

Lancashire & South Cumbria Cancer Network Systemic Anticancer Treatment Protocol

Drug regimen

Dacarbazine

Indications for use

Metastatic malignant melanoma

Regimen

DRUG	FLUID	TIME
Dacarbazine 850mg-1000mg/m ²	1 litre 0.9% NaCl	1-2 hours

1 litre of 0.9% NaCl pre-chemotherapy may be beneficial at clinician's discretion

Repeat every 3 weeks for 6 cycles

Investigation prior to initiating treatment

FBC, U&Es, LFTs, LDH

Investigations and consultations prior to each cycle

FBC, U&Es, LFT

Consultation needed prior to each cycle or at consultants discretion.

Acceptable limits for treatment to proceed (if outside these delay one week or contact consultant)

Delay treatment 1 week or until platelets ≥ 100 and neutrophils ≥ 1.5

Neutrophils 1.2 – 1.5: contact **consultant, may be able to go ahead**

Side effects

Emetogenic, flu like symptoms, hypersensitivity reactions, bone pain, bone marrow suppression, thromboembolism, oedema, liver enzyme elevation, vein pain

Dose Modification Criteria

20% dose reduction with grade II and grade III toxicity

Specific Information on Administration

Avoid any exposure of chemotherapy to sunlight

THIS PROTOCOL HAS BEEN DIRECTED BY DR BOARD CLINICIAN FOR MALIGNANT MELANOMAS

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS PROTOCOL LIES WITH THE HEAD OF SERVICE

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