



Provincial Health Services Authority

## For the Patient: ULUAVPPAF

Other Names: Advanced treatment of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer with Carboplatin, Pemetrexed and Amivantamab

**U** Undesignated  
**LU** LUnG  
**AV** AdVanced  
**P** CarboPlatin  
**P** Pemetrexed  
**A** Amivantamab  
**F** First-line

### ABOUT THIS TREATMENT

#### What these drugs are used for:

- ULUAVPPAF is a drug treatment for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC).
- This treatment helps to destroy or slow down the growth of cancer cells in your body. It may help control some symptoms you are experiencing and delay or prevent new symptoms from developing.

#### How these drugs work:

- Amivantamab (A-mih-VAN-tuh-mab) is a monoclonal antibody drug, a type of protein designed to target and interfere with the growth of cancer cells.
- Pemetrexed (pem-eh-TREX-ed) and carboplatin (KAR-boe-plat-in) are anticancer drugs that work by interfering with the ability of cancer cells to make DNA they need to grow and divide.

### TREATMENT SUMMARY

- Your treatment plan consists of ‘cycles’, which will continue as long as the treatment remains effective and the side effects are manageable.
- Each cycle lasts 3 weeks (21 days). Your first cycle will be given on Days 1, 2, 8 and 15. Cycle 2 and onwards will be given on Day 1 only.
- During the first 4 cycles you will receive three intravenous drugs (through the vein): pemetrexed, carboplatin and amivantamab.
- For Cycle 5 and onwards, you will receive two intravenous drugs: pemetrexed and amivantamab.

#### The calendar below outlines your overall treatment plan:

Each Cycle is given every 21 days	Day 1	Day 2	Day 8	Day 15
<b>Cycle 1</b>	Pemetrexed Carboplatin Amivantamab	Amivantamab	Amivantamab	Amivantamab
<b>Cycles 2, 3 and 4</b>	Pemetrexed Carboplatin Amivantamab	No treatment	No treatment	No treatment
<b>Cycle 5 and onwards</b>	Pemetrexed Amivantamab	No treatment	No treatment	No treatment

When given on the same day, the drugs are given in the following order:

- Pemetrexed is given first. The infusion lasts about 10 minutes.
- Carboplatin is given second. The infusion lasts about 30 minutes.
- Amivantamab is given last. The infusion will last several hours, with the first four infusions being the longest.
- Expect Cycle 1 Day 1 and Day 8 treatment to last approximately 7 to 8 hours in total.

## ADDITIONAL MEDICATIONS

**Before your treatment begins**, you need to take the following medications:

MEDICATION	WHERE TO GET IT	HOW TO TAKE IT
<b>Folic acid</b> 0.4 mg or 1 mg tablets	At your regular pharmacy, without a prescription	Take <b>once daily</b> as directed by your treatment provider. Start <i>one week before</i> your first treatment and stop <i>three weeks after</i> your last treatment.
<b>Vitamin B12</b> 1000 mcg injection	At your regular pharmacy. Your treatment provider may issue a prescription, or it can be obtained behind the pharmacy counter, without a prescription.	<b>Your doctor, pharmacist or nurse will inject this into your muscle once every 9 weeks.</b> Start <i>one week before</i> first treatment and stop <i>three weeks after</i> your last treatment.
<b>Dexamethasone</b> tablets	At your regular pharmacy, with prescription from your treatment provider.	Take <b>twice daily</b> for 2 days, starting <i>two days before</i> your first treatment.

- Folic acid and vitamin B12 help protect your healthy cells from pemetrexed.
- Dexamethasone reduces the risk of allergic reactions to amivantamab and also reduces the risk of a rash from pemetrexed.
- You will be given a prescription for anti-nausea medications (to be filled at your regular pharmacy). Bring your anti-nausea medications with you for each treatment and your nurse will tell you when to take them.
- You may also need to take anti-nausea medications at home after therapy. It is easier to prevent nausea than treat it once it has occurred, so follow directions closely.
- To reduce the risk of developing skin and nail problems from amivantamab, you will also be given a prescription for:
  - An oral antibiotic to take twice daily for 12 weeks starting with the first treatment
  - A topical antibiotic lotion to apply to your scalp daily after you finish the oral antibiotic
  - A topical antiseptic soap to use on your hands and feet regularly
- Use ceramide-based moisturizers regularly on your face and body to reduce the risk of skin and nail problems.

## LAB REQUIREMENTS

- You will need a blood test prior to each cycle. Your healthcare team will review the results of the blood test. The dose and timing of your treatment may be changed based on your blood counts and/or other side effects.

## OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

- Other drugs, such as ibuprofen (ADVIL®) may interact with this treatment. Check with your healthcare team or pharmacist before you start or stop taking any other drugs including all prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- Tell your doctor, dentist, and other health professionals that you are being treated with this treatment regimen before you receive any treatment from them.
- The drinking of alcohol (in small amounts) does not appear to affect the safety or usefulness of this treatment.
- Amivantamab, pemetrexed and carboplatin may damage sperm and may harm the baby if used during pregnancy. It is best to use birth control while being treated with these medications and for 3 months after your treatment has ended. Tell your doctor right away if you or your partner becomes pregnant. Do not breastfeed during treatment and for 3 months after your treatment has ended.
- Carboplatin may cause sterility in men and menopause in women. If you plan to have children, discuss this with your doctor before being treated with carboplatin.
- Do not donate semen while you are taking amivantamab, and for 3 months after your treatment has ended.

## SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM

- Your healthcare team will review the risks of treatment and possible side effects with you before starting treatment.
- Side effects and tips to manage them are listed in the following table.

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<b>Allergic reactions</b> may occur. Signs of an allergic reaction may include chills, fever, flushing, dizziness, or breathing problems. This can occur immediately or several hours after receiving treatment.	Tell your nurse if this happens while you are receiving amivantamab or contact your oncologist <b>immediately</b> if this happens after you leave the clinic.
<b>Pain or tenderness</b> may occur where the needle was placed.	Apply cool compresses for 15-20 minutes several times a day.
<b>Nausea and vomiting</b> may occur. If you are vomiting and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated. Most people have little or no nausea.	<p>You may be given a prescription for anti-nausea drug(s) to take before your treatment and/or at home. <b>It is easier to prevent nausea than treat it once it has occurred</b>, so follow directions closely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> <li>• Eat and drink often in small amounts.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Practical Tips to Manage Nausea</i>.*</li> </ul> <p>Tell your healthcare team if nausea or vomiting continues or is not controlled with your anti-nausea drug(s).</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p><b>Skin reactions</b> such as rash, redness, dryness, or itchiness commonly occur.</p>	<p>To help prevent skin reactions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply moisturizer (e.g., CeraVe®) to face and whole body liberally and often.</li> <li>• Avoid direct sunlight and tanning salons during treatment and for 2 months following treatment.</li> <li>• Wear a hat, long sleeves, and long pants outside on sunny days.</li> <li>• Wear a sunscreen that blocks both UVA and UVB and has a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 30. Apply liberally, 30 minutes before exposure. Reapply every 2 hours and after swimming.</li> <li>• Refer to <i>Your Medication Sun Sensitivity and Sunscreens*</i> or the <i>BC Health Guide</i> for more information.</li> </ul> <p>If skin reaction persists or gets worse, call your healthcare team. Otherwise, be sure to mention it at your next visit.</p>
<p><b>Nail changes</b> may commonly occur. The skin around the nails may become painful, red, or swollen. Nails may rarely loosen or fall off.</p>	<p>To help prevent nail problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not cut your nails too short.</li> <li>• Avoid biting your nails.</li> <li>• Limit use of nail polish and nail polish remover.</li> </ul> <p>If nails are painful, you may take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. Tell your healthcare team at your next visit.</p>
<p>Your <b>white blood cells</b> may decrease after your treatment. White blood cells protect your body by fighting bacteria (germs) that cause infection. When they are low, <b>you are at greater risk of having an infection.</b></p>	<p>To help prevent infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wash your hands often and always after using the bathroom.</li> <li>• Avoid crowds and people who are sick.</li> </ul> <p>Call your healthcare team <b>immediately</b> at the first sign of an infection such as fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer), chills, cough, or burning when you pass urine.</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p>Your <b>platelets</b> may decrease after your treatment. Platelets help to make your blood clot when you hurt yourself. <b>You may bruise or bleed more easily than usual.</b></p>	<p>To help prevent bleeding problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try not to bruise, cut, or burn yourself.</li> <li>• Clean your nose by blowing gently. Do not pick your nose.</li> <li>• Avoid constipation.</li> <li>• Brush your teeth gently with a soft toothbrush as your gums may bleed more easily. Maintain good oral hygiene.</li> </ul> <p>Some medications such as ASA (e.g., ASPIRIN®) or ibuprofen (e.g., ADVIL®) may increase your risk of bleeding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not stop taking any medication that has been prescribed by your doctor (e.g., <b>ASA for your heart</b>).</li> </ul> <p>For minor pain, try acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) first, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day, but occasional use of ibuprofen may be acceptable.</p>
<p>Minor bleeding, such as <b>nosebleeds</b>, may sometimes occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sit up straight and tip your head slightly forward. Tilting your head back may cause blood to run down your throat.</li> <li>• Pinch your nostrils shut between your thumb and forefinger or apply firm pressure against the bleeding nostril for 10 full minutes.</li> <li>• After 10 minutes, check to see if your nose is still bleeding. If it is, hold it for 10 more minutes.</li> <li>• Stay quiet for a few hours and do not blow your nose for at least 12 hours after the bleeding has stopped.</li> </ul> <p>Get emergency help if a nosebleed lasts longer than 20 minutes.</p>
<p><b>Diarrhea</b> may sometimes occur. If you have diarrhea and it is not controlled, you can quickly become dehydrated.</p>	<p>If diarrhea is a problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> <li>• Eat and drink often in small amounts.</li> <li>• Avoid high fibre foods as outlined in <i>Food Choices to Help Manage Diarrhea</i>.*</li> </ul> <p>Tell your healthcare team if you have diarrhea for more than 24 hours.</p>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<b>Constipation</b> may sometimes occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise if you can.</li> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Food Choices to Manage Constipation</i>.*</li> </ul>
<b>Sore mouth</b> may sometimes occur a few days after treatment. Mouth sores can occur on the tongue, the sides of the mouth, or in the throat. <b>Mouth sores or bleeding gums can lead to an infection.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brush your teeth gently after eating and at bedtime with a very soft toothbrush. If your gums bleed, use gauze instead of a brush. Use baking soda instead of toothpaste.</li> <li>• Make a mouthwash with ¼ teaspoon baking soda AND ¼ teaspoon salt in 1 cup warm water and rinse several times a day.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Try with a Sore Mouth</i>.*</li> </ul>
<b>Numbness or tingling of the fingers or toes</b> may sometimes occur. This will slowly return to normal once your treatments are over. This may take several months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be careful when handling items that are sharp, hot, or cold.</li> <li>• Be careful when walking on uneven surfaces or doing activities that need you to balance or be steady.</li> </ul> <p>Tell your healthcare team at your next visit if you have trouble with buttons, writing, picking up small objects, walking, or have fallen.</p>
<b>Loss of appetite and weight loss</b> may sometimes occur and may persist after discontinuation of pemetrexed.	Try the ideas in <i>Food Ideas to Help with Decreased Appetite</i> .*
<b>Headache</b> may sometimes occur.	Take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours if needed, to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day.
<b>Muscle or joint pain</b> may sometimes occur a few days after your treatment.	You may take acetaminophen (e.g., TYLENOL®) every 4-6 hours to a maximum of 4 g (4000 mg) per day. Tell your healthcare team if the pain interferes with your activity.
<b>Sugar control</b> is commonly affected in patients with diabetes.	Check your blood sugar regularly if you have diabetes.
<b>Swelling</b> of hands, feet, or lower legs may sometimes occur if your body retains extra fluid.	<p>If swelling is a problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevate your feet when sitting.</li> <li>• Avoid tight clothing.</li> </ul>
<b>Tiredness</b> and lack of energy may sometimes occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not drive a car or operate machinery if you are feeling tired.</li> <li>• Try the ideas in <i>Fatigue/Tiredness – Patient Handout</i>.*</li> </ul>

SIDE EFFECTS	MANAGEMENT
<p><b>Hair loss</b> is rare. Your hair will grow back once you stop treatment with pemetrexed and carboplatin. Colour and texture may change.</p>	<p>If hair loss is a problem, refer to <i>Resources for Hair Loss and Appearance Changes – Patient Handout</i>.*</p>
<p><b>Blood clots</b> may rarely occur. This is more likely to happen if you have had blood clots before. Signs to watch for include tenderness or hardness over a vein, calf tenderness, sudden onset of cough, chest pain, or shortness of breath.</p>	<p>To help prevent blood clots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep active.</li> <li>• Drink plenty of fluids.</li> <li>• Avoid tight clothing.</li> <li>• Do not sit with your legs crossed at the knees.</li> </ul>

\*Please ask your nurse or pharmacist for a copy.

**CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM OR GET EMERGENCY HELP IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:**

- Signs of an **allergic reaction** soon after a treatment including chills, fever, flushing, dizziness, or breathing problems.
- Signs of an **infection** such as fever (over 38°C or 100°F by an oral thermometer), shaking chills; severe sore throat, productive cough (coughing up thick or green sputum).
- Signs of **bleeding problems** such as black, tarry stools; blood in urine; pinpoint red spots on skin; extensive bruising.
- Signs of a **blood clot** such as tenderness or hardness over a vein, calf swelling and tenderness, sudden onset of cough, chest pain, or shortness of breath.
- Signs of **lung problems** such as shortness of breath or difficulty in breathing.

**CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (DURING OFFICE HOURS) IF YOU HAVE:**

- **Changes in eyesight**, blurry vision, eye pain, or sensitivity to light.
- **Itching** or **skin rash** that blisters, peels, or is painful.
- Signs of **anemia** such as unusual tiredness or weakness.
- Signs of **lung problems** such as shortness of breath, wheezing or coughing.
- Signs of **liver problems** such as yellow eyes or skin, white or clay-coloured stools.

**CHECK WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE TEAM IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONTINUE OR BOTHER YOU:**

- Numbness or tingling in feet or hands.
- Uncontrolled nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or constipation.
- Abdominal pain.
- Dry or watery eyes.
- Changes to eyelashes, red or swollen eyelids.
- Dry skin, redness, or itchiness.
- Easy bruising or minor bleeding.
- Redness, swelling, pain or sores on your lips, tongue, mouth, or throat.

