

# Systemic Therapy Update

Volume 2, Number 6

for health professionals who care for cancer patients

June 1999

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- Continuing Education: Diet and Cancer
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- Hypercalcemia guidelines
- Protocol Update: GIFUL, HNM, OSHDMTX, SCHYPCAL

FAX request form and IN TOUCH phone list are provided if additional information is needed. Please note that the new fax number for requests is 604-877-0585.

# NEW FAX NUMBER FOR "UNDESIGNATED INDICATIONS"

The revised "Individual Use of a Benefit Drug List Medication(s) for an Undesignated Indication" form is provided with this issue. Please note that the fax number for requests is now 604-877-0585.

#### **PROTOCOL UPDATE**

- INDEX to BCCA Protocol Summaries revised monthly (includes tumour group, protocol code, indication, drugs, last revision date and version)
- HNM revised, interim version (treatment clarified) methotrexate for head and neck cancer
- OSHDMTX revised, interim version (eligibility and treatment modified) high dose methotrexate with leucovorin rescue for sarcoma
- SCHYPCAL revised (treatment modified) guidelines for the diagnosis and management of malignancy related hypercalcemia

The following protocol summary is <u>deleted</u> as it is no longer used:

 GIFUL adjuvant therapy for Duke's C colon cancer using fluorouracil and levamisole

#### HYPERCALCEMIA GUIDELINES REVISED

Both a narrative document and a quick reference chart are provided for the revised guidelines for the diagnosis and management of malignancy related hypercalcemia (see protocol summary SCHYPCAL). Revisions include:

- IV clodronate 1500 mg is recommended for symptomatic hypercalcemia <3.5 mmol/L
- IV pamidronate 90 mg is reserved for hypercalcemia ≥ 3.5 mmol/L, or <3.5 mmol/L if unresponsive to clodronate
- Phosphates Solution® (Pharmascience) 0.5-3 grams phosphorus (4-24 mL) per day as tolerated is recommended if serum phosphate is low normal or below normal

Drugs used for the treatment of hypercalcemia are NOT covered on the BC Cancer Agency Benefit Drug List.

#### **EMERGENCY AID PROGRAM**

As of June 14, 1999, emergency aid will be available for cancer patients with very low incomes who require financial assistance to purchase selected supportive care drugs. Please refer these patients to your local Canadian Cancer Society office for assessment.

#### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

#### Diet and Cancer: Looking Beyond 2000

Monday, 14 June 1999

Westin Bayshore, Vancouver

This one day conference organized by the Dietitians of Canada Oncology Network will be of interest to the cancer care team. Topics include nutritional management of the cancer patient, calcium and colon cancer, phytochemicals and functional foods, phytoestrogens and breast cancer. For more information please contact:

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#### **Editorial Review Board**

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(CCSI)	(250) 712-3900	Toll-Free 1-(886)-303-7773
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### **RADIATION CANCER CENTRE ACCESS**

BULLETIN UPDATES	LOCATION
Protocol Summaries	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol
HNM	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\headneck\HNM.doc
OSHDMTX	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\sarcoma\oshdmtx.doc
SCHYPCAL (Word document and	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\supportive
Excel chart)	care\SCHYPCAL.doc and SCHYPCAL.xls
Index of Protocol Summaries	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\Index\Index_NT or
	Index_W6
Reimbursement	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Reimburs
Benefit Drug List	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Reimburs\Benefit.doc
Class 2 Form	H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Reimburs\Class2.doc

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

We appreciate your comments. Write us at <a href="mailto:bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca">bulletin@bccancer.bc.ca</a>

# **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

#### PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE COPIES FOR YOUR COLLEAGUES

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Fax	( ) Attn:	

## **UPDATES** Please ☑ Fax-Back information below:

All items		
Protocol Summaries:		
	BRAVCLOD	
	HNM	
	OSHDMTX	
	SCHYPCAL (Word document and Excel chart)	
	Index: Protocol Summaries (01 Jun 99)	
Reimbursement		
	Benefit Drug List (01 Jun 99)	
	Class 2 Form (01 Jun 99)	