Neoadjuvant DOCEtaxel, CISplatin, 5-Fluorouracil and Chemoradiation and Surgery

INDICATIONS FOR USE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDICATION</th>
<th>ICD10</th>
<th>Regimen Code</th>
<th>Reimbursement Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Induction treatment of patients with Stage III or IV non-metastatic</td>
<td></td>
<td>00315a</td>
<td>Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TREATMENT:
The starting dose of the drugs detailed below may be adjusted downward by the prescribing clinician, using their independent medical judgement, to consider each patient's individual clinical circumstances.

Induction Chemotherapy

DOCEtaxel and CISplatin are administered on day 1 and 5-Fluorouracil is administered on days 1-4 of a 21 day cycle for 3 cycles unless disease progression or unacceptable toxicity develops (Ref Treatment Table 1).

Chemoradiation

In patients who do not have progressive disease and with adequate bone marrow function,

CARBOplatin AUC 1.5 weekly concomitantly with radiotherapy for 7 weeks to start 3 to 8 weeks (day 22 to day 56) following start of third cycle of induction chemotherapy (Reference NCCP Regimen 00322 CARBOplatin (AUC1.5) Chemoradiation Therapy-7 days).

Surgery

Considered 6-12 weeks following completion of chemoradiation.

Facilities to treat anaphylaxis MUST be present when the chemotherapy is administered on Day 1.

Table 1: Treatment Table for Induction Chemotherapy with DOCEtaxel, CISplatin and 5-Fluorouracil

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Admin. Order</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>Route and Method of Administration</th>
<th>Diluent &amp; Rate</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>DOCEtaxel</td>
<td>75mg/m²</td>
<td>IV infusion</td>
<td>250ml 0.9% sodium chloride over 60min</td>
<td>Every 21 days for 3 cycles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>CISplatin</td>
<td>75mg/m²</td>
<td>IV infusion</td>
<td>1000ml 0.9% NaCl over 2 hours</td>
<td>Every 21 days for 3 cycles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>Fluorouracil</td>
<td>1000mg/m²</td>
<td>IV infusion</td>
<td>1000ml 0.9% NaCl over 22 hours</td>
<td>Every 21 days for 3 cycles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*75-185mg dose use 250ml infusion bag. For doses > 185mg use 500ml infusion bag
Use non-PVC equipment

^Pre and post hydration therapy required for CISplatin
See local hospital policy recommendations.
Suggested prehydration for CISplatin therapy:
1. Administer 10mmol magnesium sulphate (MgSO₄) (+/- KCl 20mmol/L if indicated) in 1000 mL sodium chloride 0.9% over 60 minutes.
Administer CISplatin as described above
Post hydration: Administer 1000 ml 0.9% NaCl over 60mins
Mannitol 10% may be used as per local policy to induce diuresis, although there is no conclusive evidence that this is required. The routine use of furosemide to increase urine flow is not recommended unless there is evidence of fluid overload (4, 5).

The information contained in this document is a statement of consensus of NCCP and ISMO or IHS professionals regarding their views of currently accepted approaches to treatment. Any clinician seeking to apply or consult these documents is expected to use independent medical judgement in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine any patient’s care or treatment. Use of these documents is the responsibility of the prescribing clinician. and is subject to HSE’s terms of use available at http://www.hse.ie/eng/Disclaimer. This information is valid only on the day of printing, for any updates please check www.hse.ie/NCCPchemregorimens
ELIGIBILITY:
- Indications as above
- Life expectancy > 3 months
- ECOG status 0-1
- Adequate organ function; ANC > 1.5 x 10^9 cells/L, platelets 100 x 10^9/L
- Planned for definitive chemoradiation and surgery

EXCLUSIONS:
- Hypersensitivity to DOCetaxel, CISplatin, 5-fluorouracil or any of the excipients
- Pregnancy
- Lactation
- Pre-existing neuropathies ≥ grade 2
- Severe liver impairment
- Moderate/severe renal impairment (creatinine clearance < 60 mL/min)
- Significant hearing impairment/tinnitus
- Fluorouracil should not be given to patients who are known to be homozygotic for dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase (DPD) or with known complete absence of DPD activity

PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY:
The treatment plan must be initiated by a Consultant Medical Oncologist.

TESTS:
Baseline tests:
- FBC, Renal and liver profile
- ECG (if patient has compromised cardiac function)
- Audiology and creatinine clearance if clinically indicated

Regular tests:
- FBC, Renal and liver profile* before each cycle
*See Adverse Effects/Regimen specific complications for guidelines regarding hepatic dysfunction with DOCetaxel

Disease monitoring:
Disease monitoring should be in line with the patient’s treatment plan and any other test/s as directed by the supervising Consultant.

DOSE MODIFICATIONS:
- Any dose modification should be discussed with a Consultant.
Haematological:

Table 2: Dose modification for haematological toxicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANC (x 10^9/L)</th>
<th>Platelets (x 10^9/L)</th>
<th>Dose of DOCEtaxel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥1.5 and ≥100</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1.5 or &lt;100</td>
<td>&lt;25</td>
<td>Delay until recovery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- If an episode of febrile neutropenia, prolonged neutropenia or neutropenic infection occurs despite G-CSF use, the DOCEtaxel dose should be reduced from 75 to 60 mg/m².
- If subsequent episodes of complicated neutropenia occur the DOCEtaxel dose should be reduced from 60 to 45 mg/m².
- In the pivotal SCCHN studies patients who experienced complicated neutropenia (including prolonged neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, or infection), it was recommended to use G-CSF to provide prophylactic coverage (e.g. day 6-15) in all subsequent cycles.

Renal and Hepatic Impairment:

Table 3: Dose modification for renal and hepatic impairment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Renal Impairment</th>
<th>Hepatic Impairment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOCetaxel</td>
<td>No data available in patients with severely impaired renal function</td>
<td>Serum Bilirubin: &gt; 1.5 ULN and &gt; 2.5 ULN, and &gt; 3.5 ULN (AST and ALT) and &gt; 6 ULN Stop treatment unless strictly indicated and should be discussed with a Consultant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CISplatin</td>
<td>CrCL (ml/min)</td>
<td>AST and/or ALT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥60</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>ALP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-59</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;45</td>
<td>Clinical decision. Consider using CARBOplatin</td>
<td>No dose reduction necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-Fluorouracil</td>
<td>Consider dose reduction in severe renal impairment only</td>
<td>Bilirubin: &lt;85, &lt;180, 100%; &gt;85 and &gt;180 Contra-indicated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clinical decision. Moderate hepatic impairment; reduce initial dose by 1/3. Severe hepatic impairment, reduce initial dose by 1/2.

ALP = Alkaline Phosphatase, ALT = Alanine Aminotransferase, AST = Aspartate Aminotransferase ULN = Upper Limit of Normal
Non-haematological toxicity

Table 4: Dose modification schedule based on adverse events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverse reactions</th>
<th>Recommended dose modification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 diarrhoea</td>
<td>• Reduce 5-Fluorouracil dose by 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reduce DOCEtaxel dose by 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4 diarrhoea</td>
<td>• Reduce DOCEtaxel and 5-Fluorouracil dose by 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td>• Discontinue treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 stomatitis/mucositis</td>
<td>• Reduce 5-Fluorouracil dose by 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td>• Stop 5-Fluorouracil only, at all subsequent cycles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td>• Reduce DOCEtaxel dose by 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4 stomatitis/mucositis</td>
<td>• Stop 5-Fluorouracil only, at all subsequent cycles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td>• Reduce DOCEtaxel dose by 20%.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; episode</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 skin reaction</td>
<td>Decrease dose of DOCEtaxel to 60mg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If the patient continues to experience these reactions at 60 mg/m²,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the treatment should be discontinued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade &gt;2 peripheral neuropathy</td>
<td>Decrease dose of DOCEtaxel to 60mg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If the patient continues to experience these reactions at 60 mg/m²,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the treatment should be discontinued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consider dose reduction of CISplatin at discretion of prescribing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade ≥ 2 PPE</td>
<td>Delay 5-Fluorouracil until recovery to Grade ≤ 1 and reduce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>subsequent doses of 5-Fluorouracil by 20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUPPORTIVE CARE:

EMETOGENIC POTENTIAL: High (Refer to local policy).

PREMEDICATIONS:

DOCEtaxel
- Dexamethasone 8 mg PO twice daily for 3 days, starting one day prior to each DOCEtaxel administration unless contraindicated. Patient must receive minimum of 3 doses pre-treatment.
- Consideration may be given, at the discretion of the prescribing consultant, to the use of a single dose of dexamethasone 20mg IV immediately before chemotherapy where patients have missed taking the oral premedication dexamethasone as recommended by the manufacturer (6,7).

CISplatin
- Hydration prior and post CISplatin administration (Reference local policy or see recommendations above).
OTHER SUPPORTIVE CARE:
Prophylactic G-CSF may be used to mitigate the risk of haematological toxicities. See comment above in dose modifications.

ADVERSE EFFECTS / REGIMEN SPECIFIC COMPLICATIONS
The adverse effects listed are not exhaustive. Please refer to the relevant Summary of Product Characteristics for full details.

- **Neutropenia**: Most frequent adverse reaction. Fever or other evidence of infection must be assessed promptly and treated appropriately. DOCEtaxel should be administered when the neutrophil count is > 1.5x10^9 cells/L.
- **Neutropenic Enterocolitis**: A number of cases of neutropenic enterocolitis have been reported in patients treated with DOCEtaxel in France (8). This is a known and rare side effect of DOCEtaxel which may affect up to one in 1,000 people.
- **Fluid Retention**: Dexamethasone premedication must be given to reduce the incidence and severity of fluid retention. It can also reduce the severity of the hypersensitivity reaction.
- **Hypersensitivity Reactions**: Patients should be observed closely for hypersensitivity reactions especially during the first and second infusions. Hypersensitivity reactions may occur within a few minutes following the initiation of the infusion of DOCEtaxel, thus facilities for the treatment of hypotension and bronchospasm should be available. If hypersensitivity reactions occur, minor symptoms such as flushing or localized cutaneous reactions do not require interruption of therapy. However, severe reactions, such as severe hypotension, bronchospasm or generalised rash/erythema require immediate discontinuation of DOCEtaxel and appropriate therapy. Patients who have developed severe hypersensitivity reactions should not be re-challenged with DOCEtaxel.
- **Extravasation**: DOCEtaxel causes pain and tissue necrosis if extravasated. (Refer to local extravasation guidelines).
- **Hepatic Dysfunction**: DOCEtaxel undergoes hepatic metabolism. Hepatic dysfunction (particularly elevated AST) may lead to increased toxicity and usually requires a dose reduction.
- **Renal toxicity**: Renal toxicity is common with CISplatin. Encourage oral hydration.
- **Ototoxicity and sensory neural damage** should be assessed by history prior to each cycle.
- **Myocardial ischaemia and angina**: Cardiotoxicity is a serious complication during treatment with fluorouracil. Patients, especially those with a prior history of cardiac disease or other risk factors, treated with fluorouracil, should be carefully monitored during therapy.
- **Dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase (DPD) deficiency**: Rare, life-threatening toxicities such as stomatitis, mucositis, neutropenia, neurotoxicity and diarrhoea have been reported following administration of fluoropyrimidines (e.g. fluorouracil and capecitabine). Severe unexplained toxicities require investigation prior to continuing with treatment.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

- Risk of drug interactions causing increased concentrations of DOCEtaxel with CYP3A inhibitors. Patients should also be counselled with regard to consumption of grapefruit juice.
- Risk of drug interactions causing decreased concentrations of DOCEtaxel with CYP3A inducers.
- Avoid concurrent use of CISplatin with nephrotoxic drugs (e.g. aminoglycosides, furosemide, NSAIDS) due to additive nephrotoxicity. If necessary, monitor renal function closely.
- Marked elevations of prothrombin time and INR have been reported in patients stabilised on warfarin therapy following initiation of fluorouracil regimes.
- Concurrent administration of fluorouracil and phenytoin may result in increased serum levels of...
NCCP Chemotherapy Regimen

NCCP Regimen: Neoadjuvant DOCEtaxel, CISplatin and 5-Fluorouracil Therapy and Chemoradiation and Surgery

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Version number: 4

Tumour Group: Head & Neck

NCCP Regimen Code: 00315

ISCO Contributor: Prof Maccon Keane

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ATC CODE:
- DOCEtaxel - L01CD02
- CISplatin - L01XA01
- 5-Fluorouracil - L01BC02

REFERENCES:


phenytoin
- Caution should be taken when using fluorouracil in conjunction with medications which may affect dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase activity.
- Current drug interaction databases should be consulted for more information.
NCCP Chemotherapy Regimen

NCCP Regimen: Neoadjuvant DOCEtaxel, CISplatin and 5-Fluorouracil Therapy and Chemoradiation and Surgery

Version | Date       | Amendment                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Approved By    |
---------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
1        | 02/05/2016 |                                                                                                                                             | Prof Maccon Keane |
2        | 03/05/2018 | Applied new NCCP regimen template Updated treatment table, revised CISplatin hydration regimen recommendations and standardised dosing in renal and hepatic impairment | Prof Maccon Keane |
3        | 09/10/2019 | Updated exclusion criteria Amended recommended Dose modification for haematological toxicity                                             | Prof Maccon Keane |
4        | 13/05/2020 | Updated exclusion criteria Dosing in renal and hepatic impairment for DOCetaxel updated                                                   | Prof Maccon Keane |

Comments and feedback welcome at oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie.