BCCA Protocol Summary for Radioprotection in Head and Neck Radiation using Amifostine

Protocol Code
HNOTAMIRT

Tumour Group
Head and Neck

Contact Physician
Dr. Frances Wong

ELIGIBILITY:
- Head and neck carcinoma patients undergoing radical/curative radiotherapy
- High dose/large volume radiation including greater than 75% of total parotid glands
- Radiation dose greater than or equal to 5,000 Gy

EXCLUSIONS:
- Pregnancy

TESTS:
- Baseline: Serum Calcium, Blood pressure
- Before each dose of amifostine: assess for skin reactions
- Weekly during treatment: Serum Calcium
- If clinically indicated: albumin
  Corrected calcium (mmol/L) = total calcium (mmol/L) + (0.02 x [40 – albumin (in g/L])

PREMEDICATIONS:
- Antiemetic protocol for low-moderate emetogenic chemotherapy protocols (see SCNAUSEA)

TREATMENT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>BCCA Administration Guideline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>amifostine</td>
<td>200 mg/m²</td>
<td>IV in 50 mL NS over 3 minutes given 15-30 minutes* prior to each fraction of radiation therapy¹</td>
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</tbody>
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PICC line insertion is recommended.
* may be given as IV push over less than 1 minute just prior to each fraction of radiation therapy to reduce severe nausea and vomiting

Repeat prior to each radiation treatment.

DOSE MODIFICATIONS:
Skin Reactions: consider discontinuation for skin reactions unrelated to injection site, radiation, or other known etiology.
PRECAUTIONS:

1. **Hypotension** may occur during or immediately following the infusion. Patients should be monitored during the infusion. If systolic blood pressure decreases significantly (see cancer drug manual), the infusion should be temporarily stopped and resumed only if blood pressure returns to normal within 5 minutes.

2. **Severe Skin Reactions**: may occur and are unrelated to radiation-induced dermatitis. These can appear as rash near the mouth or mucous membranes, lesions on the palms of the hand or soles of the feet and/or truncal areas. They may also be associated with fever.

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

Date activated: 23 October 2002

Date revised: 1 Jun 2016 (Class II registration deleted)

References 1-6:


