

## Regimen Monograph

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## A - Regimen Name

## CISPGEMC+PEMB Regimen

CISplatin-Gemcitabine-Pembrolizumab

**Disease Site** Lung  
Non-Small Cell

(Squamous)

**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 first-line treatment in patients with metastatic squamous NSCLC who are unable to receive paclitaxel

**Supplementary Public Funding** [pembrolizumab](#)  
New Drug Funding Program (Pembrolizumab - In Combination with Carboplatin and Paclitaxel for First-Line Metastatic Squamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC))

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## B - Drug Regimen

<a href="#">pembrolizumab</a> <sup>1</sup>	2 mg /kg	IV (max 200mg)	Day 1
(Prior authorization is required for PDRP funding of this drug within this regimen)			
<a href="#">CISplatin</a>	75 mg /m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Day 1
<a href="#">gemcitabine</a>	1000-1250 mg /m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Days 1 and 8

<sup>1</sup>Dosing based on NDFP funding criteria. Refer to NDFP form for alternative pembrolizumab dosing schedule.

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## C - Cycle Frequency

REPEAT EVERY 21 DAYS for 4 to 6 cycles unless disease progression or unacceptable toxicity occurs

Refer to PEMB(MNT) for the maintenance phase of treatment.

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## D - Premedication and Supportive Measures

**Antiemetic Regimen:** High (Day 1)  
Low (Day 8)

### Other Supportive Care:

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

All patients should receive adequate hydration and premedication for emesis, according to local guidelines.

Avoid the use of corticosteroids or immunosuppressants before starting pembrolizumab treatment.

**Pembrolizumab Premedication (prophylaxis for infusion reactions):**

- Routine pre-medication is not recommended.
- May consider antipyretic and H1-receptor antagonist in patients who experienced a grade 1-2 infusion reaction.

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## J - Administrative Information

Approximate Patient Visit	Day 1: 4.75 to 5.75 hours; Day 8: 0.75 hours
Pharmacy Workload (average time per visit)	37.77325 minutes
Nursing Workload (average time per visit)	47.91667 minutes

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## K - References

Paz-Atres L, Luft A, Vicente D, et al. Pembrolizumab plus chemotherapy for squamous non-small-cell lung cancer. *N Engl J Med.* 2018;379(21):2040-2051. DOI:0.1056/NEJMoa1810865

**August 2022** Added Pre-medications; Added information on funded alternative pembrolizumab schedule 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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