BCCA Protocol Summary for Neo-Adjuvant Therapy for Urothelial Carcinoma Using CISplatin and Gemcitabine

**Protocol Code**

GUNAJPG

**Tumour Group**

Genitourinary

**Contact Physician**  
Dr. Susan Ellard (CCSI)  
Dr. Heidi Martins (VICC)  
Dr. Nevin Murray (VCC)

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Urothelial bladder cancer, clinical N0 M0
- Planned cystectomy
- Muscle invasive disease
- ECOG performance status 0 or 1

**EXCLUSIONS:**

- Pure squamous, adenocarcinoma or small-cell carcinoma
- Patients with poor renal function (initial creatinine clearance less than 60 ml/min by GFR measurement or Cockcroft formula)
- Major co-morbid illness; non-surgical candidate
- Significant hearing impairment

**TESTS:**

- Baseline: CBC & differential, platelets, creatinine, liver function tests, bilirubin
- Before each treatment:
  - Days 1: CBC & differential, platelets, creatinine, liver function tests, bilirubin
  - Day 8: CBC & differential, platelets, creatinine
- Baseline imaging of bladder and pelvis

**PREMEDICATIONS:**

- Antiemetic protocol for high moderate emetogenic chemotherapy protocols (see protocol SCNAUSEA).
- May consider adding aprepitant 125 mg PO pre-chemotherapy and 80 mg PO once daily in the morning on Days 2 and 3

**TREATMENT:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>BCCA Administration Guideline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gemcitabine</td>
<td>1250 mg/m²/day on days 1 and 8</td>
<td>IV in 250 mL NS over 30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(total dose per cycle = 2500 mg/m²)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CISplatin</td>
<td>70 mg/m²/day on day 1</td>
<td>Prehydrate with 1000 mL NS over 1 hour, then CISplatin IV in 500 mL NS with 20 mEq potassium chloride, 1 g magnesium sulfate, 30 g mannitol over 1 hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Repeat every 21 days for total of two cycles prior to restaging.  
Plan for 4 cycles maximum prior to surgery, if tolerated and if no disease progression.
DOSE MODIFICATIONS:
1. Hematology

For gemcitabine day 1 of each cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANC (x 10^9/L)</th>
<th>Platelets (x 10^9/L)</th>
<th>Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>greater than or equal to 1 and greater than 100</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5 to 0.99 or 75 to 100</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less than 0.5 or less than 75</td>
<td>Delay*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*CISplatin also delayed

For gemcitabine day 8 of each cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANC (x 10^9/L)</th>
<th>Platelets (x 10^9/L)</th>
<th>Dose**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>greater than or equal to 1 and greater than 100</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5 to 0.99 or 75 to 100</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less than 0.5 or less than 75</td>
<td>Omit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dose adjustment only for the day of treatment the CBC is drawn

2. Renal Dysfunction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creatinine Clearance (ml/min)</th>
<th>CISplatin dose</th>
<th>Gemcitabine dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>greater than or equal to 60</td>
<td>70 mg/m^2 on Day 1</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 59</td>
<td>35 mg/m^2 on Days 1 and 2 OR Days 1 and 8 (same prehydration as 70 mg/m^2 dose)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less than 45</td>
<td>Delay</td>
<td>Delay/omit *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delay if day 1; if day 8, omit if serum creatinine greater than 3 x ULN where ULN = local upper limit of normal range.

Alternatively, CARBOplatin may be used instead of CISplatin:
(See table below for modified gemcitabine dosing)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRUG</th>
<th>DOSE</th>
<th>BCCA Administration Guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CARBOplatin</td>
<td>AUC 5 DAY 1 only Dose = AUC x (GFR^* +25)</td>
<td>IV in 250mL NS over 30 minutes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* 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

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

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).

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

When CARBOplatin is used, gemcitabine dose should be reduced:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRUG</th>
<th>DOSE</th>
<th>BCCA Administration Guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gemcitabine</td>
<td>1000 mg/m²/day on days 1 and 8 (total dose per cycle = 2000 mg/m²)</td>
<td>IV in 250 mL NS over 30 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRECAUTIONS:
1. **Neutropenia**: Fever or other evidence of infection must be assessed promptly and treated aggressively.
2. **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.
3. **Pulmonary Toxicity**: Acute shortness of breath may occur. Discontinue treatment if drug-induced pneumonitis is suspected.

Contact Dr. Susan Ellard or tumour group delegate at (250) 712-3900 or 1-800-563-7773 with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program.

Date activated: 01 January 2005 (as UGUNAJPG)

Date revised: 1 Oct 2014 (Carboplatin option added)

References: