

BCCA Protocol Summary for Palliative Therapy for Hepatoma using Doxorubicin

Protocol Code:

GIA

Tumour Group:

Gastrointestinal

Contact Physician:

GI Systemic Therapy

ELIGIBILITY:

- Unresectable or metastatic hepatoma not suitable for treatment with regional therapies or investigational therapies.
- Performance status ECOG less than or equal to 3.
- Adequate hematologic function (ANC greater than $1.5 \times 10^9/L$, platelets $>100 \times 10^9/L$)
- Adequate liver function (bilirubin less than 25 micromol/L; AST/Alkaline Phosphatase less than 5 x ULN)
- No history of cardiac disease or evidence of cardiac dysfunction.

TESTS:

- Baseline CBC & diff, platelets, bilirubin, LFTs
- **Prior to** each treatment CBC & diff, platelets
- If clinically indicated: bilirubin, LFTs
- Monitor response and cardiac function as required

PREMEDICATIONS:

- Antiemetic Protocol for low-moderate emetogenic chemotherapy (see SCNAUSEA)

TREATMENT:

Drug	Dose	BCCA Administration Guideline
Doxorubicin	60 mg/m ²	IV push

Repeat every 21 days x 3-6 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	75%
less than 1.0	or	less than 70	delay

2. Hepatic Dysfunction:

Total Bilirubin (micromol/L)	Dose
less than 25	100%
25-50	50%
51-85	25%
greater than 85	Discontinue Treatment

PRECAUTIONS:

1. **Cardiac Toxicity:** Doxorubicin is cardiotoxic and must be used with caution, if at all, in patients with severe hypertension or cardiac dysfunction. Cardiac assessment required if lifelong dose of 450 mg/m² to be exceeded. Refer to 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 the GI Systemic Therapy physician at your regional cancer centre or Dr. Sanjay Rao at (250) 712-3900 or 1-888-563-7773 with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program.

Date activated: N/A
01 May 2011 (minor edit in Test Section)

Date revised: