

# Systemic Therapy Update

Volume 5, Number 9

for health professionals who care for cancer patients Available on website www.bccancer.bc.ca September 2002

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

#### **BENEFIT DRUG LIST**

The current Benefit Drug List, Class II forms Undesignated Indication application forms are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (<a href="www.bccancer.bc.ca">www.bccancer.bc.ca</a>) under Health Professionals Info, Chemotherapy Protocols, Frequently Used Forms.

#### **DRUG UPDATE**

Change in Vincristine Preparation for IV Push Use The Provincial Pharmacy Professional Practice Council together with the Nursing Practice Committee have agreed to a change in the administration guidelines for vincristine for IV push

use at the BCCA. As of 1 September 2002, all IV push doses of vincristine will be diluted to 20 mL with normal saline in a 30 mL syringe. This change is to maximize the safety of administration of the drug by reducing the risk of accidental intrathecal administration of vincristine, which can be fatal. Note that the stability of the Faulding brand of vincristine once diluted is 6 hours at room temperature and 24 hours if refrigerated.<sup>1</sup>

#### Reference

1. Package Insert – Faulding (Canada) Inc. (Code/Form # 485166)

#### **PROTOCOL UPDATE**

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.

- CNCCV revised (vincristine dosing schedule, vincristine administration): Adjuvant Lomustine, Cisplatin and Vincristine in Adult High-Risk Medulloblastoma or other Primitive Neuro-Ectodermal Tumour (PNET)
- CNMODPCV revised (vincristine administration): Modified PCV Chemotherapy Of Brain Tumours Using Procarbazine, Lomustine (CCNU) and Vincristine
- UGUAJPG revised (administration sequence of gemcitabine and cisplatin): Adjuvant Therapy for Urothelial Carcinoma Using Cisplatin and Gemcitabine
- GUAVPG revised (administration sequence of gemcitabine and cisplatin, dose modifications for renal dysfunction): Palliative Therapy for Urothelial Carcinoma Using Cisplatin and Gemcitabine
- GUBCV revised (serum creatinine schedule):
   Therapy for transitional cell cancers using Carboplatin-Vinblastine
- GUPMX revised (PSA test scheduling):
   Palliative Therapy for Hormone Refractory

- Prostate Cancer Using Mitoxantrone and Prednisone
- **GUSCPE** new: Therapy of Genitourinary Small Cell Tumors with a Platin and Etoposide
- GUSCCAVE deleted: Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy for localized small cell carcinoma urinary site using Cisplatin, Doxorubicin, Vincristine, Etoposide
- HNCARFU deleted: In-house phase II pilot study for selected carcinomas of the upper aerodigestive tract using Carboplatin with 24-hr Fluorouracil infusion
- KSVB revised (vincristine administration):
   Palliative Therapy for Kaposi's Sarcoma Using Vinblastine Alternating with Vincristine
- LUALTL revised (vincristine administration):
   Treatment of Limited Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC) alternating Cyclophosphamide,
   Doxorubicin and Vincristine (CAV) with Etoposide and Cisplatin (EP) plus Early Thoracic Irradiation
- <u>LUCAV</u> revised (vincristine administration): Extensive Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCSC) With Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin And Vincristine (CAV)
- ULUCISDOC new: First-Line Treatment for Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) with Docetaxel (Taxotere<sup>®</sup>) and Cisplatin
- LUPAVESE revised (vincristine administration): Treatment For Extensive Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC) With Cisplatin, Doxorubicin, Vincristine And Etoposide (PAVE)
- LUPAVESL revised (vincristine administration): Treatment For Limited Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC) With Cisplatin, Doxorubicin, Vincristine And Etoposide (PAVE), And Cisplatin And Etoposide (EP) Concurrent With Early Thoracic Irradiation
- <u>ULUPG</u> revised (dose modifications for renal function): Treatment of Malignant Mesothelioma with Cisplatin and Gemcitabine
- LYCHOP revised (vincristine administration):
   Treatment of Lymphoma with Doxorubicin,
   Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine and Prednisone
   (CHOP)
- LYCHOP-R revised (vincristine administration): Treatment of Lymphoma with Doxorubicin, Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine,

