



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Protocol Update – BRAJCEF, KSAD, LYABVD
- Pre-Printed Order Update – GIRALT, LUALTE, LUALTL, SADTIC, SMDD, SMDTIC
- Drug Update – Cisapride (Prepulsid®) and cardiac arrhythmias
- Continuing Education – BC Cancer Agency Annual Clinical Cancer Conference, MD Anderson 22nd Annual Pharmacy Symposium on Cancer Chemotherapy

FAX request form and IN TOUCH phone list are provided if additional information is needed.

PROTOCOL UPDATE

Protocol codes for treatments requiring “Undesignated Indication” approval prior to use are prefixed with the letter **U**.

- **INDEX to BCCA Protocol Summaries** revised monthly (includes tumour group, protocol code, indication, drugs, last revision date and version)
- **BRAJCEF** revised (tests clarified, treatment strategies following a second febrile event and references added): Adjuvant therapy for breast cancer using cyclophosphamide, epirubicin and fluorouracil
- **KSAD** reformatted: Palliative therapy for Kaposi’s sarcoma using doxorubicin
- **LYABVD** revised (LDH deleted and creatinine added to baseline tests, dilution volume for dacarbazine revised): Treatment of Hodgkin’s disease with doxorubicin, bleomycin, vinblastine, and dacarbazine

PRE-PRINTED ORDER UPDATE

Vancouver Cancer Centre has prepared the following chemotherapy pre-printed orders, which can be used as a guide:

Oncology reference:

- **GIRALT**: Palliative treatment of symptomatic advanced or metastatic colorectal cancer using raltitrexed in patients with previous fluorouracil toxicity

- **LUALTE** (pre-printed orders titled LUALTE-EP and LUALTE-CAV): Alternating CAV/EP for extensive stage small cell lung cancer
- **LUALTL** (pre-printed orders titled LUALTL-CAV and LUALTL-EP): Limited stage small cell lung cancer alternating cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and vincristine with etoposide and cisplatin plus early thoracic irradiation
- **LUCAV**: Extensive small cell lung cancer with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and vincristine
- **SADTIC**: High dose single agent dacarbazine for metastatic soft tissue sarcoma
- **SMDD** revised (dilution volume changed to 250-500 mL): Palliative therapy for metastatic malignant melanoma using cisplatin and dacarbazine
- **SMDTIC** revised (dilution volume changed to 250-500 mL): Palliative therapy for metastatic malignant melanoma using high dose dacarbazine

An index to the orders can be obtained by Fax-back.

DRUG UPDATE

Cisapride (Prepulsid®) is a prokinetic agent used in the supportive care of cancer patients. Other alternative prokinetic agents include metoclopramide and domperidone. Since its launch in early nineties cisapride has been associated with more than 292 cases of serious cardiac arrhythmias (including 76 deaths) in the US and Canada. Most cases involved concurrent use of drugs which cause QT prolongation or inhibit hepatic metabolism of cisapride, depleted serum electrolytes (potassium, calcium, magnesium), or comorbid conditions which predispose patients to arrhythmias. As a result, cisapride has been removed from the US market since March 2000. Currently, cisapride is commercially available in Canada. Health Canada’s Therapeutic Products Program is presently evaluating the new data and the manufacturer has sent out a letter to health care professionals in February 2000 with revised prescribing, safety and precautions information.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

BC Cancer Agency Annual Clinical Cancer Conference will be held at the Wall Centre, Vancouver, on 24 and 25 of November, 2000. This meeting is designed to critically examine aspects of the way we practice oncology. Topics will range from new diagnostic techniques to patient support, with presentations from Pathology, Hereditary Cancer, Breast and GU Tumour Groups. For more information, please contact Jack Chritchley at (604) 877 6183 or Barbie Fiddler at (604) 877 6000 ext. 2744.

M.D. Anderson 22nd Annual Pharmacy Symposium on Cancer Chemotherapy will be held in Houston, Texas, on 24-26 of September 2000. For more information, please contact the Office of Conference Services, UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, tel: (713) 792-2222, fax: (713) 794-1724, or www.mdacc.tmc.edu/~meetings.

Editorial Review Board

Mário de Lemos, PharmD (Editor)

Sharon Allan, MD
 Sandi Broughton, BA (Econ), MSc
 Jack Chritchley, MD
 Lynn Stevenson, RN
 Linda Yearwood, MSN
 Lynne Nakashima, PharmD
 Kelly Uyeno, CGA

Gigi Concon (Secretary)

IN TOUCH	www.bccancer.bc.ca	bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca
BC Cancer Agency	(604)-877-6000	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333
Cancer Centre for the Southern Interior (CCSI)	(250) 712-3900	Toll-Free 1-(888)-563-7773
Fraser Valley Cancer Centre (FVCC)	(604)-930-2098	
Vancouver Cancer Centre (VCC)	(604)-877-6000	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333
Vancouver Island Cancer Centre (VICC)	(250) 370-8228	Toll-Free 1-(800)-670-3322
Communities Oncology Network	(604) 877-6098 Ext 2744	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333 Ext 2744
Nursing Professional Practice	(604)-877-6098 Ext 2623	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333 Ext 2623
Pharmacy Professional Practice	(604)-877-6098 Ext 2247	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333 Ext 2247
Provincial Systemic Therapy Program	(604)-877-6098 Ext 2247	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333 Ext 2247
Francis Hu, CON Pharmacist	(604)-877-6098 Ext 2515	francish@bccancer.bc.ca
Mário de Lemos, Update Editor	(604)-877-6098 Ext 2288	mdelemos@bccancer.bc.ca
Robin O'Brien, Drug Information	(604)-877-6098 Ext 3028	robrien@bccancer.bc.ca

RADIATION CANCER CENTRE ACCESS

BULLETIN UPDATES	LOCATION
Pre-Printed Orders	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Orders\VCC\Tumour site"
	GIRALT
	LUCAV
	LUALTE-CAV
	LUALTE-EP
	LUALTL-CAV
	LUALTL-EP
	SADTIC
	SMDD
	SMDTIC
Index of Pre-Printed Orders	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Orders\VCC\Index.doc
Protocol Summaries	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\Tumour site"
	BRAJCEF
	KSAD
	LYABVD
Index of Protocol Summaries	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\Index\Index_NT or Index_W6
Reimbursement	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Reimburs
Benefit Drug List	BenefitList
Class 2 Form	Class2

For easy access, double-click your systemic chemo icon.

We appreciate your comments. Write us at bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca

BCCA SYSTEMIC THERAPY UPDATE FAX REQUEST FORM

FAX (604) 877-0585

bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca

TO SUBSCRIBE: FAX OR EMAIL YOUR REQUEST OR CALL @ 877-6098 LOCAL 2247

FOR URGENT REQUESTS PLEASE CALL (604) 877-6098 LOCAL 2247

OR TOLL-FREE IN BC 1-800-663-3333 LOCAL 2247

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE COPIES FOR YOUR COLLEAGUES

I WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION VIA:

E-mail (Word 6.0)

Fax

@	
()	Attn:

UPDATES Please Fax-Back information below:

<input type="checkbox"/> All items
Pre-Printed Orders:
<input type="checkbox"/> GIRALT
<input type="checkbox"/> LUCAV
<input type="checkbox"/> LUALTE (contains LUALTE-CAV and LUALTE-EP)
<input type="checkbox"/> LUALTL (contains LUALTL-CAV and LUALTL-EP)
<input type="checkbox"/> SADTIC
<input type="checkbox"/> SMDD
<input type="checkbox"/> SMDTIC
<input type="checkbox"/> Index: Pre-Printed Orders
Protocol Summaries:
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAJCEF
<input type="checkbox"/> KSAD
<input type="checkbox"/> LYABVD
<input type="checkbox"/> Index: Protocol Summaries (current month)
Reimbursement
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefit Drug List (01 Apr 2000)
<input type="checkbox"/> Class 2 Form (01 Apr 2000)