

Systemic Therapy Update



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

April 2013
Volume 16, Number 4

For Health Professionals Who Care For Cancer Patients

Inside This Issue:

- **Editor's Choice** – CON Protocol Codes on All Claims; CON Protocol Code Project – Results of Second Audit; New Program: Weekly PACLitaxel for Locally Advanced Breast Cancer; Update on PSTP Policies: Systemic Therapy Treatments, Laboratory Tests Ordering by Pharmacists
- **Drug Update** – TALLman Lettering Implementation Completed
- **Nursing Update** – Supporting Continuing Competency for Chemotherapy Certified Nurses
- **Continuing Professional Development** – BCCA Radiation Therapy Education Series 2013
- **Cancer Drug Manual** – Revised: DOCEtaxel, Leucovorin, Oxaliplatin, PACLitaxel
- **Benefit Drug List** – New: UBRLAACTW; Revised: HNAVDOC
- **List of New and Revised Protocols, Provincial Pre-Printed Orders and Patient Handouts** – New: UBRLAACTW, HNAVDOC, MODEXA; Revised: BRAVTPCARB, GOCXCRT, GOOVCATX, GOOVGEM, GOOVLDOX, GOOVTOP, HNAVDOC, SAAJAP, SAAVAP; Deleted: SCDEXA
- **Website Resources and Contact Information**

EDITOR'S CHOICE

COMMUNITIES ONCOLOGY NETWORK – PROTOCOL CODES ON ALL CLAIMS

April 2013 marks the start date for including valid BCCA protocol codes on all claims submitted via Online System for Cancer drugs Adjudication and Reimbursement (OSCAR). Effective period 1, modifications made to OSCAR will take effect allowing for auto-adjudication of claims. Claims submitted without valid protocol codes will be automatically rejected by the system. Rejected claims can continue to be resubmitted with appropriate protocol code.

The CON Protocol Code Project Team would like to thank everyone in the Communities Oncology Network hospitals for their ongoing support and efforts towards achieving the goals of this project and ultimately improving care for all cancer patients in BC.

For questions or concerns, we can be reached at 1-888-355-0355 or by email oscar@bccancer.bc.ca.

COMMUNITIES ONCOLOGY NETWORK PROTOCOL CODE PROJECT – RESULTS OF SECOND AUDIT

Over the past year and a half, BCCA has been actively working with our partners in the Communities Oncology Network hospitals to better support submission of protocol codes. The project committee undertook two audits of OSCAR claims. The results of the first audit on claims for periods 1-5 of the fiscal

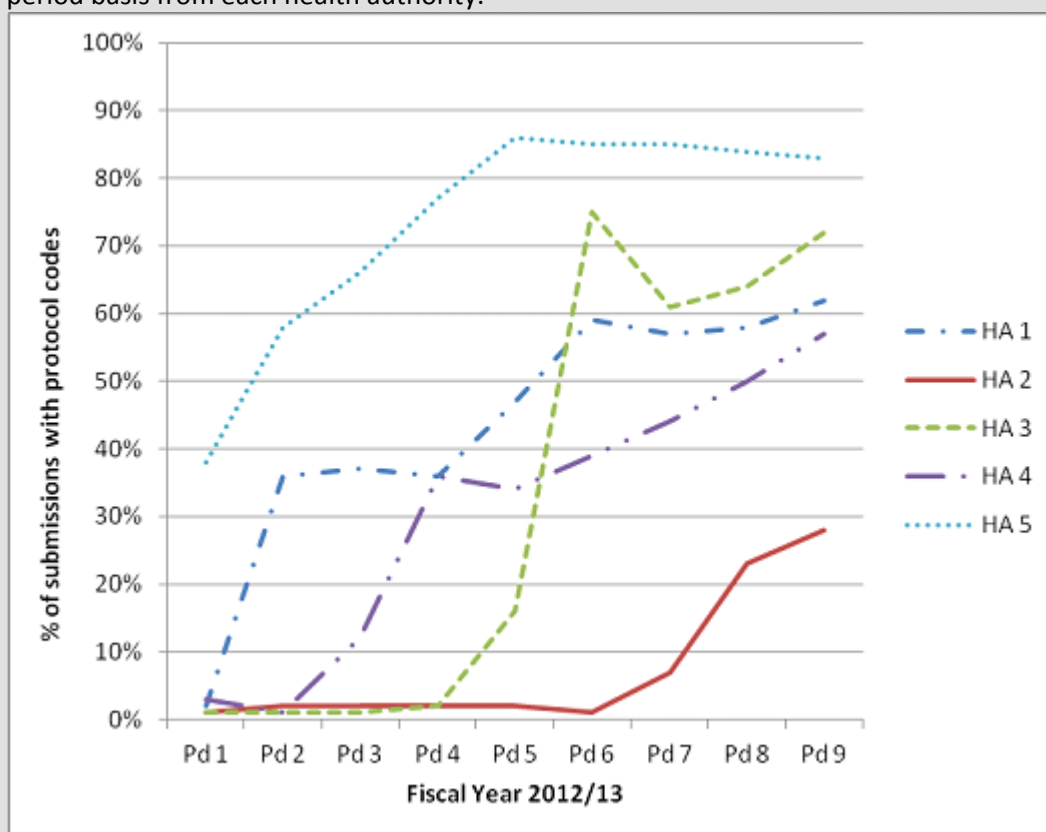
EDITOR'S CHOICE

year 2012-2013 were summarised in the October and November 2012 editions of the Systemic Therapy Update.

A second audit of protocol coding has now been performed on claims for periods 6-9. Hospital-specific results have recently been sent to each site which include detailed coding issues identified on a hospital-by-hospital basis that might be helpful in future OSCAR submissions. Overall results from this audit are summarized below.

Level 1

Review includes confirming that a protocol code is submitted with the claims on a health authority and individual hospital basis. The graph below depicts the volume of claims received with codes on a period-by-period basis from each health authority.



Level 2

This review was performed on claims that included protocol codes. The first component compared drugs claimed with those on the protocol. If the code submitted is not a valid BCCA code or if the drugs being claimed do not match the protocol, the claim failed and was considered to be an incorrect code. It is very encouraging to report that 94% of claims in periods 6-9 matched the code submitted. The second component reviewed the consistency of coding for all the drugs administered as part of a multi-drug regimen on a given treatment date. Out of a total of 6,363 claims for multi-drug regimens, 78% were consistently coded.

Level 3

This review was performed on a minimum of 10% of randomly selected claims with protocol codes from each hospital. The review included an electronic chart review of Cancer Agency Information System (CAIS) records to determine if the code submitted matched with the patient's cancer diagnosis and treatment

EDITOR'S CHOICE

intent. The results from this level of review were also very encouraging. Nearly 90% of claims reviewed were accurately coded for the patient's diagnosis and treatment intent.

For questions or concerns, we can be reached at 1-888-355-0355 or by email oscar@bccancer.bc.ca.

NEW PROGRAM

The Provincial Systemic Therapy Program has approved the following new program effective 01 April 2013:

Breast:

- **Weekly PACLitaxel following DOXOrubicin and Cyclophosphamide for Locally Advanced Breast Cancer (UBRLAACTW)** – A new treatment protocol for the use of weekly PACLitaxel in the neoadjuvant setting has been created. Please note that there is a separate treatment protocol, UBRAJACTW, for the use of weekly PACLitaxel in the adjuvant treatment of early breast cancer.

UPDATE ON PROVINCIAL SYSTEMIC THERAPY PROGRAM POLICIES

The following Provincial Systemic Therapy Program Policies have been revised effective 01 April 2013:

1. [Policy III-40](#) – Systemic Therapy Treatments
 - Clarified the funding review process for new systemic therapy programs
2. [Policy III-100](#) – Laboratory Tests – Ordering by Pharmacists
 - Clarified process for unit clerks

DRUG UPDATE

UPDATE: TALLMAN LETTERING IMPLEMENTATION COMPLETED

The BCCA-wide initiative to implement TALLman lettering to all BCCA treatment protocols and PPPOs has now been completed. To learn more about this initiative, please see the [March issue](#) of the Systemic Therapy Update.

NURSING UPDATE

SUPPORTING CONTINUING COMPETENCY FOR CHEMOTHERAPY CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSES

Chemotherapy certified nurses involved in the delivery of chemotherapy are annually required to demonstrate the ability to integrate and apply the knowledge, skills, and judgment to practice chemotherapy administration safely and ethically (Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology, 2012). To support nurses to maintain competency, Professional Practice Nursing at the BCCA developed a document titled "[Supporting Continuing Competency in Chemotherapy Care for British Columbia Registered Nurses](#)". This resource:

NURSING UPDATE

- Promotes the use of self-assessment to assist the Registered Nurse (RN) in recognizing his/her strengths and learning needs in chemotherapy care
- Proposes strategies to support the RN in maintaining competency
- Informs the RN of continuing learning opportunities

For more information, please visit the BCCA Nursing website on [“Continuing Competency After Certification”](#).

BCCA Education Resource Nurse Contact

Consultations can be completed via email at nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca or telephone at 604-877-6098 (Ext. 672638). All nursing practice-related inquiries are welcome.

Submitted by: Anne Hughes RN BSN MN CON(C)
Professional Practice Leader, Nursing
BC Cancer Agency

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BCCA RADIATION THERAPY EDUCATION SERIES 2013

The BCCA Radiation Therapy and Nursing educators and clinicians are jointly hosting an eight-part education series from February to December 2013. This education series present current information on radiation therapy and care strategies for patients undergoing treatment. As patients on systemic cancer therapy are often also managed by radiation therapy, the following topics are relevant to all health professionals who care for cancer patients.

- Part 1: Radiation Basics (20 Feb 2013)
- Part 2: Head and Neck Cancers (20 Mar 2013)
- Part 3: Genitourinary Cancers (17 Apr 2013)
- Part 4: Brain and Central Nervous System Cancers (15 May 2013)
- Part 5: Breast Cancers (18 Sep 2013)
- Part 6: Lung and Thoracic Cancers (16 Oct 2013)
- Part 7: Gynecological Cancers (20 Nov 2013)
- Part 8: Digestive System Cancers (09 Dec 2013)

All sessions are scheduled from 12:00H to 13:00 H, and will be presented via video-link to all BCCA centres. Health professionals from the Communities Oncology Network must contact the BCCA Multimedia department to arrange for videoconferencing at mmedia@bccancer.bc.ca. Details on the presentation locations will be circulated prior to each session. Video-recordings of the presentations will be made available on the [PHSA Learning Hub](#). For further information regarding this education series, please contact Judi Piper-Wallace, Education Resource Nurse, at judi.piper-wallace@bccancer.bc.ca.

CANCER DRUG MANUAL

REVISED MONOGRAPHS AND PATIENT HANDOUTS

Highlights of key changes and/or updates to the Monographs and Patients Handouts are listed below:

- **DOCetaxel Monograph and Patient Handout:**
 - Monograph – updated *Side Effects* section to include pulmonary reactions and to clarify how the timing of drug infusion relates to hypersensitivity reactions
 - Patient Handout – clarified the “fluid retention” bullet in the *See Your Doctor* section to highlight the urgency of recognizing and managing pulmonary-related side effects
- **Leucovorin Monograph** – corrected a typographical error in the *Dosing* section
- **Oxaliplatin Monograph** – added thromboembolic events to the *Side Effects* table
- **PAClitaxel Monograph and Patient Handout:**
 - Monograph – updated *Side Effects* section to include information on autonomic and motor neuropathy, ocular and ototoxicity, and dose reduction for peripheral sensory neuropathy
 - Patient Handout – added ocular and ototoxicity in the “*Check With Your Doctor*” section after the *Side Effects* table

BENEFIT DRUG LIST

NEW PROGRAMS

The following program has been added to the Benefit Drug List effective 01 April 2013:

Protocol Title	Protocol Code	Benefit Status
Treatment of Locally Advanced Breast Cancer Using DOXOrubicin and Cyclophosphamide Followed by Weekly PACLitaxel	UBRLAACTW	Restricted

REVISED PROGRAMS

The following program change has been made on the Benefit Drug List effective 01 April 2013:

Protocol Title	Protocol Code	New Benefit Status
Treatment of Recurrent or Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck with DOCetaxel	HNAVDOC	Class I

LIST OF NEW AND REVISED PROTOCOLS, PRE-PRINTED ORDERS AND PATIENT HANDOUTS

BC Cancer Agency Protocol Summaries, Provincial Pre-Printed Orders (PPPOs) and Patient Handouts are revised periodically. New, revised or deleted protocols, PPPOs and patient handouts for this month are listed below. Protocol codes for treatments requiring “Compassionate Access Program” (previously Undesignated Indications Request) approval are prefixed with the letter “U”.

NEW Protocols, PPPOs and Patient Handouts (AFFECTED DOCUMENTS ARE CHECKED):

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Protocol Title
UBRLAACTW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Treatment of Locally Advanced Breast Cancer Using DOXOrubicin and Cyclophosphamide Followed by Weekly PACLitaxel
HNAVDOC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Treatment of Recurrent or Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck with DOCETaxel
MODEXA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dexamethasone as Treatment for Cerebral Edema or CNS Swelling (formerly known as SCDEXA)

REVISED PROTOCOLS, PPPOs AND PATIENT HANDOUTS (AFFECTED DOCUMENTS ARE CHECKED):

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Changes	Protocol Title
BRAVTPCARB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Minor typo corrected</i>	Palliative Therapy for Metastatic Breast Cancer using Trastuzumab, PACLitaxel and CARBOplatin as First-Line Treatment for Advanced Breast Cancer
GOCXCRT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Eligibility and Contact Physician updated</i>	Treatment of High Risk Squamous Carcinoma, Adenocarcinoma, or Adenosquamous Carcinoma of the Cervix with Concurrent CISplatin and Radiation
GOOVCATX	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Minor typo corrected</i>	Primary Treatment of Visible Residual (Extreme Risk) Invasive Epithelial Ovarian Cancer in Ambulatory Care Settings Using PACLitaxel and CARBOplatin
GOOVGEM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Eligibility updated</i>	Treatment of Relapsed/ Progressing Epithelial Ovarian, Primary Peritoneal, or Fallopian Tube Carcinoma Using Gemcitabine
GOOVLDOX	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Eligibility updated</i>	Treatment of Relapsed/ Progressing Epithelial Ovarian, Primary Peritoneal, or Fallopian Tube Carcinoma Using DOXOrubicin Liposomal (Pegylated)
GOOVTOP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Eligibility updated</i>	Treatment of Relapsed/ Progressing Epithelial Ovarian, Primary Peritoneal, or Fallopian Tube Carcinoma Using Topotecan

REVISED PROTOCOLS, PPPOs AND PATIENT HANDOUTS (AFFECTED DOCUMENTS ARE CHECKED):

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Changes	Protocol Title
HNAVDOC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Protocol code changed from UHNAVDOC; CAP requirement deleted</i>	Treatment of Recurrent or Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck with DOCEtaxel
SAAJAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Revised dexamethasone dosing regimen under the Premedications section</i>	Adjuvant Therapy for Osteosarcoma Using DOXOrubicin and CISplatin
SAAVAP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Revised dexamethasone dosing regimen under the Premedications section</i>	Therapy of Advanced Osteosarcoma Using DOXOrubicin and CISplatin

DELETED Protocols, PPPOs and Patient Handouts (AFFECTED DOCUMENTS ARE CHECKED):

CODE	Protocol	PPPO	Patient Handout	Protocol Title
SCDEXA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dexamethasone as Treatment for Cerebral Edema or CNS Swelling (Protocol code changed to MODEXA)

WEBSITE RESOURCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

WEBSITE RESOURCES	www.bccancer.bc.ca
Systemic Therapy Update	www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/stupdate
Reimbursement & Forms: Benefit Drug List, Class II, Compassionate Access Program	www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/Forms
Cancer Drug Manual	www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm
Cancer Management Guidelines	www.bccancer.bc.ca/CaMgmtGuidelines
Cancer Chemotherapy Protocols, Pre-printed Orders, Protocol Patient Handouts	www.bccancer.bc.ca/ChemoProtocols
Systemic Therapy Program Policies	www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/ChemotherapyProtocols/Policies
CON Pharmacy Educators	http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/Pharmacy/ContactUs.htm

CONTACT INFORMATION	PHONE	FAX	EMAIL
Systemic Therapy Update Editor	604.877.6000 x 673028		sman3@bccancer.bc.ca
Provincial Systemic Therapy Program	250.712.3900 x 686620		mberk@bccancer.bc.ca
Communities Oncology Network (CON)	250.519.5616		jdenduyf@bccancer.bc.ca
To update the contact information of any CON sites, please contact:			bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca
Oncology Drug Information	604.877.6275		druginfo@bccancer.bc.ca
Education Resource Nurse	604.877.6000 x 672638		nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca
Library/Cancer Information	1.888.675.8003		requests@bccancer.bc.ca
Pharmacy Professional Practice	250. 519.5574		jkippen@bccancer.bc.ca
Nursing Professional Practice	604.877.6000 x 672623		ilundie@bccancer.bc.ca
OSCAR	888.355.0355	604.708.2051	oscar@bccancer.bc.ca
Compassionate Access Program (CAP)	604.877.6277	604.708.2026	cap_bcca@bccancer.bc.ca
Pharmacy Chemotherapy Certification	250.712.3900 x 686741		rxchemocert@bccancer.bc.ca
BCCA-Abbotsford Centre	604.851.4710 Toll Free 877.547.3777		
BCCA-Centre for the North	250.645.7300 Toll Free 888.775.7300		
BCCA-Fraser Valley Centre	604.930.2098 Toll Free 800.523.2885		
BCCA-Sindi Ahluwalia Hawkins Centre for the Southern Interior	250.712.3900 Toll Free 888.563.7773		
BCCA-Vancouver Centre	604.877.6000 Toll Free 800.663.3333		
BCCA-Vancouver Island Centre	250.519.5500 Toll Free 800.670.3322		

EDITORIAL REVIEW BOARD

Sally Man, PharmD (Editor)
 Mário de Lemos, PharmD, MSc (Oncol)
 Johanna Den Duyf, MA
 Caroline Lohrisch, MD

Beth Morrison, MLS
 Lindsay Schwartz, RN, MScA
 Jaya Venkatesh, MHA, CMA
 Susan Walisser, BSc (Pharm)