Regimen Monograph

Regimen Name | Drug Regimen | Cycle Frequency | Premedication and Supportive Measures | Administrative Information | References | Other Notes | Disclaimer

A - Regimen Name

CRBPPACL Regimen

PACLitaxel-CARBOplatin

Disease Site	Unknown Primary
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.

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B - Drug Regimen

PACLitaxel	175 mg /m²	IV	Day 1 (give before carboplatin)
CARBOplatin	AUC 5-6*	IV	Day 1

*Adjust Carboplatin dose to AUC target (using Calvert formula) as outlined in "Other Notes" section.

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C - Cycle Frequency

REPEAT EVERY 21 DAYS

Until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity, usually up to 6 cycles due to cumulative carboplatin toxicity

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D - Premedication and Supportive Measures

Antiemetic Regimen: Moderate + NK1 antagonist (Carboplatin AUC ≥ 5)

Also refer to CCO Antiemetic Recommendations.

Pre-medications (prophylaxis for infusion reaction):

Paclitaxel*:

- Dexamethasone 20 mg PO 12- and 6-hours OR Dexamethasone 20 mg IV 30 minutes pre-infusion†
- Diphenhydramine 25-50 mg IV/PO 30-60 minutes pre-infusion
- Ranitidine 50 mg IV OR Famotidine 20 mg IV 30-60 minutes pre-infusion

*Consider **discontinuing** pre-medications for paclitaxel if there was no IR in the first 2 doses.

†Oral and IV dexamethasone are both effective at reducing overall IR rates. Some evidence suggests that oral dexamethasone may be more effective for reducing severe reactions; however, adverse effects and compliance remain a concern.

Carboplatin:

- There is insufficient evidence that routine prophylaxis with pre-medications reduce infusion reaction (IR) rates.
- Corticosteroids and H1-receptor antagonists ± H2-receptor antagonists **may** reduce IR rates for some patients (e.g. gynecological patients with a platinum-free interval (PFI) > 12 months or a history of drug allergy who are receiving carboplatin starting from the 7th cycle) but no optimal pre-medication regimen has been established.

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J - Administrative Information

Approximate Patient Visit	5-6 hours
Pharmacy Workload (average time per visit)	30.383 minutes
Nursing Workload (average time per visit)	59.833 minutes

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K - References

Briasoulis E, Kalofonos H, Bafaloukos D, et al. Carboplatin plus paclitaxel in unknown primary carcinoma: a phase II Hellenic Cooperative Oncology Group Study. J Clin Oncol. 2000 Sep;18(17):3101-7.

Huebner G, Link H, Kohne CH, et al; German CUP Study Group. Paclitaxel and carboplatin vs gemcitabine and vinorelbine in patients with adeno- or undifferentiated carcinoma of unknown primary: a randomised prospective phase II trial. Br J Cancer. 2009 Jan 13;100(1):44-9.

August 2020 Updated infusion reaction information in Premedication and Supportive Measures section

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L - Other Notes

Appendix:

Calvert Formula:

Dose (**mg**) = Target AUC (mg/mL per min) x {CrCl (mL/min)+ 25}

Formula for CrCl calculation (see Appendix 5)

Target AUC for: previously untreated patients = 6 - 8 mg/mL per min (single agent)

previously treated patients = 4 - 6 mg/mL per min (single agent)

Calvert AH, Newell DR, Gumbrell LA, et al. Carboplatin dosage: prospective evaluation of a simple formula based on renal function. J Clin Oncol 1989; 7: 1748-56.

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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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