



# Systemic Therapy Update

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Transfer of Responsibility for Oncology Drugs from Pharmacare to BCCA
- Benefit Drug List – Cabergoline, exemestane
- Protocol Update – BRAJCEF, BRAVDOC, BRAVEXE, BRAVTAX, , CNB, CNCAB, GIFUA, HNFUFA, LYHDMTXP, LYHDMTXR, LYIT, MOIT
- Cancer Management Manual
- Pre-Printed Order Update – BRAJAC, (U)BRAJACT, BRAJCAF, BRAVAC, BRAVCAF, BRAVDOC, BRAVPAM, BRINFCAF, BRLA2, GIA, UGIIRINALT, GOEP, HNFUFA, LYCHOP, LYCHOP-R, LYCOPP, LYCVP, LYECV, LYODBEP, LYRITUX, SAVAC,
- Patient Education – Exemestane
- Drug Update – Procarbazine
- Cancer Drug Manual
- Provincial Systemic Therapy Program Policies – Physician Coverage for Medical Emergencies During Delivery of Selected Chemotherapy Drugs (Patient Care Policy III-60)
- Library/Cancer Information Centre
- Acknowledgment of Support

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

## TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ONCOLOGY DRUGS FROM PHARMACARE TO BCCA

Pharmacare will be transferring the cancer drug budget to the BCCA on 4 September, 2001. The medications that are affected are currently listed on both the BCCA Benefit Drug List and the Pharmacare Benefit List. As of 4 September, the following medications will only be available for reimbursement via the BCCA:

buserelin	hydroxyurea
busulfan	lomustine
chlorambucil	leuprolide
cyproterone	melphalan
diethylstilbestrol	mercaptopurine
estramustine	mitotane

etoposide	nilutamide
flutamide	tamoxifen
goserelin	thioguanine

## BENEFIT DRUG LIST

The following new program has been funded by the Provincial Systemic Therapy Program effective 1 July 2001:

**Cabergoline** for therapy of prolactinoma

**Exemestane** for hormonal therapy for post-menopausal metastatic breast cancer

Cabergoline is now approved as Class II drug and exemestane as a Class I drug on the benefit list. A Class II form must be completed and submitted to the Provincial Systemic Therapy Program before the cabergoline will be dispensed at a regional cancer centre or reimbursed to a community hospital.

Susan O'Reilly, MB, FRCPC  
Provincial Systemic Program Leader

The current Benefit Drug List and Class II forms are available on the website [www.bccancer.com](http://www.bccancer.com).

## PROTOCOL UPDATE

**Protocols by Drugs Index** A cross-referenced index has been created which lists the BCCA benefit drugs with their corresponding protocols. This index can be obtained via H-drive at regional cancer centres or Fax-back as listed at the end of the Update.

Protocol codes for treatments requiring "Undesignated Indication" approval prior to use are prefixed with the letter **U**.

- **INDEX to BCCA Protocol Summaries** revised monthly (includes tumour group,

protocol code, indication, drugs, last revision date and version)

- **BRAJCEF** revised (tests, dose modifications, precautions): Adjuvant therapy for breast cancer using cyclophosphamide, epirubicin and fluorouracil
- **BRAVDOC** revised (eligibility): Palliative therapy for metastatic breast cancer using doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide
- **BRAVEXE** new: Palliative therapy for advanced breast cancer using exemestane
- **BRAVTAX** revised (eligibility): Palliative therapy for metastatic breast cancer using paclitaxel
- **CNB** revised (added visual tests, dose titration, dose modifications): Suppressive therapy for prolactinomas using bromocriptine
- **CNCAB** new: Second line suppressive therapy for prolactinoma using cabergoline
- **GIFUA** revised (warfarin added in precautions): Curative combined modality therapy for carcinoma of the anal canal using mitomycin, infusional fluorouracil and radiation therapy
- **HNFUFA** revised (contact physician): 5-Fluorouracil and leucovorin for recurrent head and neck cancer
- **LYHDMTXP** revised (cotrimoxazole dose): Treatment of primary intracerebral lymphoma with high dose methotrexate
- **LYHDMTXR** revised (cotrimoxazole dose): Treatment of leptomeningeal lymphoma or recurrent intracerebral lymphoma with high dose methotrexate
- **LYIT** revised (intrathecal policy added): Treatment of lymphoma using intrathecal methotrexate and cytarabine
- **MOIT** revised (intrathecal policy added): Solid tumours using intrathecal methotrexate and/or thiopeta and/or cytarabine

Most protocols are available on the BCCA website [www.bccancer.bc.ca/ccp/](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/ccp/).

### **CANCER MANAGEMENT MANUAL**

The Cancer Management Manual is available on BCCA website [www.bccancer.bc.ca/cmm/](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/cmm/).

