

Dose Banding for Systemic Anticancer Therapy

Dose banding is a system whereby doses of Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT) are calculated on an individualised basis and then rounded up or down to predetermined standard doses. The implementation of the national dose banding tables will ensure a standard approach to dose banding across all hospitals. 15 drugs have been initially identified as suitable for dose banding with 18 tables detailing the recommended dose bands for these drugs.

The NCCP is supporting the implementation of national dose banding as this will deliver benefits for patients and hospitals as well as achieve improved value from our SACT delivery services. Hospitals were asked to notify the NCCP by 31/08/16 of their intention to implement dose banding. Many thanks to all who have been in touch.

Further details on dose banding can be obtained at the links below or by emailing oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie

The NCCP has published the following documents which have been approved following a period of consultation and review:

- [Dose Banding for Systemic Anti Cancer Therapy Guidance Document](#)
- [Dose Banding for Systemic Anti Cancer Implementation and FAQ Document](#)

- **Dose Banding Table 2016**— a laminate of the dose banding table is available for downloading in [A3](#) or [A4](#) size from the NCCP website (www.hse.ie/cancer).

NCCP Dose Banding Tables 2016

Capecitabine	Irinotecan	Bevacizumab	Trastuzumab	Epirubicin	Cyclophosphamide	Docetaxel						
42	40	190-209	200	190-211	200	95-115	105	38-42	40	380-429	400	38-42
46	44	210-229	220	212-237	225	116-136	126	43-47	46	430-479	460	43-47
50	48	230-249	240	238-262	250	137-157	147	48-52	50	480-529	500	48-52
54	52	250-269	260	263-286	275	158-178	168	53-57	56	530-579	560	53-57
58	56	270-289	280	286-325	300	179-199	189	58-62	60	580-629	600	58-62
62	60	290-309	300	326-375	350	200-220	210	63-67	66	630-679	660	63-67
66	64	310-329	320	376-425	400	221-241	231	68-72	70	680-729	700	68-72
70	68	330-349	340	426-475	450	242-262	252	73-77	76	730-779	760	73-77
75	72	350-379	360	476-525	500	263-283	273	78-82	80	780-829	800	78-82
84	80	380-419	400	526-575	550	284-314	294	83-87	86	830-879	860	83-87
92	88	420-459	440	576-625	600	315-340	336	88-92	90	880-929	900	88-92
100	96	460-499	480	626-675	650	347-367	357	93-97	96	930-979	960	93-97
108	104	500-539	520	676-725	700	368-388	378	98-102	100	980-1050	1000	98-102
116	112	540-579	560	726-775	750	389-419	399	103-107	110	1030-1100	1100	103-107
126	120	580-619	600	776-825	800	420-461	441	108-112	110	1080-1150	1100	108-112
138	132	620-659	640	826-875	850	462-514	483	113-117	110	1130-1200	1100	113-117
150	144	660-709	680	876-925	900	515-566	546	118-122	110	1180-1250	1100	118-122
162	156	710-769	740	926-975	950	567-618	598	123-127	110	1230-1300	1100	123-127
174	168	770-830	800	976-1050	1000	619-683	651	128-132	110	1280-1350	1100	128-132
189	180			1051-1150	1100	684-755	714	133-137	110	1330-1400	1100	133-137
210	200			1151-1250	1200	756-839	798	138-142	110	1380-1450	1100	138-142
				1251-1350	1300	840-933	882	143-147	110	1430-1500	1100	143-147
				1351-1450	1400	934-1040	987	148-152	110	1480-1550	1100	148-152
				1451-1575	1500			153-157	110	1530-1600	1100	153-157

Oxaliplatin	
115-125	120
126-135	130
144	140

Rituximab	
475-525	500
526-575	550
576-625	600
626-675	650

Cetuximab	
385-425	400
426-465	450
466-505	500
506-545	550
546-585	600
586-625	650
626-665	700
666-705	750
706-745	800
746-785	850
786-825	900
826-865	950
866-905	1000
906-945	1050
946-985	1100
986-1025	1150
1026-1065	1200
1066-1105	1250
1106-1145	1300
1146-1185	1350
1186-1225	1400
1226-1265	1450
1266-1305	1500
1306-1345	1550
1346-1385	1600
1386-1425	1650
1426-1465	1700
1466-1505	1750
1506-1545	1800
1546-1585	1850
1586-1625	1900
1626-1665	1950
1666-1705	2000

National Telephone Triage Guidance

The NCCP Oncology Medication Safety Review (2014) recommended that all units involved in the prescribing and administration of systemic anticancer therapy should have a telephone triage process in place. The purpose of telephone triage is to determine the severity of symptoms and to direct the patient to the appropriate emergency assessment area if required or initiate appropriate medical follow up.