- Prednisone and Rituximab (CHOP-R)
- LYCCOP new (replacing LYCOPP):
   Treatment of Hodgkin's Lymphoma using
   Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine and Prednisone
- LYCOPP deleted (replaced by LYCCOP):
   Treatment of Hodgkin's Disease using Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Procarbazine and Prednisone
- LYCSPA revised (interactions with red wine added to Precautions): Cyclosporine for Cytopenias Associated with Lymphoproliferative Disorder of Large Granular Lymphocytes
- LYCVP revised (vincristine administration): Advanced Indolent Lymphoma using Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Prednisone (CVP)
- LYODBEP revised (vincristine administration): Treatment of Hodgkin's Disease with Vincristine, Doxorubicin, Bleomycin, Etoposide and Prednisone
- SAVAC revised (vincristine administration): Adjuvant Therapy for Patients with Newly Diagnosed Ewing's Sarcoma/Peripheral Neuroectodermal Tumour (PNET) or Rhabdomyosarcoma using Vincristine, Doxorubicin (Adriamycin®) and Cyclophosphamide
- SAVACM revised (vincristine administration):
   Vincristine, Adriamycin and
   Cyclophosphamide Combination for Patients
   with Newly Diagnosed Ewing's
   Sarcoma/Peripheral Neuroectodermal Tumour
   and Rhabdomyosarcoma with Pelvic Primaries
   or Chemotherapy Induced Hematuria

#### **CANCER MANAGEMENT MANUAL**

The Cancer Management Manual is available are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (<a href="www.bccancer.bc.ca">www.bccancer.bc.ca</a>) 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.

- BRAVTRAP revised (order of Trastuzumab/Paclitaxel for cycle one): Palliative therapy for metastatic breast cancer using trastuzumab (Herceptin®) and paclitaxel (Taxol®) as First-Line Treatment for Recurrent Breast Cancer Refractory to Anthracycline Adjuvant Chemotherapy
- CNCCV revised (vincristine preparation): Adjuvant Lomustine, Cisplatin and Vincristine in Adult High-Risk Medulloblastoma or other Primitive Neuro-Ectodermal Tumour (PNET)
- CNMODPCV new: Modified PCV
   Chemotherapy Of Brain Tumours Using
   Procarbazine, Lomustine (CCNU) and Vincristine
- CNTEMOZ revised (indications): Second Line Therapy for Recurrent Malignant Gliomas using Temozolomide
- GIFUINF revised (appointment): Palliative therapy for metastatic colorectal adenocarcinoma using Fluorouracil infusional chemotherapy
- GIIRFUFA revised (appointment): First-Line Palliative Combination Chemotherapy for Metastatic Colorectal Cancer using Irinotecan, Fluorouracil and Folinic Acid (Leucovorin)
- **GUAVPG** new: Palliative therapy for urothelial carcinoma using cisplatin and gemcitabine
- GUPMX revised (labs): Palliative therapy for hormone-refractory prostate cancer using Mitoxantrone and Prednisone
- GUVEIP revised (vinblastine administration route clarified): Nonseminoma consolidation/salvage protocol for germ cell cancer
- HNCMT revised (appointment time): Combined Chemotherapy (Carboplatin and Fluorouracil) and Radiation Treatment for Locally Advanced Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck
- **KSVB** revised (vincristine preparation): Palliative Therapy for Kaposi's Sarcoma Using Vinblastine Alternating with Vincristine
- LUALTL revised (vincristine preparation):
   Treatment of Limited Stage Small Cell Lung
   Cancer (SCLC) alternating Cyclophosphamide,
   Doxorubicin and Vincristine (CAV) with
   Etoposide and Cisplatin (EP) plus Early
   Thoracic Irradiation
- **LUCAV** revised (vincristine preparation): Extensive Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCSC)

- With Cyclophosphamide, Doxorubicin And Vincristine (CAV)
- LUDOC revised (Indications and wording of dexamethasone pre-medication): Second-Line Treatment for Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) with Docetaxel (Taxotere®)
- LUPAVESE revised (vincristine preparation): Treatment For Extensive Stage Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC) With Cisplatin, Doxorubicin, Vincristine And Etoposide (PAVE)
- LUPAVESL revised (vincristine preparation):
  Treatment For Limited Stage Small Cell Lung
  Cancer (SCLC) With Cisplatin, Doxorubicin,
  Vincristine And Etoposide (PAVE), And
  Cisplatin And Etoposide (EP) Concurrent With
  Early Thoracic Irradiation
- **LUPE** revised (carboplatin added as alternative to cisplatin): Palliative therapy of selected solid tumours using cisplatin and etoposide (interim version)
- LYCHOP revised (vincristine preparation):
   Treatment of Lymphoma with Doxorubicin,
   Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine and Prednisone
   (CHOP)
- LYCHOP-R revised (vincristine preparation):
   Treatment of Lymphoma with Doxorubicin,
   Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Prednisone and
   Rituximab (CHOP-R)
- LYCVP revised (vincristine preparation): Advanced Indolent Lymphoma using Cyclophosphamide, Vincristine, Prednisone (CVP)
- LYODBEP revised (vincristine preparation):
   Treatment of Hodgkin's Disease with Vincristine, Doxorubicin, Bleomycin, Etoposide and Prednisone
- MYHDC revised (ciprofloxacin treatment): Single dose cyclophosphamide priming therapy for multiple myeloma prior to autologous stem cell transplant
- **SAVAC** revised (vincristine preparation): Adjuvant Therapy for Patients with Newly Diagnosed Ewing's Sarcoma/Peripheral Tumour Neuroectodermal (PNET) Rhabdomyosarcoma Vincristine, using Doxorubicin (Adriamycin®) and Cyclophosphamide
- SAVACM revised (vincristine preparation):
   Vincristine, Adriamycin and
   Cyclophosphamide Combination for Patients
   with Newly Diagnosed Ewing's

Sarcoma/Peripheral Neuroectodermal Tumour and Rhabdomyosarcoma with Pelvic Primaries or Chemotherapy Induced Hematuria

#### **PATIENT EDUCATION UPDATE**

**Chlorambucil** patient information handout has been updated with respect to tablet color and storage directions.

Patient information handouts for cancer drugs are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (<a href="www.bccancer.bc.ca">www.bccancer.bc.ca</a>) under Health Professionals Info, Drug Database.

#### **CANCER DRUG MANUAL**

**Chlorambucil** monograph for healthcare professionals has been updated with respect to tablet color and storage directions.

The Cancer Drug Manual is available on the BC Cancer Agency website <a href="https://www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm/">www.bccancer.bc.ca/cdm/</a>.

#### **NURSING PRACTICE TIPS**

Oral Mucositis is a common and dose-limiting side effect of chemotherapy. It affects not only the mouth but can also cause changes in the throat and the esophagus. Some studies have shown that patients consider this effect of chemotherapy as the most debilitating. It occurs as a result of the cytotoxic effects of chemotherapy on the oral mucosa. Epithelial cells are destroyed by the direct effect of the drugs and indirectly by bone marrow suppression. An inflammatory response occurs, ultimately leading to denuded areas of the mucosa. Patients become susceptible to potentially lifethreatening infections. Risk of mucositis increases with concurrent radiation to the head and neck, poor oral hygiene, history of alcohol or tobacco use, poor nutritional status, and with age. Both elderly people and those under 20 years of age are considered to be at risk.

Presenting symptoms include but are not limited to:

- burning sensation, sensitivity to heat and cold, and sensitivity to salty and spicy foods and drinks
- changes in taste and ability to swallow
- pain upon swallowing or talking
- edema of oral mucosa and tongue
- mucosal ulcerations

Some patients will not complain of changes in their mouth, but might note soreness of the throat.

It is important to teach patients to report any changes such as those listed to their caregivers. Nurses should assess patients for these symptoms prior to administration of chemotherapy. If the patient reports any symptoms of mucositis, the Oncologist should be notified immediately. Our chemotherapy protocols provide direction for the action to be taken as a result. The dose of chemotherapy may be reduced, delayed, or omitted depending on the protocol.

As we continue to develop our understanding of the significance of the problem of mucositis, adjustments to involved chemotherapy protocols will be made. Stay tuned for future ST Updates for further information. In addition, do not hesitate to contact our Education Resource Nurse phone line (1-800-663-3333, local 2638) or our e-mail address <a href="mailto:nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca">nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca</a> with questions or concerns related to the nursing care of these patients.

#### Reference

- 1. Borbasi, S et al (August 2002,) More Than a Sore Mouth: Patients' Experience of Oral Mucositis, Oncology Nursing Forum, Vol. 29/Number 7.
- 2. Fishman and Mrozek-Orlowski(1999) Mucositis. <u>Cancer Chemotherapy Guidelines</u> and <u>Recommendations for Practice</u>, Second Edition, p 66-69

Brenda Ross Education Resource Nurse Vancouver Centre B.C. Cancer Agency

### PROVINCIAL SYSTEMIC THERAPY PROGRAM POLICIES

BC Cancer Agency Systemic Therapy Policies are available on the BC Cancer Agency website (<a href="www.bccancer.bc.ca">www.bccancer.bc.ca</a>) under Health Professionals Info, Chemotherapy Protocols, Policies and Procedures.