### **PRE-PRINTED ORDER UPDATE**

Pre-printed orders should always be checked with the most current BCCA protocol summaries. The Vancouver Cancer Centre has prepared the following chemotherapy pre-printed orders, which can be used as a guide for reference:

- **BRAJAC** (pre-printed order entitled BRAC) revised (labs and bookings): Adjuvant therapy for breast cancer using doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide
- **(U)BRAJACT** (pre-printed order entitled BRAC) revised (labs and bookings): Adjuvant therapy for breast cancer using doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide followed by paclitaxel
- **BRAJCAF** (pre-printed order entitled BRCAF) revised (bookings and labs): Adjuvant therapy for breast cancer using cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and fluorouracil
- **BRAVAC** (pre-printed order entitled BRAC) revised (labs and bookings): Palliative therapy for metastatic breast cancer using doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide
- **BRAVCAF** (pre-printed order entitled BRCAF) revised (bookings and labs): Palliative therapy for metastatic breast cancer using cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and fluorouracil
- **BRAVPAM** revised (appointment and treatment section): Treatment of acute bone pain secondary to breast cancer metastases using pamidronate
- **BRINFCAF** (pre-printed order entitled BRCAF) revised (bookings and labs): Therapy for inflammatory breast cancer using cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and fluorouracil
- **BRLA2** (pre-printed order entitled BRCAF) revised (bookings and labs): Therapy for locally advanced breast cancer using cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and fluorouracil
- **GIA** revised (labs and bookings): Palliative therapy for hepatoma using doxorubicin
- **UGIIRINALT** new: Second-line treatment for 5-FU refractory metastatic colorectal cancer using weekly scheduled irinotecan
- **GOEP** revised (labs and bookings section): Therapy of dysgerminomatous ovarian germ cell cancer using cisplatin and etoposide

- **HNFUFA** revised: 5-Fluorouracil and leucovorin for recurrent head and neck cancer
- **LYCHOP** revised (vincristine dose): Treatment of lymphoma with doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, vincristine and prednisone
- **LYCHOP-R** revised (vincristine dose, rituximab preparation): Treatment of lymphoma with doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisone and rituximab
- **LYCOPP** revised (vincristine dose): Treatment of Hodgkin's disease using cyclophosphamide, vincristine, procarbazine and prednisone
- **LYCVP** revised (doses revised): Advanced indolent lymphoma using cyclophosphamide, vincristine, prednisone
- **LYECV** revised (vincristine dose): Consolidation for lymphoma using etoposide, cyclophosphamide and vincristine
- **LYODBEP** revised (vincristine dose): Treatment of Hodgkin's disease with vincristine, doxorubicin, bleomycin, etoposide and prednisone
- **LYRITUX** revised (rituximab preparation): Treatment of lymphoma with single agent rituximab
- **SAVAC** revised (prn medication corrected): Adjuvant therapy for newly diagnosed Ewing's sarcoma/peripheral neuroectodermal tumor or rhabdomyosarcoma using vincristine, adriamycin and cyclophosphamide

An index to the orders can be obtained by Fax-back.

#### **PATIENT EDUCATION**

**Exemestane** patient handout is now available via H-drive at regional cancer centres or Fax-Back.

Patient handouts are available for a number of cancer drugs not in the BCCA Cancer Drug Manual or on the BCCA website, and for a number or BCCA treatment protocols. These are listed at the end of the Update and can be obtained via H-drive at regional cancer centres or Fax-back.

#### **DRUG UPDATE**

**Procarbazine Shortage** There is a worldwide shortage of procarbazine and the stock on hand in all 4 regional cancer centres has expired at the end

of June. The manufacturer cannot provide a new supply until the end of July. The BCCA Lymphoma and Neuro-oncology Tumour Groups recommend the following interim measures:

- **CNMODPCV**: use expired stock on all current patients to complete their courses. New patients should be started on CNCCNU or CNTEMOZ as alternatives to CNMODPCV.
- **LYPALL**: choose another alternative agent on the list
- **LYCOPP**: replace procarbazine by 5 days of etoposide with 50 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV on day 1 and 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> PO on day 2 through 5.

#### **CANCER DRUG MANUAL**

The Cancer Drug Manual is available on the BCCA website [www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm/](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm/).

#### **PROVINCIAL SYSTEMIC THERAPY PROGRAM POLICIES**

**Physician Coverage for Medical Emergencies During Delivery of Selected Chemotherapy Drugs** This patient care policy (III-60) has been developed and being implemented at the regional cancer centres to ensure safe management of medical emergencies arising during chemotherapy treatments.

BCCA Systemic Therapy Policies are available at [h:\everyone\systemic\prov\chemo\policies](http://h:\everyone\systemic\prov\chemo\policies) on the H-drive at the regional cancer centres and on [www.bccancer.bc.ca/ccp/appendices.shtml](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/ccp/appendices.shtml) in the BCCA website.

