

Regimen Monograph

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A - Regimen Name

BAC+RITU Regimen**Bendamustine-Cytarabine-Rituximab**

Disease Site Hematologic - Lymphoma - Non-Hodgkin's Low Grade
Mantle cell lymphoma

Intent Palliative

Regimen Category **Evidence-informed :**

Regimen is considered appropriate as part of the standard care of patients; meaningfully improves outcomes (survival, quality of life), tolerability or costs compared to alternatives (recommended by the Disease Site Team and national consensus body e.g. pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review, pCODR). Recommendation is based on an appropriately conducted phase III clinical trial relevant to the Canadian context OR (where phase III trials are not feasible) an appropriately sized phase II trial. Regimens where one or more drugs are not approved by Health Canada for any indication will be identified under Rationale and Use.

This **Regimen Abstract** is an **abbreviated** version of a Regimen Monograph and contains only top level information on usage, dosing, schedule, cycle length and special notes (if available). Information in regimen abstracts is accurate to the extent of the ST-QBP regimen master listings, and has not undergone the full review process of a regimen monograph. Full regimen monographs will be published for each ST-QBP regimen as they are developed.

Rationale and Uses For the treatment of previously untreated (age \geq 65 years) or relapsed/refractory mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) patients after one previous immunochemotreatment (+/- stem cell transplant; age \geq 18 years).

Supplementary Public Funding [riTUXimab](#)
New Drug Funding Program (Rituximab (Biosimilar IV) and Rituximab SC in

Combination with Chemotherapy - Indolent B-cell Lymphoma)

[riTUXimab](#)

New Drug Funding Program (Rituximab (Biosimilar IV) and Rituximab SC - Retreatment - Indolent Lymphoma) (in combination with chemotherapy)

[riTUXimab \(subcut\)](#)

New Drug Funding Program (Rituximab (Biosimilar IV) and Rituximab SC in Combination with Chemotherapy - Indolent B-cell Lymphoma)

[riTUXimab \(subcut\)](#)

New Drug Funding Program (Rituximab (Biosimilar IV) and Rituximab SC - Retreatment - Indolent Lymphoma) (in combination with chemotherapy)

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B - Drug Regimen

Note: Different rituximab products are NOT INTERCHANGEABLE.

Cycle 1: All patients must receive their first dose of rituximab by IV infusion.

riTUXimab	375 mg /m ²	IV	Day 1
bendamustine	70 mg /m ²	IV	Days 2 and 3
(Prior authorization is required for PDRP funding of this drug within this regimen)			
cytarabine	500 to 800 mg /m ²	IV	Days 2 to 4

Cycle 2 and onwards: (For a usual total of 4 to 6 cycles including initial IV rituximab cycle(s))

Rituximab IV:

riTUXimab	375 mg /m ²	IV	Day 1
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OR

Rituximab (subcut):

The subcutaneous formulation must only be given at the second or subsequent cycles, and only after at least 1 full rituximab IV dose.

riTUXimab (subcut)	1400 mg	Subcut	Day 1
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Plus BAC Chemotherapy:

bendamustine	70 mg /m ²	IV	Days 2 and 3
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(Prior authorization is required for PDRP funding of this drug within this regimen)

cytarabine	500 to 800 mg /m ²	IV	Days 2 to 4
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C - Cycle Frequency

REPEAT EVERY 28 DAYS for a usual total of 4 to 6 cycles unless disease progression or unacceptable toxicity occurs.

For patients who have responded to induction therapy, and were rituximab-naïve prior to induction, refer to maintenance rituximab regimen - RITU(MNT) or RITU(MNT-SC).

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D - Premedication and Supportive Measures

Antiemetic Regimen: Minimal (D1)
Moderate (D2-4)

Other Supportive Care:

Also refer to [CCO Antiemetic Recommendations](#).

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K - References

Davies A, Merli F, Mihaljević B, et al. Efficacy and safety of subcutaneous rituximab versus intravenous rituximab for first-line treatment of follicular lymphoma (SABRINA): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial. *Lancet Haematol*. 2017 Jun;4(6):e272-e282.

Visco C, Finotto S, Zambello R et al. Combination of rituximab, bendamustine, and cytarabine for patients with mantle-cell non-hodgkin lymphoma ineligible for intensive regimens or autologous

transplantation. 2013 J Clin Oncol 31:1442-1449.

PEBC Advice Documents or Guidelines

- [Rituximab in Lymphoma and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia](#)

August 2020 Updated NDFP forms and interchangeability information in Drug Regimen section

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M - Disclaimer

Regimen Abstracts

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Regimen Monographs

Refer to the [New Drug Funding Program](#) or [Ontario Public Drug Programs](#) websites for the most up-to-date public funding information.

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