Following consultation the NCCP will adopt the UKONS (UK

Oncology Nursing Society) Oncology/Haematology Telephone Triage tool kit which will provide a robust framework for adult patient triage assessment and action leading to improved quality and safety in patient care. It is proposed that the toolkit will be implemented across the 25 adult hospitals in Ireland involved in the administration of Systemic Anticancer Therapy.

The UKONS triage tool has been used in the UK since 2010 and also in a number of

hospitals in Australia and New Zealand. An extensive evaluation of this tool was conducted across 19 cancer centres in the UK with very favorable results.

The NCCP recently hosted two workshop days in Dublin on the 13th of July and 7th of September.

Seventy-one nursing staff from oncology/haematology and radiotherapy units attended the training delivered by Philippa Jones, Acute Oncology Nurse Advisor with UKONS.

It was very positively evaluated as it provided an excellent opportunity for nursing staff to become skilled in the use of the new tool which allows the standardised triage of unwell oncology/haematology patients.

The training will support a “train the trainer model” for implementation at local level following sign off of the amended UK tool.

In Brief

Systemic Therapy Model of Care Plan

The NCCP is currently collecting data from hospitals on activity and staffing that will inform the development of the national systemic therapy model of care.

MOCIS

The procurement process for the national medical oncology clinical information system (MOCIS) is proceeding. Local teams are being established in the participating hospitals. Standardisation of documentation and processes is underway.

New Products (NEW)

New products available in the treatment of cancer:

- Actavis launched a new Gemcitabine Solution 40mg/ml Ethanol Free in July 2016.

Submit new products for consideration for inclusion in our next newsletter to

oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie

Website Updates

Recent website updates include a section on [SACT Guidance, Documents and Resources](#), including a [sample proforma](#) to be used locally for non-approved protocols and a [sample application form](#) to hospital finance for use of medicines in exceptional circumstances (local hospital funding).

NCCP Twitter Account

The NCCP recently launched a twitter account which post updates to relevant NCCP publications such as drug treatment protocols, guidance document updates and any other newly published material available on the NCCP website www.hse.ie/cancer

Follow us on [@hseNCCP](https://twitter.com/hseNCCP)

NCCP Drug Protocols

The NCCP develops chemotherapy protocols to support safe, evidence-based and cost-effective cancer treatment for all cancer patients in Ireland, in line with the requirements of the 2006 National Cancer Strategy. A list of all approved protocols can be found on the NCCP website at: <http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/profinfo/chemoprotocols/>

Recent Protocols published to the website include:

Breast	Dose Dense AC followed by paclitaxel and trastuzumab*
Gastrointestinal	Cetuximab and Irinotecan Therapy (7 day and 14 day*)
	Xelox (Capecitabine/ Oxaliplatin)
	Folfirinox
Genitourinary - TCC	Cisplatin, Methotrexate and Vinblastine (CMV) Therapy
	Methotrexate, Vinblastine, Doxorubicin, Cisplatin (MVAC) Therapy-14 days
	Methotrexate, Vinblastine, Doxorubicin, Cisplatin (MVAC) Therapy-28 days
Genitourinary - Renal Cell	Sunitinib 50mg Therapy
	Temsirolimus Therapy
Lung	Vinorelbine and Cisplatin Therapy-21 days
	Vinorelbine and Cisplatin Therapy-28 days
	Pemetrexed and Carboplatin Therapy
Myeloma	Bortezomib, Thalidomide and Dexamethasone (VTD) Induction Therapy
	Bortezomib, Melphalan and Prednisolone
	Modified CyBord/ Bortezomib/ Cyclophosphamide and Dexamethasone – weekly therapy
Neuro-Oncology (NEW)	Temozolomide RT and Adjuvant Therapy
	Temozolamide Recurrent Therapy

*Unlicensed protocol

New Drugs Funded

Ibrutinib [Imbruvica®]	August 2016
Pembrolizumab [Keytruda®]	June 2016

For full list of funded drugs and related indications please visit the NCCP website at <http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/profinfo/medonc/cdmp/new.html>

Capacity planning working group – update

The NCCP established a working group in June 2016 to look at developing a National Capacity Planning Model for pharmacy aseptic compounding units providing SACT in the Irish public hospitals. This group has had a number of meetings and have agreed a complexity band assignment document which will be circulated for consultation with the hospitals later in 2016. This will underpin the details to be included in calculating capacity in the capacity plan. Any queries or comments can be sent to oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie