

BC Cancer Protocol Summary for Alternative Treatment of Gynecological Malignancies using Bevacizumab, CARBOplatin and PACLitaxel NAB

Protocol Code

GOCABRBEV

Tumour Group

Gynecologic Oncology

Contact Physician

GO Systemic Therapy

ELIGIBILITY:

Patients must have:

- Previous severe hypersensitivity reaction or anaphylaxis to PACLitaxel that is not manageable despite use of premedications, or
- Previous moderate PACLitaxel hypersensitivity reaction that cannot be managed by premedications due to a strong contraindication to high dose steroids, such as poorly controlled diabetes, and
- Been treated with and eligible for the following protocols:
 - GOOVCATB, GOCXCATB, UGOCXCATBP

EXCLUSIONS:

Patients must not have:

- Platinum resistant/refractory disease
- Disease progression on prior taxane therapy
- Severe hepatic dysfunction contraindicating PACLitaxel NAB
- Received prior bevacizumab
- Major surgery within 4 weeks
- Uncontrolled hypertension
- Bleeding diathesis
- History of bowel obstruction or unresolved bowel obstruction (*see Precautions, below*)

CAUTION:

- Greater than or equal to [Grade 2](#) sensory or motor neuropathy

TESTS:

- **Baseline:** CBC & Diff, creatinine, total bilirubin, ALT, alkaline phosphatase, dipstick or laboratory urinalysis for protein, blood pressure (BP) measurement
- **Baseline, if clinically indicated:** sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, CA 125, CA19-9, CA 15-3, CEA, SCC
- If clinically indicated, for nadir monitoring, Day 14: CBC & Diff
- **Before each treatment:** CBC & Diff, creatinine, total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, ALT, dipstick or laboratory urinalysis for protein, blood pressure measurement, any initially elevated tumour marker
- **If clinically indicated:** sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, CA 125, CA19-9, CA 15-3, CEA, SCC
- 24-hour urine for protein if occurrence of proteinuria (dipstick urinalysis shows 2+ or 3+ or laboratory urinalysis for protein is greater than or equal to 1 g/L)

- Blood pressure measurement to be taken pre- and post-bevacizumab in first three cycles, and then pre-dose only subsequently

PREMEDICATIONS:

- Antiemetic protocol for highly emetogenic chemotherapy (see protocol [SCNAUSEA](#))

TREATMENT:

Induction:

- Bevacizumab begins Cycle 2 of platinum therapy for ovarian cancer.

Drug	Dose	BC Cancer Administration Guideline
PACLitaxel NAB	260 mg/m ^{2*}	IV over 30 minutes**
CARBOplatin	Dose = AUC*** x (GFR +25)	IV in 100 to 250 mL NS over 30 minutes
bevacizumab	For ovarian cancer: 7.5 mg/kg † OR for cervical cancer: 15 mg/kg †	IV in 100 mL NS over 15 minutes † IV in 100 to 250 mL NS over 30 minutes †

Repeat every 21 days to complete total number of cycles in original bevacizumab, CARBOplatin and PACLitaxel protocol. For maintenance bevacizumab in ovarian cancer, continue treatment using GOOVCATB.

* select dose per Dose Banding Table (appendix)

** in empty sterile bags and tubing with 15 micron filter; no specific material required for bag or tubing

***use AUC of 6; if prior pelvic radiation therapy, use AUC of 5

† bevacizumab dose does not need to be recalculated after Cycle 1 even if weight changes. Select dose per Dose Banding Table (appendix).

‡ Observe for fever, chills, rash, pruritus, urticaria, or angioedema and stop infusion and contact the physician if any of these occur. Infusion reactions should be treated according to severity. If the bevacizumab infusion is restarted, then it should be given at an initial rate to complete after 60 minutes or longer.

If acute hypertension (increase in BP measurement of greater than 20 mmHg diastolic or greater than 150/100 if previously within normal limits) occurs during bevacizumab infusion – stop treatment. Resume at half the original rate of infusion if blood pressure has returned to pretreatment range within one hour. If blood pressure does not return to pretreatment range within one hour – hold bevacizumab; subsequent infusions of bevacizumab should be given over 3 hours. Acute hypertension that is symptomatic (e.g., onset of headaches or change in level of consciousness) or BP measurement of greater than 180/110 that does not improve within one hour of stopping bevacizumab is an urgent situation that requires treatment.

Measured GFR (e.g. nuclear renogram) is preferred in circumstances of co-morbidity that could affect renal function (third-space fluid accumulations, hypoproteinemia, potentially inadequate fluid intake, age greater than 70, etc.). The lab reported GFR (MDRD formula) may be used as an alternative to the Cockcroft-Gault estimate of GFR; the estimated GFR reported by the lab or calculated using the Cockcroft-Gault equation should be capped at 125 mL/min when it is used to calculate the initial carboplatin dose. When a nuclear renogram is available, this clearance would take precedence.

Cockcroft-Gault Formula

$$\text{GFR} = \frac{1.04 \times (140 - \text{age in years}) \times \text{wt (kg)}}{\text{serum creatinine (micromol/L)}}$$

Recalculate GFR if creatinine increases by greater than 20% or rises above the upper limit of normal.

DOSE MODIFICATIONS:

1. Hematological: PACLitaxel NAB and CARBOplatin

a) on treatment day:

ANC (x 10 ⁹ /L)		Platelets (x 10 ⁹ /L)	Doses (both drugs)
Greater than or equal to 1.5	and	Greater than or equal to 100	Proceed with same dose unless nadir labs completed. If nadir labs completed, treat according to nadir values.
Less than 1.5	or	Less than 100	Delay until recovery. If 2 nd delay, use filgrastim (G-CSF) or dose reduction.

b) at nadir:

ANC (x 10 ⁹ /L)		Platelets (x 10 ⁹ /L)	PACLitaxel NAB*	CARBOplatin*
Greater than or equal to 0.5	and	Greater than or equal to 75	100%	100%
Less than 0.5	and	Less than 75	80%	80%
Less than 0.5	and	Greater than or equal to 75	80%	100%
Greater than or equal to 0.5	and	Less than 75	100%	80%
Febrile neutropenia at any time			80%	80%

* % of previous cycle's dose, at physician's discretion. If dose is changed, subsequent nadir counts must be checked.

Note: If dose has been reduced, dose increase/re-escalation for good nadir counts is not recommended.

2. Proteinuria:

There are 3 different measures of proteinuria that may be used to assess the need for modification of bevacizumab therapy – urine dipstick analysis (measured in + values), laboratory urinalysis for protein (measured in g/L) and 24-hour urine collections for protein (measured in g/24 hours)

Urine dipstick analysis or laboratory urinalysis for protein should be performed at baseline and then prior to each cycle:

Degree of Proteinuria	
Neg or 1+ dipstick or less than 1 g/L laboratory urinalysis for protein	Administer Bevacizumab dose as scheduled
2+ or 3+ dipstick or greater than or equal to 1 g/L laboratory urinalysis for protein	Administer Bevacizumab dose as scheduled. Collect 24-hour urine for determination of total protein within 3 days before the next scheduled bevacizumab administration. Adjust Bevacizumab treatment based on the table below.
If urine dipstick shows 4+ at baseline or during treatment	Withhold Bevacizumab and proceed with 24-hour urine collection

24-Hour Urine Total Protein (g/24 hours)	Bevacizumab Dose
Less than or equal to 2	100%
Greater than 2 to 4	Hold dose and recheck 24-hour urine every 2 weeks. When less than or equal to 2 g/24 hour, resume therapy at standard dosing
Greater than 4	Withhold/Discontinue bevacizumab

3. Hypertension:

Blood Pressure (mmHg)	Bevacizumab Dose
less than or equal to 150/100	100%
greater than 150/100 asymptomatic	100% Notify physician and start or adjust antihypertensive therapy*
hypertensive crisis	discontinue therapy

- Antihypertensive therapy may include hydroCHLOROthiazide 12.5 to 25 mg PO once daily, ramipril (ALTACE) 2.5 to 5 mg PO once daily, or amlodipine (NORVASC) 5 to 10 mg PO once daily.

***Any patients presenting with chest pain, significant leg swelling, shortness of breath, new severe headaches or new neurologic symptoms, must be re-assessed by a physician before receiving further bevacizumab infusions.**

4. Sensory Neuropathy: PACLitaxel NAB

Grade	Toxicity	Dose – 1 st Occurrence	Dose – 2 nd Occurrence
1	Asymptomatic; loss of deep tendon reflexes or paresthesia (including tingling) but not interfering with function	Maintain dose	Maintain dose
2	Sensory alteration or paresthesia (including tingling) but not interfering with function, but not interfering with ADL	Maintain dose	Maintain dose
3	Sensory alteration or paresthesia interfering with ADL	Hold treatment until resolved to grade 2, then reduce dose to 85%**	Hold treatment until resolved to grade 2, then reduce dose to 70%**
4	Disabling	Hold treatment until resolved to grade 2, then reduce dose to 85%**	Hold treatment until resolved to grade 2, then reduce dose to 70%** or discontinue further therapy

