discontinuation of therapy. They may include enterocolitis, intestinal perforation or hemorrhage, hepatitis, dermatitis, neuropathy, endocrinopathy, pneumonitis, as well as toxicities in other organ systems. Early diagnosis and appropriate management are essential to minimize life-threatening complications (see SCIMMUNE for management of immune-mediated adverse reactions to checkpoint inhibitor immunotherapy: [http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/chemotherapy-protocols-site/Documents/Supportive%20Care/SCIMMUNE\\_Protocol.pdf](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/chemotherapy-protocols-site/Documents/Supportive%20Care/SCIMMUNE_Protocol.pdf)).

2. **Infusion-related reactions:** isolated cases of severe infusion reactions have been reported. For mild or moderate infusion reactions, decrease the infusion rate to 50% or temporarily interrupt infusion until the reaction has resolved. Consider premedication for subsequent infusions. Permanently discontinue durvalumab for severe reactions.
3. **Infections:** severe infections such as sepsis, necrotizing fasciitis, and osteomyelitis have been reported. Treat suspected or confirmed infections as indicated. Withhold durvalumab for severe infections.
4. **Renal Toxicity:** Nephrotoxicity is common with CISplatin. Encourage oral hydration. Avoid nephrotoxic drugs such as aminoglycoside antibiotics. Irreversible renal failure associated with hemolytic uremic syndrome may occur (rare) with gemcitabine. Use caution with pre-existing renal dysfunction.
5. **Pulmonary Toxicity:** Acute shortness of breath may occur. Discontinue treatment if drug-induced pneumonitis is suspected.
6. **Drug Interaction:** Possible interaction between gemcitabine and warfarin has been reported and may occur at any time. Close monitoring is recommended (monitor INR weekly during gemcitabine therapy and for 1 to 2 months after discontinuing gemcitabine treatment).

**Call the GI Systemic Therapy physician at your regional cancer centre or the GI Systemic Therapy Chair Dr. Theresa Chan at (604) 930-2098 with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program**

#### **References:**

1. Oh DY, Ruth He A, Qin S, et al. Durvalumab plus Gemcitabine and Cisplatin in Advanced Biliary Tract Cancer. NEJM Evid. 2022 Aug;1(8):EVIDoa2200015.
2. Durvalumab (Imfinzi) CADTH Reimbursement Recommendation. Canadian Journal of Health Technologies Feb 2023; 3(2): 1-18.