#### **LIBRARY/CANCER INFORMATION CENTRE**

**Unconventional Cancer Therapies Manual** is available on the BCCA website [www.bccancer.bc.ca/uct/](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/uct/). The manual consists of 46 short monographs on the more popular alternative cancer therapies, and includes tips for the patient and family on how alternative therapies can be evaluated. For each therapy (e.g., Essiac, vitamins, teas, shark cartilage, etc.), the manual provides proponent/advocate claims, balanced by evidence-based professional evaluation/critique quotations from the literature.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SUPPORT

**Partnership with Abbott Laboratories** The Systemic Therapy Program is pleased to announce the establishment of a long term partnership with Abbott Laboratories. A feature of the partnership is support for an Outcome Analyst for the Genitourinary Tumour Group to assist their activities in analyzing the results, trends, and impacts of current and proposed treatments.

**Partnership with AstraZeneca** The Systemic Therapy is pleased to acknowledge our ongoing partnership with AstraZeneca. Their continued support has contributed to the revision and continuing management of the Cancer Drug Manual. New Cancer Drug Manual monographs

will be posted on the BCCA website within the next month.

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### Editorial Review Board

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Update Editor	Ext 2288	<a href="mailto:mdelemos@bccancer.bc.ca">mdelemos@bccancer.bc.ca</a>
Cancer Centre for the Southern Interior (CCSI)	(250) 712-3900	Toll-Free 1-(888)-563-7773
Fraser Valley Cancer Centre (FVCC)	(604)-930-2098	Toll-Free 1-(800)-523-2885
Vancouver Cancer Centre (VCC)	(604)-877-6000	Toll-Free 1-(800)-663-3333
Vancouver Island Cancer Centre (VICC)	(250) 519-5500	Toll-Free 1-(800)-670-3322

## BCCA 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**

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I WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION VIA:

E-mail (Word 6.0)

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Fax

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Attn:

### UPDATES Please Fax-Back information below:

<input type="checkbox"/> All items		
<b>Patient Handouts:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> anagrelide	<input type="checkbox"/> BRAVCMF	<input type="checkbox"/> octreotide (Sandostatin LAR)
<input type="checkbox"/> anastrozole	<input type="checkbox"/> BRAVTAM	<input type="checkbox"/> pamidronate
<input type="checkbox"/> Bicalutamide	<input type="checkbox"/> cabergoline	<input type="checkbox"/> raltitrexed
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAJAC	<input type="checkbox"/> capecitabine	<input type="checkbox"/> rituximab
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAJCAF	<input type="checkbox"/> clodronate	<input type="checkbox"/> temozolomide
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAJCEF	<input type="checkbox"/> docetaxel (Taxotere)	<input type="checkbox"/> thalidomide
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAJCMF	<input type="checkbox"/> exemestane	<input type="checkbox"/> topotecan
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAJCMFPO	<input type="checkbox"/> gemcitabine	<input type="checkbox"/> trastuzumab (Herceptin)
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAJTAM	<input type="checkbox"/> irinotecan	<input type="checkbox"/> vinorelbine
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<b>Pre-Printed Orders:</b>		
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<b>Protocol Summaries:</b>		
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<b>Reimbursement</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefit Drug List (01 July 2001)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Class 2 Form (01 July 2001)		
<b>Systemic Therapy Update Index</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan-Dec 2000		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan-Jun 2001		

## REGIONAL CANCER CENTRE ACCESS

BULLETIN UPDATES	LOCATION	
Patient Handouts:	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Pt_Educ	
<a href="#">Anagrelide</a>	<a href="#">BRAVCMF</a>	<a href="#">Octreotide (Sandostatin LAR)</a>
<a href="#">Anastrozole</a>	<a href="#">BRAVTAM</a>	<a href="#">Pamidronate</a>
<a href="#">Bicalutamide</a>	<a href="#">Cabergoline</a>	<a href="#">Raltitrexed</a>
<a href="#">BRAJAC</a>	<a href="#">Capecitabine</a>	<a href="#">Rituximab</a>
<a href="#">BRAJCAF</a>	<a href="#">Clodronate</a>	<a href="#">Temozolomide</a>
<a href="#">BRAJCEF</a>	<a href="#">Docetaxel</a>	<a href="#">Thalidomide</a>
<a href="#">BRAJCMF</a>	<a href="#">Exemestane</a>	<a href="#">Topotecan</a>
<a href="#">BRAJCMFPO</a>	<a href="#">Gemcitabine</a>	<a href="#">Trastuzumab</a>
<a href="#">BRAJTAM</a>	<a href="#">Irinotecan</a>	<a href="#">Vinorelbine</a>
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Pre-Printed Orders	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Orders\VCC	
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<a href="#">BRINFCAF</a>	<a href="#">LYCHOP-R</a>	
Protocol Summaries	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\tumour site"	
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Index of Protocols by Drugs		
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<a href="#">BRAVDOC</a>	<a href="#">CNCAB</a>	<a href="#">LYHDMTXR</a>
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Reimbursement	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Reimburs	
Benefit Drug List (1 July 2001)		<a href="#">BenefitList.doc</a>
Class 2 Form (1 July 2001)		<a href="#">Class2.doc</a>
Systemic Therapy Update Index	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Update	

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

We appreciate your comments. Write us at [bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca](mailto:bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca)