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FAX request form and IN TOUCH phone list are provided if additional information is needed.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROTOCOL CHANGES

Thyrotropin alpha (Thyrogen™) has been added to the benefit drug list as a Class II drug, effective 1 February. Thyrotropin alpha is a recombinant form of human thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) used in the follow-up of patients with thyroid cancer. Although a slightly less effective preparation for iodine scanning than thyroxine withdrawal, it is useful for patients who have experienced significant morbidity after thyroxine withdrawal in the past or who are unable to mount an adequate response to withdrawal (eg, hypopituitarism). For details, refer to the protocol HNTSH and the patient information handout on our website.

BMTMM0301 is a new conditioning therapy protocol for autologous stem cell transplant using high dose melphalan (200 mg/m²). This dose has been shown to be less toxic and at least as effective as 8 Gy total body irradiation with melphalan 140 mg/m². Note that the protocol code for this regimen reflects the existing coding system of the Bone Marrow Transplant Program and hence does not conform to the general nomenclature of BCCA protocols.

A number of **revised protocols** are included in this issue, with minor modifications or clarifications. These include dose modifications for the **gynecological** protocol GOCXRADC, clarifications of laboratory tests and carboplatin dose calculations for several **genitourinary** protocols, carboplatin dose calculation and use of carboplatin as an alternative in two cisplatin-based **lung** protocols, and the clarifications of duration of treatments in two **sarcoma** protocols.

BENEFIT DRUG LIST

The following new program has been funded by the Provincial Systemic Therapy Program effective 1 February, 2003:

Thyrotropin alfa for thyroid cancer

This is added as a Class II drug on the benefit list. A Class II form must be completed and submitted to the Provincial Systemic Therapy Program before the drug will be dispensed at a regional cancer centre or reimbursed to a community hospital. The current Benefit Drug List, Class II forms and Undesignated Indication Application forms are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (www.bccancer.bc.ca) under Health Professionals Info, Chemotherapy Protocols, Frequently Used Forms.

LIST OF NEW AND REVISED PROTOCOLS

INDEX to BC Cancer Agency Protocol Summaries revised monthly (includes tumour group, protocol code, indication, drugs, last revision)

date and version). Protocol codes for treatments requiring “Undesignated Indication” approval prior to use are prefixed with the letter U.

- **BMTMM0301** new: Conditioning therapy for autologous stem cell transplant using high dose melphalan in the treatment of multiple myeloma
- **UBRLAACD** new: Treatment for locally advanced breast cancer using doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide followed by docetaxel
- **CNIME** revised (reference to cisplatin in Precautions deleted): Ifosfamide, mesna and etoposide in the treatment of recurrent brain tumours
- **GOCXRADC** revised (potassium chloride dose revised, ANC added to Dose Modifications): Treatment of high risk squamous cell carcinoma of cervix with concurrent cisplatin and radiation
- **UGUAJPG** revised (liver function tests clarified): Adjuvant therapy for urothelial carcinoma using cisplatin and gemcitabine
- **GUAVPG** revised (liver function tests clarified, carboplatin added as alternative): Palliative therapy for urothelial carcinoma using cisplatin and gemcitabine
- **GUSCPE** revised (calculations for carboplatin dose and GFR added): Therapy of genitourinary small cell tumors with a platin and etoposide
- **HNTSH** new: Radioiodine imaging in patients with thyroid cancer using thyrotropin alpha
- **ULUCISDOC** revised (serum creatinine added to Tests): First-line treatment for advanced non-small cell lung cancer with docetaxel (Taxotere®) and cisplatin
- **LUPE** revised (calculations for carboplatin dose and GFR added): Palliative therapy of selected solid tumours using cisplatin and etoposide
- **LUPESL** revised (carboplatin added as alternative to cisplatin): Treatment of limited stage small cell lung cancer (SCLC) with etoposide and cisplatin (EP) and early thoracic irradiation
- **SAAJA** revised (number of treatment cycles clarified): Doxorubicin for adjuvant use for patients with non-metastatic operable large high grade soft tissue sarcoma
- **USAAVGI** revised (duration of treatment): Treatment of advanced c-kit positive gastrointestinal stromal cell tumours (GIST's) using imatinib (Gleevec®)

Protocols are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (www.bccancer.bc.ca) under Health Professionals Info, Chemotherapy Protocols.

CANCER MANAGEMENT MANUAL

The Cancer Management Manual is available on the BC Cancer Agency website (www.bccancer.bc.ca) under Health Professionals Info, Cancer Management Guidelines.

PRE-PRINTED ORDER UPDATE

Pre-printed orders should always be checked with the most current BC Cancer Agency protocol summaries. The BC Cancer Agency Vancouver Centre has prepared chemotherapy pre-printed orders, which can be used as a guide for reference. An index to the orders can be obtained by Fax-back.

- **BRAVNAV** revised (phlebitis management): Palliative therapy for symptomatic metastatic breast cancer using Vinorelbine (Navelbine®)
- **CNMODPCV** revised (Dosing for procarbazine): Modified PCV chemotherapy of brain tumours using procarbazine, lomustine (CCNU) and vincristine
- **GIFOLFIRI** new: Palliative combination chemotherapy for metastatic colorectal cancer using irinotecan, fluorouracil and folinic acid (leucovorin)
- **GIIRFUFA** revised (appointments): First-line palliative combination chemotherapy for metastatic colorectal cancer using irinotecan, fluorouracil and folinic acid (leucovorin)
- **GIRFF** new: Adjuvant therapy for stage II and III rectal cancer previously treated with preoperative radiotherapy
- **UGUAJPG** new: Adjuvant therapy for urothelial carcinoma using cisplatin and gemcitabine
- **GUAVPG** revised (booking section): Palliative therapy for urothelial carcinoma using cisplatin and gemcitabine
- **GUBEP** revised (booking section): Therapy for intermediate risk non-seminomatous testicular cancer using bleomycin, etoposide and cisplatin
- **GUPMX** revised (mitoxantrone administration guideline revised): Palliative therapy for hormone-refractory prostate cancer using mitoxantrone and prednisone
- **GUSCPE** new: Therapy of genitourinary small cell tumours with a platin and etoposide

- **UGUTAXGEM** new: Palliative therapy for germ cell cancers using paclitaxel and gemcitabine
- **ULUCISDOC** new: First-line treatment for advanced non-small cell lung cancer with docetaxel (Taxotere®) and cisplatin
- **LYCHOP** revised (routine monitoring for dose increases): Treatment of lymphoma with doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, vincristine and prednisone
- **LYCHOP-R** revised (routine monitoring for dose increases): Treatment of lymphoma with doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisone and rituximab
- **LYGDP** new: Treatment of lymphoma with gemcitabine, dexamethasone and cisplatin
- **SAAJA** new: Doxorubicin for adjuvant use for patients with non-metastatic operable large high grade soft tissue sarcoma
- **SMAJIFN** new: Adjuvant therapy of high risk malignant melanoma with high dose α -2b interferon (HDIFN)

PATIENT EDUCATION

Thyrotropin Alpha (Thyrogen™) Patient information handout for recombinant thyrotropin alpha is now available.

Mechlorethamine (Nitrogen Mustard) Topical Application Patient information handouts for nitrogen mustard solution and ointment have been revised to incorporate new instructions regarding cautions.

Patient information handouts for cancer drugs are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (www.bccancer.bc.ca) under Health Professionals Info, Drug Database, Drug Information for the Patient.

Patient information handouts for treatment protocols are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (www.bccancer.bc.ca) under Health Professionals Info, Chemotherapy Protocols, Information for the Patient.

CANCER DRUG MANUAL

Melphalan Monograph has been revised to reflect the current stability data of diluted infusions.

The Cancer Drug Manual is available on the BC Cancer Agency website www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm/.

Patient information handouts for cancer drugs are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (www.bccancer.bc.ca) under Health Professionals Info, Drug Database, Drug Index (Patient).

PROVINCIAL SYSTEMIC THERAPY PROGRAM POLICIES

Standing Orders for Specific Medications - Ambulatory Patients in the Systemic Program (Policy III-30) has been replaced by the **Nursing Management of Patients Using General Orders Protocol (GOP)**.

BC Cancer Agency Systemic Therapy Policies are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (www.bccancer.bc.ca) under Health Professionals Info, Chemotherapy Protocols, Policies and Procedures.

NURSING UPDATE

Updating Website Information about Oncology Nursing Services in BC Our BCCA website provides us with an opportunity to increase our understanding of cancer chemotherapy services offered by nurses throughout the province. Two University of Victoria nursing students are able to support us with the process of identifying gaps and updating this information.

In the next 2 months, you may receive a telephone call asking for updated and general information about cancer nursing services provided in your center. We anticipate that this call will take no longer than 10 minutes. The information gathered will be entered into our website by March and will be readily accessible to all health care professionals. We thank you in advance for participating in this important process.

LIBRARY/CANCER INFORMATION CENTRE

Unconventional Cancer Therapies Manual is available on the BC Cancer Agency website www.bccancer.bc.ca under Patient/Public Info, Unconventional Therapies. The manual consists of 46 short monographs on the more commonly used unconventional cancer therapies (e.g., Essiac, vitamins, teas, shark cartilage) and includes tips for the patient and family on how unconventional therapies can be evaluated. For each therapy the manual provides proponent/advocate claims, as well as evidence-based evaluation/critique quotations from the literature.

