

Systemic Therapy Programme Newsletter

National Medical Oncology Haemato-oncology Meeting January 2016

The Third annual National Medical Oncology and Haemato-oncology Meeting took place on Friday 29th January 2016 in Farmleigh House.

Dr Jerome Coffey, Director NCCP, welcomed over 90 health professionals representing the 26 hospitals providing systemic therapy in Ireland.



Dr Jerome Coffey, Director, NCCP

The meeting provided an opportunity for consultants, nurses and pharmacists to learn more about the work of the NCCP's Systemic Therapy Programme and to discuss topics of relevance to them.

The conference programme included presentations from Prof. Elisabeth Vandenberghe, IHS, on "Haematology; goals for NCCP and IHS in 2016" and Dr Miriam O'Connor, Consultant Medical Oncologist UHW, who gave an update

on the development of oral chemotherapy recommendations. Dr Susan O'Reilly, CEO Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group, presented an overview on the delivery of systemic therapy within the new Hospitals Groups structure.

Ms Ciara Mellett, National Programme Manager for Medical Oncology & Haemato-Oncology, NCCP, spoke about the NCCP's current projects, including:



L to R: Ms Ciara Mellett, NCCP; Dr Susan O'Reilly, CEO Dublin Midlands Hospitals Group; Dr Miriam O'Connor, UHW; Dr Jerome Coffey, Director NCCP; Dr Mary Hynes, Deputy Director NCCP; Prof. Elisabeth Vandenberghe, IHS; Prof. Rajnish K. Gupta, UHL; Prof. Maccon Keane, NCCP

Oncology Medication Safety Review, Cancer Drug Funding, HSE Service Planning, Chemotherapy Protocols, Dose Banding, and the Medical Oncology Clinical Information System (MOCIS).

Small group sessions facilitated by Prof. Maccon Keane and Prof. Raj Gupta



Small group sessions - The Ballroom, Farmleigh House

provided stimulating feedback on the Systemic Therapy Plan/ Model of Care and Multidisciplinary Team Meetings.

Workshop discussions covered topics such as Diagnostics (cytogenetics & molecular testing), oral chemotherapy, telephone triage, managing adverse events in the haematology day ward and National QA/ Compounding Units.

Professor John Kennedy, Chair of the National Cancer Strategy Steering Group, provided an update on the development of the 2016 Cancer Strategy and the future of cancer services.

The NCCP would like to thank all those who attended the conference and contributed to the group sessions and workshops.

Medical Oncology Clinical Information System (MOCIS)

The tender application process for the MOCIS closed in mid-March and the evaluation of tenders is well underway. It is hoped to finalise contracts and commence system configuration later in 2016 with a view to implementation in the initial location(s) in Q2 2017. An Information Governance Group was recently established. All hospitals are represented on a national liaison group and hospitals are currently setting up local implementation teams. Working groups are being convened to look at the standardisation of workflows, documentation and protocols. Anyone with an interest in being involved in these working groups should email us at MOCIS@cancercontol.ie

In Brief

Systemic Therapy Model of Care Plan

The work of the model of care group is progressing. The group is currently engaged in workshops to identify the vision and principles for the development of systemic therapy services and to identify key priorities for the model of care.

Dose Banding Consultation

In December 2015, the NCCP established a working group to develop national dose banding guidance documentation and tables through a process of consultation and consensus. The consultation period has now ended and the working group are in the process of reviewing the submissions. Queries and comments relating to this should be addressed in writing to: oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie

Telephone Triage Working Group

The NCCP have convened a working group to develop a national telephone triage guidance document. This document will be developed for use by staff who care for adult outpatients and day patients who are undergoing Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT). The group is proposing to adopt the UKONS (UK Oncology Nursing Society) Oncology/Haematology Telephone Triage tool kit. The NCCP is organising training for nursing staff involved in telephone triage in the coming months.

NCCP Website

The HSE recently launched its new-look website with the aim of enhancing information on health services.

The NCCP has its own site within the HSE website where you can access information on Medical Oncology and Haemato-Oncology Programmes, drug protocols, cancer drug management programme, in addition to clinical practice guidelines, GP resources, nurse training programmes, and patient information leaflets and booklets. Please visit us on www.hse.ie/cancer

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:

Genitourinary - Germ Cell	Bleomycin, Etoposide and Cisplatin (BEP) Therapy
	Etoposide and Cisplatin 20mg/m ² (EP) Therapy
Genitourinary - Prostate	Gemcitabine + Carboplatin (AUC5) Therapy-21 days
Gynaecology - Ovarian	Carboplatin (AUC5-7.5) and Paclitaxel 175mg/m ² Therapy
	Carboplatin (AUC 5-6) and Weekly Paclitaxel 80mg/m ² Therapy
	Gemcitabine + Carboplatin (AUC 4) Therapy-21 days
	Topotecan Monotherapy-5 day
	Topotecan Monotherapy-Weekly*
Lung	Carboplatin (AUC6) and Paclitaxel 200mg/m ² Therapy*
	Weekly Carboplatin and Paclitaxel Therapy with Radiotherapy
	Gemcitabine + Carboplatin (AUC5) Therapy-21 days
	Topotecan Monotherapy-5 day

*Unlicensed protocol

The NCCP protocol for **Radium 223** has been updated to reflect changes in the numerical value of the radioactive content and patient dose of Xofigo®

This change was due to come into effect from April 14th 2016 onwards. For full details of the changes please visit the NCCP website at <http://hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/profinfo/chemoprotocols/Genitourinary/257.pdf>

New Drugs Funded

Nab-Paclitaxel (Abraxane®)	February 2016
Pomalidomide (Imnovid®)	February 2016
Enzalutamide (Xtandi®)	January 2016
Lenvatinib (Lenvima®)	January 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

A key recommendation from the Oncology Medication and Safety review 2014 was to develop: "A capacity-planning model to support hospitals in their local service planning with regard to day ward activity and staffing requirements".

Capacity planning is used to examine volume and complexity of workload, time available and the staff and facilities required. It can be used as a tool to plan chemotherapy services in order to measure the growing demand for SACT using finite resources.

In line with this, the NCCP is establishing a working group to develop a National Capacity Planning Model for pharmacy aseptic compounding units providing SACT in the hospital setting.

The appointment term will be approximately six months, with three to four meetings being held during this time. Queries relating to this should be addressed in writing

to: oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie