

Chemotherapy protocol

Drug Regimen

Weekly epirubicin

Indications for use

Metastatic breast cancer with poor performance status

Regimen

Epirubicin 25mg/m² slow IV bolus

To be given weekly until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity

Investigations prior to initiating treatment

FBC

U&Es

LFTs

Investigations and consultations prior to each cycle

FBC, LFTs

Consultation every 2-3 cycles

Acceptable levels for treatment to proceed

(if outside these levels delay one week or contact consultant)

Delay treatment 1 week or until platelets ≥ 70 and neutrophils ≥ 1.5

Do not give if bilirubin is $>5x$ normal

If Neutrophils 1.2 – 1.5 contact **consultant**

Side effects

Nausea and Vomiting

Bone Marrow Suppression

Alopecia

Fatigue

Cardiac toxicity

Dose modification criteria

Nil specific

Specific information on administration

Exclude patients who have previously received anthracycline for *metastatic* disease

**THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN DIRECTED BY DR YOUNG, CLINICIAN FOR BREAST
CANCER**

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROTOCOL LIES WITH HEAD OF SERVICE

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