

Chemotherapy protocol

Drug regimen

Paclitaxel and carboplatin

Indications for use

Ovarian cancer, primary peritoneal cancer, fallopian tube cancer, endometrial cancer, cervical cancer

Regimen

DRUG	FLUID	TIME
<u>Premedication (30 mins pre chemotherapy)</u>		
Chlorphenamine 10mg		I.V bolus
Ranitidine 50mg	50mls Sodium chloride 0.9%	Stat
Dexamethasone 20mg	100mls Sodium chloride 0.9%	Stat
<u>Chemotherapy regimen</u>		
Paclitaxel 175mg/m ²	500mls Sodium chloride 0.9%	3 hours
Carboplatin (AUC 6)	500mls Glucose 5%	1 hour

Maximum dose of carboplatin=900mg

Cycle should be repeated every 3 weeks for 6 cycles

Investigation prior to initiating treatment

FBC

Calculated creatinine clearance

LFTs

CA125

Cautions

In the event of severe neuropathy or severe hypersensitivity reactions it may be necessary to discontinue paclitaxel

The Calvert formula is not considered reliable if the creatinine clearance is <40 ml/min. However, prescribing according to surface area leads to excessive doses. Therefore, even in those patients with renal impairment the Calvert formula will be used and doses modified subsequently up or down depending on blood counts

Investigations and consultations prior to each cycle

FBC and U&E

If serum creatinine raised >20% repeat calculated creatinine clearance before next cycle

LFTs

The liver function test may be retrospectively looked at (i.e. after the chemotherapy treatment) **unless** they are known to be abnormal then they need to be repeated the day before so that the results are available pre-chemotherapy

CA125 (looked at retrospectively)

Consultation needed prior to each cycle

Acceptable limits for treatment to proceed(if outside these delay one week or contact consultant)

Delay treatment 1 week or until platelets \geq 100 and neutrophils \geq 1.5

If Neutrophils 1.2 – 1.5 contact **consultant**

Side effects

Hypersensitivity reactions
Myalgia
Neuropathy
Alopecia
Nausea and vomiting
Bone marrow suppression

Dose Modification Criteria

20% reduction of paclitaxel in the event of neutropenia and 20% reduction of carboplatin in the event of thrombocytopenia

Specific Information on Administration

Give pre-medication 30 minutes prior to commencing paclitaxel
Paclitaxel must be given before carboplatin

Important – Use non PVC IV giving set with paclitaxel.

Formulas

Calvert formula: $(CrCl \text{ (ml/min)} + 25) \times AUC$

Cockcroft and Gault (for calculating creatinine clearance)

$$\text{Female} \quad \frac{(140 - \text{age(yrs)}) \times \text{wt(kg)} \times 1.04}{\text{Serum creatinine (micromol/lit)}}$$

$$\text{Male} \quad \frac{(140 - \text{age(yrs)}) \times \text{wt(kg)} \times 1.23}{\text{Serum creatinine (micromol/lit)}}$$

THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN DIRECTED BY DR YIANNAKIS, DESIGNATED LEAD CLINICIAN FOR GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROTOCOL LIES WITH THE HEAD OF SERVICE

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