

BCCA Protocol Summary for Doxorubicin for Use in Patients with Advanced Soft Tissue Sarcoma

Protocol Code SAAVA

Tumour Group Sarcoma

Contact Physician Dr. Meg Knowling

ELIGIBILITY:

- Patients with an advanced soft tissue sarcoma
- Good performance status
- Adequate bone marrow, renal and hepatic function (bilirubin **less than** 2 x ULN)

EXCLUSION:

- Rhabdomyosarcoma in young adults

TESTS:

- Baseline and before each treatment: CBC & diff, platelets, creatinine, bilirubin, AST, alk phos, GGT, LDH and clinical measure of tumor response
- Every second treatment: chest x-ray or other imaging to monitor response

PREMEDICATIONS:

- Antiemetic protocol for High/Moderate emetogenic chemotherapy (see protocol SCNAUSEA)

TREATMENT:

Drug	Dose	BCCA Administration Guidelines
Doxorubicin	75 mg/m ²	IV push

- For patients **greater than** 65 years old, consider reducing dose to 60 mg/m²
- Repeat every 21 days x 6 cycles

DOSE MODIFICATIONS:

1. Hematological:

ANC (x 10 ⁹ /L)		Platelets (x 10 ⁹ /L)	Dose
greater than 1.5	and	greater than 100	100 %
1.0 – 1.5	or	70 – 100	80 %

less than 1.0	or	less than 70	Delay one week
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2. **Mucositis:** Grade 3 or 4, reduce dose to 80%
3. **Nausea & Vomiting:** Grade 4 despite optimal use of antiemetics, reduce dose to 80% or QUIT
4. **Neutropenic Fever** (with ANC less than $0.5 \times 10^9/L$): Once counts have recovered, reduce dose to 80%
5. **Hepatic Dysfunction:** For bilirubin 1.5 - 2 times ULN, reduce dose to 50%

PRECAUTIONS:

1. **Cardiac Toxicity:** Doxorubicin is cardiotoxic and must be used with caution in patients with severe hypertension or cardiac dysfunction. Cardiac assessment is recommended if lifelong dose of 450 mg/m^2 is exceeded (see BCCA Cancer Drug Manual).
2. **Extravasation:** Doxorubicin causes pain and tissue necrosis if extravasated. Refer to BCCA Extravasation Guidelines.
3. **Neutropenia:** Fever or other evidence of infection must be assessed promptly and treated aggressively.

Call Dr. Meg Knowling or tumour group delegate at (604) 877-6000 or 1-800-663-3333 with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program.

Date Activated:

Date(s) Revised: 1 May 2009 (unsafe abbreviations and symbols replaced)