

## Chemotherapy protocol

### Drug regimen

Docetaxel (neo)adjuvant

### Indications for use

Adjuvant and neoadjuvant treatment for breast cancer

### Regimen

N.B. Pre-medicate with 8mg Dexamethasone bd po for 3 days starting 24 hours pre-treatment.

DRUG	FLUID	TIME	ROUTE
Docetaxel 100 mg/m <sup>2</sup>	250mls N/saline	IV	1 hr

Regimen to be given every 3 weeks for 3-4 cycles as part of the following programmes:

FEC-T: for 3 cycles following 3 cycles of FEC100

T-FEC: for 3 cycles prior to 3 cycles of FEC100

### Investigation prior to initiating treatment

U&Es

FBC

LFT

Weight

### Cautions

Levels (see below)

### Investigations and consultations prior to each cycle

FBC

Consultation – Each cycle

U&Es and LFTs

The liver function test may be retrospectively looked at (i.e. after the chemotherapy treatment) **unless** they are known to be abnormal then they need to be repeated the day before so that the results are available pre-chemotherapy.

### Acceptable levels for treatment to proceed

(if outside these levels defer one week or contact consultant)

Neuts >1.5

Platelets >100

Bilirubin within normal limits

AST/ALT < 2.5 X ULN

If Neutrophils 1.2 – 1.5 contact consultant

### Side Effects

Hair loss, prolonged neutropenia, allergic reactions, diarrhoea, neuropathy

### **Dose Modification Criteria**

Consider 25% dose reduction:

- Febrile neutropenia
- Severe / prolonged neutropenia
- Grade 3 diarrhoea
- Grade 2 neuropathy
- Rising ALT / AST

Discontinue treatment:

- Life threatening sepsis
- Grade 4 toxicity

### **Specific Information on Administration**

Patients must be prescribed a pre-medication of dexamethasone 8 mg bd po to be started 24 hours before treatment and continued for a total of 72 hours. This is to reduce the incidence of allergic reaction.

Primary GCSF prophylaxis should be given

**THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN DIRECTED BY DR YOUNG, CLINICIAN FOR BREAST CANCER**

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROTOCOL LIES WITH THE HEAD OF SERVICE**

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