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Vancouver Centre (VCC)	(604)-877-6000	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333
Vancouver Island Centre (VICC)	(250) 519-5500	Toll-Free 1-(800)-670-3322

REGIONAL CANCER CENTRE ACCESS

BULLETIN UPDATES		LOCATION
Cancer Drug Manual		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\cancer drug manual monographs
Melphalan Monograph		
Pre-Printed Orders		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Orders\VCC
BRAVNAV	GUAVPG	LYCHOP
CNMODPCV	GUBEP	LYCHOP-R
GIFOLFIRI	GUPMX	LYGDP
GIIRFUFA	GUSCPE	SAAJA
GIRFF	UGUTAXGEM	SMAJIFN
UGUAJPG	ULUCISDOC	
Protocol Summaries		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\tumour site"
Index of Protocol Summaries		Index_NT or Index_W6
BMTMM0301	GUAVPG	LUPESL
UBRLAACD	GUSCPE	SAAJA
CNIME	HNTSH	USAAVGI
GOCXRADC	ULUCISDOC	
UGUAJPG	LUPE	
Patient Education Handout		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Pt Education
Thyrotropin Alpha		Mechlorethamine (Nitrogen Mustard) Topical Application
Provincial Systemic Therapy Policies		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\policies
Standing Orders For Specific Medications: Ambulatory Patients In The Systemic Program		
Reimbursement		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Reimburs
Benefit Drug List (1 Feb 03)	BenefitList.doc	Filgrastim Usage Form (Oct 02) GCSF_form.doc
Class 2 Form (1 Feb 03)	Class2.doc	Undesignated Indication Form (Nov 02) Undesig.doc

For easy access, double-click your systemic chemo icon.

We appreciate your comments. Write us at bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca

BC CANCER AGENCY SYSTEMIC THERAPY UPDATE FAX REQUEST FORM

FAX (604) 877-0585

bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca

TO SUBSCRIBE: FAX OR EMAIL YOUR REQUEST OR CALL @ 877-6098 LOCAL 2247

FOR URGENT REQUESTS PLEASE CALL (604) 877-6098 LOCAL 2247

OR TOLL-FREE IN BC 1-800-663-3333 LOCAL 2247

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE COPIES FOR YOUR COLLEAGUES

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UPDATES Please Fax-Back information below:

<input type="checkbox"/> All items		
Cancer Drug Manual Monographs (also available on our website www.bccancer.bc.ca)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Melphalan Monograph		
Patient Education Handout (also available on our website www.bccancer.bc.ca)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Thyrotropin Alpha	<input type="checkbox"/> Mechlorethamine (Nitrogen Mustard) Topical Application	
Pre-printed Orders:		
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAVNAV	<input type="checkbox"/> GUAVPG	<input type="checkbox"/> LYCHOP
<input type="checkbox"/> CNMODPCV	<input type="checkbox"/> GUBEP	<input type="checkbox"/> LYCHOP-R
<input type="checkbox"/> GIFOLFIRI	<input type="checkbox"/> GUPMX	<input type="checkbox"/> LYGDP
<input type="checkbox"/> GIIRFUFA	<input type="checkbox"/> GUSCPE	<input type="checkbox"/> SAAJA
<input type="checkbox"/> GIRFF	<input type="checkbox"/> UGUTAXGEM	<input type="checkbox"/> SMAJIFN
<input type="checkbox"/> UGUAJPG	<input type="checkbox"/> ULUCISDOC	
Protocol Summaries: (also available on our website www.bccancer.bc.ca)		
Index of Protocol Summaries		Index <u>NT</u> or Index <u>W6</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> BMTMM0301	<input type="checkbox"/> GUAVPG	<input type="checkbox"/> LUPESL
<input type="checkbox"/> UBRLAACD	<input type="checkbox"/> GUSCPE	<input type="checkbox"/> SAAJA
<input type="checkbox"/> CNIME	<input type="checkbox"/> HNTSH	<input type="checkbox"/> USAAVGI
<input type="checkbox"/> GOCXRADC	<input type="checkbox"/> ULUCISDOC	
<input type="checkbox"/> UGUAJPG	<input type="checkbox"/> LUPE	
Provincial Systemic Therapy Program Policies		
<input type="checkbox"/> Standing Orders For Specific Medications: Ambulatory Patients In The Systemic Program		
Reimbursement (also available on our website www.bccancer.bc.ca)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefit Drug List (01 Feb 2003)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Class 2 Form (01 Feb 2003)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Filgrastim Usage Form (October 2002)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Undesignated Indication Form (Nov 2002)		
Systemic Therapy Update Index (also available on our website www.bccancer.bc.ca)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan-Dec 2000		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan-Dec 2001		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan-Dec 2002		