BCCA Protocol Summary for Palliative Chemotherapy for Advanced Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma with Weekly CISplatin

**Protocol Code**

HNAVP

**Tumour Group**

Head and Neck

**BCCA Contact Physician**

Cheryl Ho

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Metastatic or unresectable head and neck squamous cell carcinoma
- ECOG performance status 0 to 2
- Adequate marrow reserve (ANC greater than or equal to 1.5 x 10^9/L, platelets greater than 100 x 10^9/L)

**EXCLUSIONS:**

- Patients with inadequate renal function (creatinine clearance less than 60 mL/min by GFR measurement or Cockcroft formula)

**TESTS:**

- Baseline: CBC & differential, platelets, creatinine
- Before each treatment:
  - Day 1: CBC & differential, platelets, creatinine
  - Day 8: CBC & differential, platelets, creatinine

**PREMEDICATIONS:**

- Antiemetic protocol for high moderate emetogenic chemotherapy protocols (see protocol SCNAUSEA).

**TREATMENT:**

A Cycle equals – 2 weeks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>BCCA Administration Guideline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CISplatin</td>
<td>25 mg/m² on days 1 and 8</td>
<td>IV in NS 100 mL over 30 min</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Repeat every 14 to 21 days until disease progression or toxicity
Discontinue if no response after 2 cycles.

**DOSE MODIFICATIONS:**

1. Hematological

<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</td>
<td>and</td>
<td>Greater than or equal to 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 1</td>
<td>or</td>
<td>Less than 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Renal Dysfunction

For CISplatin only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)</th>
<th>CISplatin dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>greater than or equal to 60mL/min</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 59</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less than 45</td>
<td>Delay*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delay if day 1; if day 8, omit if serum creatinine greater than 3 x ULN

Cockcroft-Gault Formula

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

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

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. Use caution with pre-existing renal dysfunction.
3. Pulmonary Toxicity: Acute shortness of breath may occur. Discontinue treatment if drug-induced pneumonitis is suspected.

Call Dr Cheryl Ho or tumour group delegate at 1-888-563-7773 with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program.

Date activated: 1 July 2010

Date revised: 1 Nov 2014 (Hematologic parameters clarified)

References: