

BCCA Protocol Summary for Palliative Therapy for Advanced Breast Cancer Using Anastrozole (ARIMIDEX®)

Protocol Code: BRAVANAS
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:

Anastrozole 1 mg po daily until evidence of progression.

PRECAUTIONS:

1. Hepatic dysfunction: Anastrozole 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 (physician contact revised)

References

1. Buzdar A, Jonat W, Howell A et al. Anastrozole, a potent and selective aromatase inhibitor versus megestrol acetate in postmenopausal women with advanced breast cancer: Results of a survival update based on a combined analysis from two mature Phase III trials. *Cancer* 1998;83:1142-1152.
2. Bonnetterre J, Thurmman B, Robertson JFR et al: Anastrozole versus tamoxifen as first-line therapy for advanced breast cancer in 668 postmenopausal women: results of the tamoxifen or Arimidex randomized group efficacy and tolerability study. *J Clin Oncol* 2000;18:3748-3757.

3. Nabholz JM, Buzdar A, Pollack M et al. Anastrozole is superior to tamoxifen as first-line therapy for advanced breast cancer in postmenopausal women: results of a North American Multicenter randomized trial. J Clin Oncol 2000;18:3758-3776.