#### 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.

#### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Presentation on Symptom Management Karima Velji, an advanced practice nurse with an extensive background in cancer nursing practice, education, and research, will present "Implementing Research in Practice: Symptom Management" on Wednesday evening, 27 November, 2002. Please join us at one of the four regional cancer centres for a light dinner at 6 pm, followed by the video-linked presentation at 7 pm.

For more details, please call: Vancouver Island Centre - Jodi Graham (250) 519-5573; Centre for the Southern Interior - Dixie Rosher (250) 712-3975; Vancouver and Fraser Valley Centres - Isabel Lundie (604) 877-6098, local 2623.

BC Cancer Agency Annual Cancer Conference will be held on 28, 29 and 30 of November at the Renaissance Harbourside Hotel in Vancouver. The Thursday of 28 November will be the *Partners in Cancer Care* meeting (by invitation only), focusing on issues that relate to the Agency, with representations from physicians, nurses, nutritionists, pharmacists and social workers of the community cancer centres and cancer services.

The mornings of Friday and Saturday will be the *Annual Oncologist / Scientist Cancer Conference*. This is open to any healthcare professionals and is an academic evidence-based exploration of new scientific insights that hold potential to advance

cancer care. In addition to the "hot topics", this year's theme will be "The Immune System and Cancer". This part of the conference is open to all professionals caring for cancer patients and is especially relevant to oncologists and cancer research scientists.

The *Annual Provincial Oncology Professionals* education and business meetings for cancer surgery, radiation therapy and pharmacy will be held on Saturday, 30 November, while other disciplines will hold theirs on Friday, 29 November. This part of the conference is also by invitation from the provincial oncology leader.

For more details, please call (604) 877-6098 local 2744.

Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology (CANO) Annual Conference will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba on 22-25 September 2002. The theme for this year will be "The Spirit of Caring: At the Crossroads of Oncology Nursing". For more details, please contact tel: (613) 270-0711, fax: (613) 599-7027, e-mail: <a href="mailto:canoacio@igs.net">canoacio@igs.net</a>, or Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology, 232-329 March Road, Box 11, Kanata, Ontario, K2K 2E1.

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Fraser Valley Centre (FVCC)	(604)-930-2098	Toll-Free 1-(800)-523-2885
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				
					<u>Chlorambucil</u>	
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Index of Pre-Print	ted Orders				<u>Index.doc</u>	
<u>BRAVTRAP</u>	<u>GIFUINF</u>	<u>GUVEIP</u>	LUCAV	LUPE	LYODBEP	
CNCCV	<u>GIIRFUFA</u>	HNCMT	LUDOC	LYCHOP	MYHDC	
CNMODPCV	GUAVPG	KSVB	LUPAVESE	LYCHOP-R	SAVAC	
CNTEMOZ	GUPMX	LUALTL	LUPAVESL	LYCVP	SAVACM	
Protocol Summaries		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Protocol\"tumour site"				
Index of Protocol	Summaries	Index_NT or Index_W6				
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<u>CNMODPCV</u>	GUSCPE	LUCAV	ULUPG	LYCOPP	SAVAC	
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GUAVPG	HNCARFU	LUPAVESE	LYCHOP-R	LYCVP		
GUBCV	KSVB					
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					<u>Chlorambucil</u>	
Reimbursement		H:\everyone\systemic\chemo\Reimburs				
Benefit Drug List (1 Aug 2002)		BenefitList.doc				
Class 2 Form (1 Aug 2002)		<u>Class2.doc</u>				
Filgrastim Usage Form (Sep 2002)		GCSF_form.doc				
Undesignated Indica	tion Form (Aug	<u>Undesig.doc</u>				
2002)						

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>

#### 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

I WOULD PREFER TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION VIA:

☐ E-mail (Word	6.0)	@							
☐ Fax ( )			Attn:						
UPDATES Please ☑ Fax-Back information below:									
All items									
Cancer Drug Manual Monographs (also available on our website www.bccancer.bc.ca)									
Chlorambucil									
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Chlorambucil									
Pre-printed Orders:									
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CNMODPCV	GUAVF		KSVB	LUPAVESE	LYCHOP-R	SAVAC			
CNTEMOZ			LUALTL	LUPAVESL	LYCVP	SAVACM			
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CNCCV	☐GUB		LUALTL	LUPAVESL	LYCCOP	SAVAC			
CNMODPCV	GUP		LUCAV	ULUPG	LYCSPA	□SAVACM			
□UGUAJPG		CPE	ULUCISDOC	LYCHOP	LYCVP				
☐GUAVPG	□KSV		LUPAVESE	☐LYCHOP-R	LYODBEP				
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