

BC Cancer Protocol Summary for Therapy for Recurrent Malignant Brain Tumours using Temozolomide and Etoposide

Protocol Code

CNTMZETO

Tumour Group

Neuro-Oncology

Contact Physician

Dr. Rebecca Harrison

ELIGIBILITY:

Patients must have:

- Recurrent embryonal tumours such as medulloblastoma, or
- Recurrent gliomas in temozolomide naïve patients

Patients should have:

- Karnofsky Performance Status greater than 50
- Adequate bone marrow, cardiac, renal and hepatic function

EXCLUSIONS:

- Pregnant or breast feeding women

CAUTION:

- Significant hepatic dysfunction

TESTS:

- Baseline: CBC & Diff, ALT and total bilirubin, creatinine, glucose (patients on dexamethasone)
- Before each treatment:
 - Day 1: CBC & Diff, creatinine, ALT, total bilirubin, random glucose
 - Day 22: CBC & Diff
- Neuroimaging every 2 cycles
- If clinically indicated: electrolytes, magnesium, calcium

PREMEDICATIONS:

- ondansetron 8 mg given 30 minutes prior to each dose of temozolomide
- prochlorperazine 10 mg or metoclopramide 10-40 mg PO q4-6 hours prn with etoposide doses
- hydrocortisone and diphenhydramine for history of hypersensitivity to etoposide

TREATMENT:

Drug	Dose	BC Cancer Administration Guideline
temozolomide	150 mg/m ² once daily x 5 days (d 1-5)*	PO
etoposide	50 mg/m ² once daily x 12 days (d 1-12)**	PO

* refer to [Temozolomide Suggested Capsule Combination Table](#) for dose rounding

** round dose to nearest 50 mg

Repeat every 28 days x 12 cycles

- Temozolomide dose may be increased to 200 mg/m² for the second cycle if no significant hematologic, hepatic or other toxicity is noted (see below)
- Discontinue for clinical or radiographic progression.

DOSE MODIFICATIONS:

1. Hematological

Day 1:

ANC (x10 ⁹ /L)		Platelets (x10 ⁹ /L)	Temozolomide Dose	Etoposide Dose
greater than or equal to 1.5	and	greater than or equal to 100	100%	100%
1.0 to 1.4	and	75 to 99	delay*	delay*
less than 1	and	less than 75	delay**	delay**

Dose levels for temozolomide are 200 mg/m², 150 mg/m² and 100 mg/m²

* Follow CBC weekly and re-institute temozolomide at minus one dose level and etoposide at 50 mg/m² if ANC recovers to 1.5 x 10⁹/L and platelets recover to 100 x 10⁹/L within 3 weeks

** Follow CBC weekly and re-institute temozolomide at minus one dose level and etoposide at 35 mg/m² if ANC recovers to 1.5 x 10⁹/L and platelets recover to 100 x 10⁹/L within 3 weeks

For **repeat** grade 3 or 4 hematologic toxicity (ANC less than 1 x 10⁹/L, platelets less than 50 x 10⁹/L), discontinue etoposide and continue temozolomide at the 100 mg/m² dose.

Day 22:

ANC (x10 ⁹ /L)		Platelets (x10 ⁹ /L)	Temozolomide dose	Etoposide dose
greater than or equal to 1.0	and	greater than or equal to 50	100%	100%
less than 1.0	or	less than 50	reduce one dose level	35 mg/m ²

Dose levels for temozolomide are 200 mg/m², 150 mg/m² and 100 mg/m²

Note: Temozolomide dose reductions below 100 mg/m² are not permitted.

2. Hepatic Dysfunction

Bilirubin (micromol/L)		ALT	Temozolomide dose	Etoposide dose
less than 25	or	less than or equal to 2.5 x ULN	100%	100%
25 to 84	or	2.6 to 5 x ULN	reduce one dose level	35 mg/m ²
greater than 85		greater than 5 x ULN	delay*	delay*

Dose levels for temozolomide are 200 mg/m², 150 mg/m² and 100 mg/m²

*Follow LFTs weekly and re-institute temozolomide at 100 mg/m² and etoposide at 35 mg/m² if Bilirubin recovers to less than 85 micromol/L and ALT recovers to less than 5 x ULN

Note: Temozolomide dose reductions below 100 mg/m² are not permitted.

For **repeat** Bilirubin greater than 85 micromol/L and repeat ALT greater than 5 x ULN, discontinue both drugs

3. Renal dysfunction

Creatinine clearance (mL/min)	Temozolomide dose	Etoposide dose
Greater than 50	100%	100%
15 to 50*	100%	75%
Less than 15	Discontinue	Discontinue

*See precautions below.

PRECAUTIONS:

1. **Neutropenia:** Fever or other evidence of infection must be assessed promptly and treated aggressively.
2. **Thrombocytopenia:** Day 22 platelet counts less than $50 \times 10^9/L$ should be monitored at least twice weekly until recovering. Platelet counts less than $20 \times 10^9/L$ and falling should be treated with platelet transfusion.
3. **Renal Dysfunction:** Renal impairment is not expected to affect temozolomide clearance. Caution should be exercised when treating patients with creatinine clearance less than 36 mL/min.

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

References:

1. Korones NK, Smith A, Foreman N, Bouffet E. Temozolomide and oral vp-16 for children and young adults with recurrent or treatment-induced malignant gliomas. *Pediatr Blood Cancer* 2006;47:37-41.
2. Korones NK, Benita-Weiss M, Coyle TE et al. Phase I study of temozolomide and escalating doses of oral etoposide for adults with recurrent malignant glioma. *Cancer* 2003;97(8):1963-8.
3. Sandhu G, Adattini J, Armstrong Gordon E, O'Neill N. On behalf of the ADDIKD Guideline Working Group. International consensus guideline on anticancer drug dosing in kidney dysfunction. 2022. *eviQ, Cancer Institute NSW*. St Leonards, Australia.