

LOW DOSE CYTARABINE

INDICATION: Acute myeloid leukaemia

Prior to a course of treatment

- Check FBC
- Discuss the need for contraception with both male and female patients. Discuss risk of infertility - offer semen cryopreservation to male patients
- Written consent for course

Prior to each cycle

- Medical review of fitness for chemotherapy – exclude active infection, major changes in organ function
- Check FBC

Cytarabine 20mg bd SC for 10 days (20 doses in total)

Repeat at intervals of 28 – 42 days

Aim to give a minimum of 4 course

Prophylaxis for acute & delayed emesis Metoclopramide

Other medications Allopurinol 300mg od for 7 days with first cycle

Dose modifications for haematological toxicity

- None required – these are assumed to be secondary to leukaemia

Low dose cytarabine toxicities

Neutropenic sepsis

Thrombocytopenia

Nausea and vomiting

Rash

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