

# Nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane), Carboplatin, Trastuzumab and Pertuzumab

## Indication

Neoadjuvant treatment of locally advanced, inflammatory or early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence in patients with HER2 positive disease (**interim COVID 19 funding arrangements**)

## Regimen details

Pertuzumab/trastuzumab 1200mg/600mg subcutaneous injection with cycle 1 (subsequent doses 600mg/600mg)  
Nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane) 200mg/m<sup>2</sup> over 30 minutes  
Carboplatin AUC6 in 500ml 5% glucose over 60 minutes

## Cycle frequency

Repeat every 3 weeks

## Number of cycles

6 cycles, followed by further 12 cycles of trastuzumab or trastuzumab/pertuzumab combination or 14 cycles of trastuzumab emtansine (Kadcyla)

## Administration

The first dose of pertuzumab/trastuzumab should be given subcutaneously over 8 minutes and the patient observed for a period of 30 minutes before any subsequent administration of chemotherapy

If tolerated, subsequent doses of pertuzumab/trastuzumab should be given subcutaneously over 5 minutes and the patient observed for 15 minutes before any subsequent administration of chemotherapy

Nab-paclitaxel (Abraxane) is given intravenously over 30 minutes. Filters of less than 15µm must not be used

Carboplatin is given intravenously over 60 minutes.

## Pre-medication

Paracetamol 1g 30-60 minutes before treatment, and regularly for 24 hours after treatment

## Emetogenicity

Moderate

## Additional supportive medication

Patients should receive GCSF support x 5 days (filgrastim 5 mcg/kg SC on days 3-7) with each cycle

## Investigations – pre first cycle

Investigation	Validity period
FBC	14 days
U+E (including creatinine)	14 days
LFT (including AST)	14 days
MUGA or echocardiogram	

## Investigations –pre subsequent cycles

FBC/U&Es/LFTs/Bone every 3 weeks during chemotherapy, then every 3 months when on trastuzumab single agent  
LVEF assessment on MUGA or ECHO every 3 cycles during combination treatment.

Investigations and consultations prior to each cycle:

FBC U&Es and LFTs.

Magnesium once a month, random glucose or BM once a month

Consultation every three weeks

The U&Es and LFTs need to be checked the day before so that results are available pre-chemotherapy

### Standard limits for administration to go ahead

If blood results not within range, authorisation to administer **must** be given by prescriber/ consultant.

Investigation	Limit
Neutrophil count	$\geq 1.0 \times 10^9/L$
Platelet count	$\geq 100 \times 10^9/L$
Creatinine clearance (calculated)	$\geq 60 \text{ mL/min}$
Bilirubin	$\leq 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$
AST	$< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$

### Dose modifications

Reduce Abraxane and carboplatin doses by 20% following febrile neutropenia or prolonged delay due to neutropenia/thrombocytopenia

Reduce Abraxane dose by 20% if bilirubin 1.5-5x ULN and AST  $< 10 \times \text{ULN}$

Discontinue Abraxane if bilirubin  $> 5 \times \text{ULN}$  or AST  $> 10 \times \text{ULN}$

Withhold Abraxane and carboplatin in the event of grade 3 sensory neuropathy and restart with 20% dose reduction when resolved

Discontinue Abraxane if CrCl  $< 30 \text{ mL/min}$

Recalculate carboplatin dose if serum creatinine alters by  $> 20\%$

#### Left ventricular dysfunction

Pertuzumab and trastuzumab should be withheld for at least 3 weeks for any of the following:

- Signs and symptoms suggestive of congestive heart failure (Pertuzumab should be discontinued if symptomatic heart failure is confirmed)
- A drop in left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) to less than 40%
- A LVEF of 40%-45% associated with a fall of  $\geq 10\%$  points below pre-treatment values.

Pertuzumab and trastuzumab may be resumed if the LVEF has recovered to  $> 45\%$  or 40-45% associated with  $< 10\%$  points below pre-treatment value.

If after a repeat assessment within approximately 3 weeks, the LVEF has not improved, or has declined further, discontinuation of pertuzumab and trastuzumab should be strongly considered, unless the benefits for the individual patient are deemed to outweigh the risks

#### Dose Delays

If the interval between subsequent doses of pertuzumab/trastuzumab is greater than 6 weeks then a loading dose of 1200mg/600mg should be administered.

### **Adverse effects –**

for full details consult product literature/ reference texts

Hair loss, prolonged neutropenia, allergic reactions, diarrhoea, neuropathy, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, anaemia, thrombocytopenia, mucositis

### **Additional comments**

Carboplatin dose is calculated using calculated creatinine clearance

Dose = (CrCl + 25) x AUC

---

**THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN DIRECTED BY DR NEVILLE-WEBBE, CONSULTANT ONCOLOGIST**

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

Date: January 2021

Review: January 2023

VERSION: 1

---