

Regimen Monograph

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A - Regimen Name

ETOP(PO) Regimen

Etoposide (oral)

Disease Site Breast

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.

Rationale and Uses Salvage treatment for metastatic breast cancer.

Supplementary Public Funding [etoposide](#)
ODB - General Benefit (etoposide - oral capsules) ([ODB Formulary](#))

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B - Drug Regimen

etoposide	50 mg	PO	Once daily on days 1 to 14 every 21 days
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(Outpatient prescription in multiples of 50mg capsules)

Alternative Dose and Schedule:[etoposide](#)

50-100 mg

PO

Once daily on days 1
to 21 every 28 days[back to top](#)**C - Cycle Frequency**Standard Schedule: **REPEAT EVERY 21 DAYS**Alternative Dose and Schedule: **REPEAT EVERY 28 DAYS**

Until evidence of non-response or disease progression (usually 6 cycles)

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Doses should be modified according to the protocol by which the patient is being treated. The following recommendations are in use at some centres.

Dosage with toxicity**Hematologic Toxicities:** See Appendix 6 for general recommendations.**Hepatic Impairment**

Bilirubin	Dose
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1 - 2 x ULN	REDUCE Etoposide to 50% dose
>2 - 4 x ULN	REDUCE Etoposide to 25% dose
> 4 x ULN	STOP treatment

Renal Impairment

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Dose
15 - 50	REDUCE Etoposide to 75% dose
< 15	REDUCE Etoposide to 50% dose

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F - Adverse Effects

Refer to [etoposide](#) drug monograph(s) for additional details of adverse effects

Most Common Side Effects	Less Common Side Effects, but may be Severe or Life-Threatening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nausea and vomiting • Myelosuppression +/- infection, bleeding • Stomatitis • Anorexia • Diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary malignancies • Pneumonitis • Hypersensitivity • Eye disorders

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G - Interactions

Refer to [etoposide](#) drug monograph(s) for additional details

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H - Drug Administration and Special Precautions

Refer to [etoposide](#) drug monograph(s) for additional details

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I - Recommended Clinical Monitoring

Treating physicians may decide to monitor more or less frequently for individual patients but should always consider recommendations from the product monograph.

Recommended Clinical Monitoring

- CBC; Baseline and before each cycle
- Liver function tests; Baseline and periodic
- Renal function tests; Baseline and periodic
- Clinical assessment of stomatitis, other GI effects, bleeding, infection; at each visit
- Grade toxicity using the current [NCI-CTCAE \(Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events\) version](#)

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J - Administrative Information

Outpatient prescription for home administration

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K - References

Etoposide drug monograph, Cancer Care Ontario.

Jagodic M, Cufer T, Zakotnik B et al. Selection of candidates for oral etoposide salvage chemotherapy heavily pretreated breast cancer patients. *Anticancer Drugs* 2001; 12(3): 199-204.

Martin M, Lluch A, Casado A, et al. Clinical activity of chronic oral etoposide in previously treated metastatic breast cancer. *J Clin Oncol* 1994; 12(5): 986-91.

Saphner T, Weller EA, Tormey DC, et al. 21- day oral etoposide for metastatic breast cancer: a phase II study and review of the literature. *Am J Clin Oncol* 2000; 23(3): 258-262.

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M - Disclaimer

Regimen Abstracts

A 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). It is intended for healthcare providers and is to be used for informational purposes only. It is not intended to constitute or be a substitute for medical advice, and all uses of the Regimen Abstract are subject to clinical judgment. Such information is provided on an "as-is" basis, without any representation, warranty, or condition, whether express, or implied, statutory or otherwise, as to the information's quality, accuracy, currency, completeness, or reliability, and Cancer Care Ontario disclaims all liability for the use of this information, and for any claims, actions, demands or suits that arise from such use.

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.

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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