

Regimen Monograph

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A - Regimen Name

CABO+NIVL Regimen

Cabozantinib-Nivolumab

CABO(MNT) Regimen

Cabozantinib (maintenance)

Disease Site Genitourinary
Renal Cell / Kidney

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 Treatment for patients with advanced or metastatic renal cell carcinoma (RCC), who have not received prior systemic therapy for advanced disease.

Patients must have good performance status and disease that is not amenable to curative surgery or radiation.

**Supplementary
Public Funding**

[**cabozantinib \(tablet\)**](#)

Exceptional Access Program (cabozantinib – For the first-line treatment of adult patients with advanced or metastatic renal cell carcinoma, in combination with nivolumab, according to clinical criteria) ([EAP Website](#))

[**nivolumab**](#)

New Drug Funding Program (Nivolumab - In Combination with Cabozantinib for First Line Advanced or Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma) ([NDFP Website](#))

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B - Drug Regimen

[**nivolumab**](#)

3 mg /kg

IV (max 240 mg)*

Day 1, every 2 weeks

OR

[**nivolumab**](#)

6 mg /kg

IV (max 480 mg)*

Day 1, every 4 weeks

* Dosing based on NDFP funding criteria

With Cabozantinib:

[**cabozantinib \(tablet\)**](#)

40 mg

PO

Daily

(On nivolumab treatment days, nivolumab should be administered first then cabozantinib (on an empty stomach) in the evening.)

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C - Cycle Frequency

Cabozantinib: Continuous treatment unless disease progression or unacceptable toxicity

Use the regimen code CABO(MNT) for single agent cabozantinib after completion of nivolumab treatment.

Nivolumab:

3 mg/kg dosing: REPEAT EVERY 2 WEEKS

6 mg/kg dosing: REPEAT EVERY 4 WEEKS

Continue until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity, up to a maximum of 2 years (52 doses given q2 weeks or 26 doses given every 4 weeks), whichever occurs first.

Patients who experience unacceptable toxicity to either nivolumab or cabozantinib may continue treatment with the other agent until disease progression (up to a maximum of 2 years for nivolumab).

Refer to NDFP form for details on nivolumab retreatment.

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D - Premedication and Supportive Measures

Antiemetic Regimen:

- Cabozantinib: Moderate – Consider prophylaxis daily
- Nivolumab: Minimal
- Also refer to [CCO Antiemetic Recommendations](#).

Screen for hepatitis B virus in all cancer patients starting systemic treatment. Refer to the [hepatitis B virus screening and management](#) guideline.

Nivolumab pre-medications (prophylaxis for infusion reaction):

- Routine pre-medication is not recommended.
- May consider pre-medication with antipyretics and H1-receptor antagonists if an IR has occurred in the past.

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J - Administrative Information

Cabozantinib: Outpatient prescription for home administration

Approximate Patient Visit

CABO+NIVL Nivolumab: 1 hour

Pharmacy Workload (average time per visit)

CABO+NIVL 18.7 minutes

Nursing Workload (average time per visit)

CABO+NIVL 40.75 minutes

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K - References

Cabozantinib drug monograph, Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario).

CADTH reimbursement recommendation: Cabozantinib (first-line treatment of adult patients with advanced (not amenable to curative surgery or radiation therapy) or metastatic renal cell carcinoma). November 2023.

CADTH reimbursement review: Cabozantinib (advanced or metastatic renal cell carcinoma). February 2024.

Choueiri TK, Powles T, Burotto M, et al. Nivolumab plus cabozantinib versus sunitinib for advanced renal-cell carcinoma. N Engl J Med 2021 Mar 4;384(9):829-41.

Nivolumab drug monograph, Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario).

November 2024 Added CABO(MNT) regimen code

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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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