

DOXOrubicin (60) and Ifosfamide Therapy

INDICATIONS FOR USE:

INDICATION	ICD10	Regimen Code	*Reimbursement Status
Treatment of locally advanced unresectable or metastatic soft tissue sarcomas	C49	00391a	Hospital

**If the reimbursement status is not defined, the indication has yet to be assessed through the formal HSE reimbursement process.*

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.

DOXOrubicin and ifosfamide are administered on Days 1, 2 and 3 of a 21 day cycle for up to 6 cycles. Mesna is administered prior to the first dose of ifosfamide on Day 1 and is continued throughout the chemotherapy up to 24 hrs after the ifosfamide infusion.

Note:

- Hydration therapy required for safe administration of ifosfamide (See Table below)

Facilities to treat anaphylaxis MUST be present when the chemotherapy is administered

Day	Drug	Dose	Route	Diluent & Rate	Cycle
1,2,3,	^a DOXOrubicin	20mg/m ²	IV bolus	Slow bolus with 0.9% NaCl	Every 21 days for up to 6 cycles
1	Mesna	900mg/m ²	IV infusion	100ml NaCl 0.9% over 10 minutes immediately before the infusion of Ifosfamide	Every 21 days for up to 6 cycles
1,2,3,	^b Ifosfamide	3000mg/m ²	IV infusion	1L NaCl 0.9% over 3 hours	Every 21 days for up to 6 cycles
1,2,3,	Mesna	3000mg/m ²	IV infusion	1L NaCl 0.9% over 24 hours continuous infusion commencing the same time as the ifosfamide infusion	Every 21 days for up to 6 cycles

Mesna is used to protect against haemorrhagic cystitis. Refer to Adverse Reactions/Regimen Specific Complications

^aLifetime cumulative dose of doxorubicin is 450mg/m²

In establishing the maximal cumulative dose of an anthracycline, consideration should be given to the risk factors outlined belowⁱⁱ and to the age of the patient.

^b**Ifosfamide: Suggested Hydration therapy. (Refer to local policy or see suggested hydration below).**

Ensure IV hydration (1L NaCl 0.9% IV every 6 hours) is given, commencing prior to first dose of ifosfamide and continuing for 24 hours after the ifosfamide has stopped.

Furosemide should also be administered if required to ensure a urinary output of at least 100ml/hour

Maintain strict fluid balance during therapy, by (1) monitoring fluid balance and (2) daily weights. If fluid balance becomes positive by >1000mls or weight increases by >1 Kg, the patient should be reviewed and consideration given to diuresing with furosemide

NCCP Regimen: DOXOrubicin 60 and Ifosfamide Therapy	Published: 20/12/2016 Review: 26/11/2020	Version number: 3
Tumour Group: Sarcoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00391	ISMO Contributor: Prof Maccon Keane	Page 1 of 5
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ELIGIBILITY:

- Indications as above
- ECOG 0-1
- Adequate hepatic, renal, and bone marrow function

EXCLUSIONS:

- Hypersensitivity to DOXOrubicin, ifosfamide or any of the excipients
- Pregnancy
- Lactation

PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY:

The treatment plan must be initiated by a Consultant Medical Oncologist

TESTS:

Baseline tests:

- FBC, Liver and renal profiles
- Cardiac function using MUGA or ECHO (LVEF > 50% to administer DOXOrubicin) if >65 years or if clinically indicated (e.g. smoking history, hypertension).

Regular tests:

- FBC, liver and renal profile prior to each cycle.
- Assess neurological function prior to each ifosfamide dose.
- Monitor for haematuria prior to each ifosfamide dose and every 8 hrs on treatment days

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 1: Dose modification of DOXOrubicin and Ifosfamide in haematological toxicity

ANC (x10 ⁹ /L)		Platelets (x10 ⁹ /L)	Recommended Dose
>1.5	and	>100	100%
1 to 1.5	or	70-100	80%
<1	or	<70	Delay one week

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Tumour Group: Sarcoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00391	ISMO Contributor: Prof Maccon Keane	Page 2 of 5
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Renal and Hepatic Impairment:

Table 2: Dose modification of DOXOrubicin and Ifosfamide in renal and hepatic impairment

Drug	Renal Impairment	Hepatic Impairment	
DOXOrubicin	No dose reduction required. Clinical decision in severe impairment	Total Bilirubin (micromole/L)	Recommended Dose
		20-51	50%
		51-85	25%
		>85	Omit
		If AST 2-3 x ULN give 75% dose If AST > 3 x ULN give 50% dose	
Ifosfamide	GFR (ml/min)	Dose	Dose reductions are probably not necessary for patients with altered liver function. However ifosfamide is extensively hepatically metabolised and some clinicians recommend a 25% dose reduction for patients with significant hepatic dysfunction (serum AST > 300IU/L or bilirubin > 51.3 micromol/L (4) The SPC states that it is not recommended in patients with a bilirubin >17 micromol/L or transaminases >2-3xULN
	>60	100%	
	40-59	70%	
	<40	Clinical decision	

Management of adverse events:

Table 3: Dose Modification of DOXOrubicin and Ifosfamide for Adverse Events

Adverse reactions	Recommended dose modification
Mucositis Grade ≥ 3	Reduce dose of both drugs to 80%
Neurotoxicity Grade ≥ 3	Discontinue ifosfamide

SUPPORTIVE CARE:

EMETOGENIC POTENTIAL: High (Refer to local policy).

Consider increased risk of ifosfamide-induced neurotoxicity due to inhibition of CYP3A4 by aprepitant

PREMEDICATIONS:

Not usually required

OTHER SUPPORTIVE CARE:

G-CSF support is required with this regimen (Refer to local policy)

Proton Pump Inhibitor prophylaxis (Refer to local policy)

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:** Fever or other evidence of infection must be assessed promptly and treated appropriately.

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Tumour Group: Sarcoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00391	ISMO Contributor: Prof Maccon Keane	Page 3 of 5

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- **Cardiotoxicity:** DOXOrubicin is cardiotoxic and must be used with caution, if at all, in patients with severe hypertension or cardiac dysfunction
- **Extravasation:** DOXOrubicin causes pain and tissue necrosis if extravasated (**Refer to local policy**).
- **Red discolouration of urine:** This may occur for 1-2 days after administration of doxorubicin.
- **Ifosfamide-induced encephalopathy:** This may occur in patients treated with high doses of ifosfamide. Neurological function should be assessed prior to each ifosfamide dose.
- **Renal and urothelial toxicity:** Ifosfamide is both nephrotoxic and urotoxic. Glomerular and tubular kidney function must be evaluated and checked before commencement of therapy, as well as during and after treatment. Urinary sediment should be checked regularly for the presence of erythrocytes and other signs of uro/nephrotoxicity. During or immediately after administration, adequate amounts of fluid should be ingested or infused to force diuresis in order to reduce the risk of urinary tract toxicity. For prophylaxis of hemorrhagic cystitis, ifosfamide should be used in combination with mesna. Ifosfamide should be used with caution, if at all, in patients with active urinary tract infections.

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

- DOXOrubicin cardiotoxicity is enhanced by previous or concurrent use of other anthracyclines, or other potentially cardiotoxic drugs (e.g. 5-fluorouracil, cyclophosphamide or paclitaxel) or with products affecting cardiac function (e.g. calcium antagonists).
- Increased nephrotoxicity may result from a combined effect of ifosfamide and other nephrotoxic drugs e.g. aminoglycosides, platinum compounds.
- Increased risk of ifosfamide-induced neurotoxicity due to inhibition of CYP3A4 by aprepitant
- Avoid combination of CYP3A4 inducers and ifosfamide. There is the possibility of increased toxicity of ifosfamide due to increased conversion to active and toxic metabolites
- Reduced efficacy of ifosfamide possible with CYP3A4 inhibitors due to decreased conversion to active metabolites.
- Current drug interaction databases should be consulted for more information.

ATC CODE:

DOXOrubicin	L01DB01
Ifosfamide	L01AA06

REFERENCES:

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4. Motzer RJ, Mazumdar M, Sheinfeld J et al. Sequential dose-intensive paclitaxel, ifosfamide, carboplatin, and etoposide salvage therapy for germ cell tumor patients. J Clin Oncol. 2000;18(6):1173-80.

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Tumour Group: Sarcoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00391	ISMO Contributor: Prof Maccon Keane	Page 4 of 5
<p>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</p> <p><i>This information is valid only on the day of printing, for any updates please check www.hse.ie/NCCPchemoregimens</i></p>		

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Version	Date	Amendment	Approved By
1	20/12/2016		Prof Maccon Keane
2	26/11/2018	Updated to new NCCP template. Inclusion of standardized hydration therapy recommendations for ifosfamide	Prof Maccon Keane
3	10/07/2019	Standardisation of dose modifications for ifosfamide in hepatic toxicity	Prof Maccon Keane

Comments and feedback welcome at oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie.

ⁱ ODMS – Oncology Drug Management System

CDS – Community Drug Schemes (CDS) including the High Tech arrangements of the PCRS community drug schemes

Further details on the Cancer Drug Management Programme is available at;

<http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/profinfo/medonc/cdmp/>

ⁱⁱ Cardiotoxicity is a risk associated with anthracycline therapy that may be manifested by early (acute) or late (delayed) effects.

Risk factors for developing anthracycline-induced cardiotoxicity include:

- high cumulative dose, previous therapy with other anthracyclines or anthracenediones
- prior or concomitant radiotherapy to the mediastinal/pericardial area
- pre-existing heart disease
- concomitant use of other potentially cardiotoxic drugs

In establishing the maximal cumulative dose of an anthracycline, consideration should be given to the risk factors above and to the age of the patient

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Tumour Group: Sarcoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00391	ISMO Contributor: Prof Maccon Keane	Page 5 of 5
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