

Lancashire & South Cumbria Cancer Network Systemic Anticancer Therapy Protocol

Drug regimen

Carboplatin-paclitaxel (anal cancer)

Indications for use

Squamous cell anal cancer

Regimen

Week 1

Pre-medicate 30 mins pre chemo with:

Chlorphenamine 10mg	I.V. bolus
Ranitidine 50mg	50mls 0.9% NaCl
Dexamethasone 10mg	100mls 0.9% NaCl

For subsequent weeks reduce dexamethasone dose to 8mg. If patient experiences any hypersensitivity reaction do not reduce the dose further but continue on the same or increased dose of dexamethasone. If severe reaction, change regimen/ remove offending agent:

DRUG	FLUID	TIME	ROUTE
Paclitaxel 80mg/m ²	250mls 0.9% sodium chloride	1 hour	I.V
Carboplatin AUC5	500mls 5% Glucose	1 hour	I.V

Maximum carboplatin dose=790mg

Week 2:

Paclitaxel 80mg/m ²	250mls 0.9% sodium chloride	1 hour	I.V
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Week 3:

Paclitaxel 80mg/m ²	250mls 0.9% sodium chloride	1 hour	I.V
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Regimen to be given every 28 days for 6 cycles

Investigation prior to initiating treatment

FBC, U&Es, LFTs, Calcium, random glucose

Investigations and consultations prior to each cycle

FBC U&Es and LFTs

Magnesium once a month, random glucose or BM once a month

Consultation every four weeks

Acceptable levels for treatment proceed before day 1

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

Delay treatment 1 week or until platelets ≥ 100 and neutrophils ≥ 1.5

If Neutrophils 1.2 – 1.5 contact **consultant**

Acceptable levels for treatment proceed before days 8 & 15 are administered

(If outside these levels omit treatment or contact consultant)

Omit treatment until platelets ≥ 75 and neutrophils ≥ 0.8

Side effects

Hypersensitivity reactions, myalgia, neuropathy, alopecia, nausea and vomiting, fatigue, bone marrow suppression, rash

Dose Modification Criteria

	Starting dose	Dose level -1	Dose level -2
Carboplatin	AUC 5	AUC 4	AUC 3.5
Paclitaxel	80mg/m ²	60-80mg/m ²	45-60mg/m ²

Reduce dose by 1 dose level in the event of multiple delays due to haematological toxicity

Withhold paclitaxel in the event of grade ≥ 2 neuropathy until resolved to grade ≤ 1 and restart at reduced dose level

Discontinue paclitaxel if transaminases $> 5 \times \text{ULN}$

Specific Information on Administration

Important – Use non PVC IV giving set with paclitaxel.

Paclitaxel must be given before carboplatin

THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN DIRECTED BY DR WILLIAMSON, LEAD ONCOLOGIST FOR ANAL CANCER

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROTOCOL LIES WITH THE HEAD OF SERVICE

DATE **September 2019**

REVIEW **September 2021**

VERSION **4**