

## Cancer of unknown primary origin treatment recommendations

### General treatment recommendations

- 1 Patients with cancer of unknown primary should always be offered a clinical trial as an option for treatment if available
- 2 Chemotherapy for patients with cancer of unknown primary is aimed at prolonging survival and relieving any related symptoms
- 3 Consider chemotherapy in symptomatic patients PS 1-2 or asymptomatic patients (PS 0) with an aggressive cancer.
- 4 Chemotherapy regimen is based on the histologic type of cancer.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 5 A recent systematic review of chemotherapy trials in patients with occult primary tumors of unfavorable presentations concluded that no specific regimen can be recommended as standard of care.<sup>7</sup>

### Adenocarcinoma / Squamous Cell Carcinoma <sup>[1, 2, 3, 4]</sup> :

Both respond to cisplatin-based combination chemotherapy. However, various studies have shown that treatment with carboplatin, gemcitabine, irinotecan, and docetaxel have also been effective. <sup>[1]</sup>

Cisplatin	25mg/m <sup>2</sup> Day 1 and Day 8
Gemcitabine	1000mg/m <sup>2</sup> Days 1 and 8 Repeat cycle every 3 weeks
Epirubicin	50mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1
Cisplatin	60mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1
Capecitabine	625mg/m <sup>2</sup> bd daily for 21 days Repeat cycle every 3 weeks
Paclitaxel	175mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1
Carboplatin	AUC = 5 Day 1 Repeat cycle every 3 weeks
Paclitaxel	80mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1 every 1 weeks
Carboplatin	AUC = 5 Day 1 every 3 weeks
Gemcitabine	1250mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1 and 8
Cisplatin	80mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1 Repeat cycle every 3 weeks
Gemcitabine	1250mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1 and 8
Carboplatin	AUC 5 Day 1 Repeat cycle every 3 weeks
Epirubicin	50mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1
Oxaliplatin	130mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV over 2 hours, Day 1
Capecitabine	625mg/m <sup>2</sup> twice daily PO for 21 Days Repeat cycle every 3 weeks
Oxaliplatin	130mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV over 2 hours, Day 1
Capecitabine	1000mg/m <sup>2</sup> twice daily PO for 14 Days Repeat cycle every 3 weeks
Oxal MdG	Oxaliplatin 85mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV over 2 hours, Day 1 Calcium Folate 350mg IV over 2 hours, Day 1 5-FU 400mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV bolus on Day 1, then 1200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /d x 2 Days (total 2400mg/m <sup>2</sup> over 46-48 hours) IV continuous infusion Repeat cycle every 2 weeks
Vinorelbine	60mg/m <sup>2</sup> day p.o 1 + 8 Day 1
Carboplatin	AUC = 5 Day 1 Repeat cycle every 3 weeks

Cisplatin	100mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1
5FU	1000mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day x 4 Days
	Repeat cycle every 3 weeks 4-6 cycles

#### Neuroendocrine tumors<sup>[1, 2, 3, 4]</sup> :

Poorly differentiated neuroendocrine tumors are generally responsive to combination chemotherapy. Commonly used chemotherapeutic agents include paclitaxel, etoposide, and platinum agents.

Etoposide	120mg/m <sup>2</sup> Day 1 then 240mg/m <sup>2</sup> p.o Day 2 and 3
Cisplatin	80mg/m <sup>2</sup> on days 2-3 as a continuous IV infusion repeated every 3wk
Etoposide	100mg/m <sup>2</sup> Day 1 then 200mg/m <sup>2</sup> p.o Day 2 and 3
Carboplatin	AUC 5 repeated every 3wk

#### References

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