** Dose reductions should be maintained for subsequent cycles and not re-escalated.

5. Hepatic dysfunction: PACLitaxel NAB

ALT or AST		Total bilirubin	PACLitaxel NAB
Less than or equal to 10 x ULN	and	Greater than 1 to less than or equal to 1.5 x ULN	100%
Less than or equal to 10 x ULN	and/or	Greater than 1.5 to less than or equal to 5 x ULN	80%*
Greater than 10 x ULN	or	Greater than 5 x ULN	Hold

*may re-escalate dose if hepatic function normalizes and reduced dose is tolerated for at least 2 cycles
ULN = upper limit of normal

6. Arthralgia and/or myalgia: If arthralgia and/or myalgia of Grade 2 (moderate) or higher is not relieved by adequate doses of NSAIDs or acetaminophen with codeine (e.g., TYLENOL #3), a limited number of studies report a possible therapeutic benefit using:

- prednisONE 10 mg PO BID for 5 days starting 24 hours post-PACLitaxel NAB
- gabapentin 300 mg PO on day before chemotherapy, 300 mg BID on treatment day, then 300 mg TID for 5 to 15 days (based on duration of arthromyalgia)

If arthralgia and/or myalgia persist, reduce subsequent PACLitaxel NAB doses to 85%

7. Renal dysfunction: If significant increase (greater than 20% or rises above the upper limit of normal) in creatinine, recheck/recalculate GFR and recalculate CARBOplatin dose using new GFR. No modification is required for PACLitaxel NAB in mild to moderate renal impairment PACLitaxel NAB has not been studied in patients with creatinine clearance less than 30 mL/min.

PRECAUTIONS:

1. An albumin form of PACLitaxel may substantially affect a drug's functional properties relative to those of drug in solution. **Do not** substitute with or for other PACLitaxel formulations.
2. **Bowel-related toxicities:** Use of bevacizumab carries a risk of bowel perforation and other serious bowel problems. In the AURELIA study, the bowel-related exclusion criteria were: history of bowel obstruction (including subocclusive disease) related to underlying disease, a history of abdominal fistula, GI perforation or intra-abdominal abscess, evidence of rectosigmoid involvement by pelvic examination, bowel involvement on CT imaging, or clinical symptoms of bowel obstruction.
3. **Neutropenia:** Fever or other evidence of infection must be assessed promptly and treated aggressively. Refer to BC Cancer Febrile Neutropenia Guidelines.
4. **Extravasation:** PACLitaxel NAB causes pain and may, rarely, cause tissue necrosis if extravasated. Refer to BC Cancer Extravasation Guidelines.
5. **Hypersensitivity:** Reactions to CARBOplatin may occur. Refer to BC Cancer Hypersensitivity Guidelines.
6. **Gastrointestinal perforations and wound dehiscence:** Can be fatal. Typical presentation is reported as abdominal pain. Bevacizumab should be discontinued in patients with gastrointestinal perforation or wound dehiscence.
7. **Hemorrhage:** Bevacizumab has been associated with hemorrhage. Cases of CNS hemorrhage, some with fatal outcome, have been observed. Patients should be monitored for signs and symptoms of CNS bleeding. If Grade 3/4 hemorrhage occurs, discontinue bevacizumab. Patients with significant bleeding diatheses should not receive bevacizumab. Platelet inhibitory medications such as NSAIDS (including ASA at doses greater than 325 mg/day) should be discontinued prior to institution of bevacizumab. COX-2 inhibitors are permissible.
8. **Thrombosis:** A history of arterial thromboembolic events or age greater than 65 years is associated with an increased risk of arterial thromboembolic events with bevacizumab. If Grade 3 thromboembolic event or incidentally discovered pulmonary embolus arises, hold bevacizumab for 2 weeks, then consider resumption of bevacizumab if risks of tumour-related hemorrhage are judged low AND the patient is on a stable dose of anticoagulant. If a second Grade 3 thrombosis occurs, or if a Grade 4 thrombosis occurs, discontinue bevacizumab. Patients on warfarin should have INR checked frequently, at least once every 2-3 weeks, while receiving bevacizumab.
9. **Proteinuria:** Has been seen in all clinical trials with bevacizumab to date and is likely dose-dependent. If proteinuria of greater than or equal to 2 g/24 h persists for more than 3 months, consider further investigations - possibly a renal biopsy.
10. **Hypertension:** Has been seen in all clinical trials with bevacizumab to date and is likely dose-dependent. The most commonly used therapies are calcium channel blockers, ACE inhibitors and diuretics. Blood pressure should be monitored through routine vital signs evaluations. If hypertension is poorly controlled with adequate medication, discontinue bevacizumab.
11. **Reversible Posterior Leukoencephalopathy Syndrome (RPLS):** Rarely, patients may develop seizures, headache, altered mental status, visual disturbances, with or without associated hypertension consistent with RPLS. May be reversible if recognized and treated promptly.
12. **Drug interactions:** PACLitaxel NAB is metabolized by CYP2C8 and CYP3A4; caution should be exercised when administering with drugs which are CYP2C8 or CYP3A4 inducers or inhibitors.

13. **Congestive Heart Failure:** Has been reported in up to 3.5% of patients treated with bevacizumab. Most patients showed improvement in symptoms and/or LVEF following appropriate medical therapy.
14. **Cardiac toxicity** has been reported rarely while patients receive PACLitaxel NAB. Severe cardiovascular events (3%), including chest pain, cardiac arrest, supraventricular tachycardia, edema, thrombosis, pulmonary thromboembolism, pulmonary emboli, and hypertension.
15. **Theoretical risk of viral disease transmission,** due to human albumin component, is extremely remote.

Contact the GO Systemic Therapy physician at your regional cancer centre or the GO Systemic Therapy Chair with any problems or questions regarding this treatment program.

References:

1. Alberts DS, Blessing JA, Landrum LM, et al. Phase II trial of nab-paclitaxel in the treatment of recurrent or persistent advanced cervix cancer: a gynecologic oncology group study. *Gynecol Oncol.* 2012 Dec;127(3): 451-5.
2. Srinivasan KN, Rauthan A, Gopal R. Combination therapy of albumin-bound paclitaxel and carboplatin as first line therapy in a patient with ovarian cancer. *Case Rep Oncol Med [Internet].* 2014 [cited 23 Jul 2020]. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1155/2014/940591>
3. Parisi A, Palluzzi E, Cortellini A, et al. First-line carboplatin/nab-paclitaxel in advanced ovarian cancer patients, after hypersensitivity reaction to solvent-based taxanes: a single-institution experience. *Clin Transl Oncol.* 2020;22:158-62.
4. Maurer K, Michener C, Mahdi H, Rose PG. Universal tolerance of nab-paclitaxel for gynecologic malignancies in patients with prior taxane hypersensitivity reactions. *J Gynecol Oncol.* 2017 Jul;28(4):e38
5. Pellegrino B, Boggiani D, Tommasi C, et al. Nab-paclitaxel after docetaxel hypersensitivity reaction: case report and literature review. *Acta Biomed.* 2017;88(3):329-33.
6. Dizon DS, Schwartz J, Rojan A, et al. Cross-sensitivity between paclitaxel and docetaxel in a women's cancers program. *Gynecol Oncol.* 2006;100:149-51.
7. Sanchez-Munoz A, Jimenez B, Garcia-Tapiador A. Cross-sensitivity between taxanes in patients with breast cancer. *Clin Transl Oncol.* 2011;13:904-6.
8. Celgene Inc. ABRAXANE® product monograph. Mississauga, Ontario; 31 August 2018

Appendix. Dose Bands

PACLitaxel NAB DOSE BANDING TABLE

Ordered Dose (mg)		Rounded dose (mg)
From:	To:	
Less than 96		Pharmacy prepares specific dose
96	104.49	100
104.5	108.49	105
108.5	115.49	110
115.5	125.49	120
125.5	135.49	130
135.5	145.49	140
145.5	155.49	150
155.5	165.49	160
165.5	177.49	170
177.5	190.49	185
190.5	210.49	200
210.5	230.49	220
230.5	250.49	240
250.5	270.49	260
270.5	286.49	275
286.5	314.49	300
314.5	329.49	315
329.5	344.49	330
344.5	362.49	345
362.5	388.49	370
388.5	419.49	400
419.5	439.49	420
439.5	459.49	440
459.5	479.49	460
479.5	499.49	480
499.5	524.49	500
524.5	566.49	540
566.5	596.49	580
596.5	630.49	600
630.5	683.49	650
More than 683.49		Pharmacy prepares specific dose

BEVACIZUMAB DOSE BANDING TABLE

Ordered Dose (mg)		Rounded dose (mg)
From:	To:	
Less than 188		Pharmacy prepares specific dose
188	221.49	200
221.5	236.49	225
236.5	260.49	250
260.5	286.49	275
286.5	332.49	300
332.5	387.49	350
387.5	443.49	400
443.5	474.49	450
474.5	554.49	500
554.5	665.49	600
665.5	776.49	700
776.5	887.49	800
887.5	999.49	900
999.5	1099.49	1000
1099.5	1199.49	1100
1199.5	1299.49	1200
1299.5	1399.49	1300
1399.5	1499.49	1400
1499.5	1599.49	1500
1599.5	1699.49	1600
1699.5	1799.49	1700
1799.5	1899.49	1800
1899.5	1999.49	1900
1999.5	2099.49	2000
2099.5	2199.49	2100
2199.5	2299.49	2200
2299.5	2399.49	2300
More than 2399.49		Pharmacy prepares specific dose