

## Regimen Monograph

[Regimen Name](#) | [Drug Regimen](#) | [Cycle Frequency](#) | [Premedication and Supportive Measures](#) | [Dose Modifications](#) | [Adverse Effects](#) | [Interactions](#) | [Drug Administration and Special Precautions](#) | [Recommended Clinical Monitoring](#) | [Administrative Information](#) | [References](#) | [Other Notes](#) | [Disclaimer](#)

## A - Regimen Name

# IBRU Regimen

Ibrutinib

**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.

**Rationale and Uses**

For the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma (MCL)

**Supplementary Public Funding****[iBRUtinib](#)**

Exceptional Access Program (iBRUtinib - For relapsed and refractory Mantle Cell Lymphoma, according to clinical criteria) ([EAP Website](#))

[back to top](#)

---

**B - Drug Regimen****[iBRUtinib](#)**

560 mg

PO

Daily

[back to top](#)**C - Cycle Frequency****CONTINUOUS TREATMENT**

Until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity.

[back to top](#)**D - Premedication and Supportive Measures**

**Antiemetic Regimen:** Minimal – No routine prophylaxis; PRN recommended

**Other Supportive Care:**

- **Screen for hepatitis B virus in all cancer patients starting systemic treatment.** Refer to the [hepatitis B virus screening and management](#) guideline.
- Patients at risk of tumour lysis syndrome should have appropriate prophylaxis and be monitored closely.
- Consider prophylaxis for patients at an increased risk for opportunistic infections.

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

[back to top](#)**E - Dose Modifications**

Doses should be modified according to the protocol by which the patient is being treated.

Patients who require anticoagulant treatment should not start ibrutinib until stable coagulation is achieved.

Ibrutinib should be held 3-7 days pre- and post-surgery depending on the surgery type and risk of bleeding; restart at physician discretion.

Ibrutinib may be affected by CYP3A inducers and inhibitors; see Drug Interaction section for dose adjustments.

### **Dosage with toxicity**

<b>Dose Level</b>	<b>Ibrutinib Dose (mg/day)</b>
0	560
-1	420
-2	280
-3	Discontinue

### **Dose Modifications for Non-cardiac toxicity:**

<b>Toxicity / Occurrence</b>		<b>Action</b>
Hypertension		Initiate or adjust antihypertensive treatment as appropriate.
Grade 4 hematologic toxicity  OR	1st occurrence	Hold*, resume at same dose or consider 1 dose level ↓.
	2nd and 3rd occurrence	Hold*, resume at 1 dose level ↓.
Grade ≥ 3 neutropenia with infection or fever  OR  Grade ≥ 3 non-hematologic toxicity	4th occurrence	Discontinue.
Major hemorrhage		Discontinue.
Lymphocytes > 400,000/microlitre		Consider temporary hold. Monitor closely for signs of leukostasis and manage patient appropriately.
Symptoms of PML (e.g. weakness, confusion)		Hold and investigate. Discontinue if confirmed for any grade.
Symptoms of ILD/Pneumonitis (treatment-related)		Hold and investigate. Discontinue if confirmed for any grade

\*Do not restart until hematological and non-hematological toxicities resolve to ≤ grade 1 or baseline.

**Dose Modifications for Cardiac toxicity:**

Toxicity / Occurrence		Action
Grade 2 heart failure	1st occurrence	Hold*; resume at 1 dose level ↓
	2nd occurrence	Hold*; resume at 1 dose level ↓
	3rd occurrence	Discontinue
Grade ≥ 3 heart failure		Discontinue
Grade 3 arrhythmia	1st occurrence	Hold**; resume at 1 dose level ↓
	2nd occurrence	Discontinue
Grade 4 arrhythmia		Discontinue

\*Do not restart until heart failure resolves to ≤ grade 1 or baseline.

\*\*Consider risk vs. benefit before restarting treatment.

**Hepatic Impairment**

Ibrutinib is metabolized in the liver and increased exposure is seen in patients with hepatic impairment. The risk of bleeding increases in moderate to severe hepatic impairment.

Hepatic Impairment	Ibrutinib Dose
Mild (Child-Pugh class A)	140 mg daily (if benefits of treatment outweigh risks)
Moderate or Severe (Child-Pugh class B or C)	Do not use.

**Renal Impairment**

Ibrutinib has minimal renal clearance.

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Ibrutinib Starting Dose
> 30	No dose adjustment during clinical trials.
≤ 30	No data.

### **Dosage in the Elderly**

No dose adjustment required. No difference in effectiveness of ibrutinib was observed for patients with B-cell malignancies  $\geq 65$  years of age compared to younger patients. Steady state drug levels are higher in the elderly, but no starting dosage adjustment is required. Patients  $\geq 65$  years of age reported more frequent grade 3 or higher adverse events (including fatal events), as well as thrombocytopenia, pneumonia, hypertension, urinary tract infection, and atrial fibrillation.

[back to top](#)

### **F - Adverse Effects**

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

<b>Common (25-49%)</b>	<b>Less common (10-24%)</b>	<b>Uncommon (&lt; 10%), but may be severe or life-threatening</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diarrhea (may be severe)</li> <li>• Musculoskeletal pain</li> <li>• Lymphocytosis (including rare leukostasis)</li> <li>• Fatigue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anorexia</li> <li>• Cough, dyspnea</li> <li>• Nausea, vomiting</li> <li>• Rash (may be severe)</li> <li>• Edema</li> <li>• Dry eye</li> <li>• Constipation</li> <li>• Myelosuppression <math>\pm</math> infection, bleeding (including opportunistic, hepatitis B and other viral reactivation) (may be severe)</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Hypertension (may be severe)</li> <li>• Mucositis</li> <li>• Visual disorders (may be severe)</li> <li>• Watering eyes</li> <li>• Atrial fibrillation</li> <li>• Dizziness</li> <li>• Dyspepsia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arterial thromboembolism</li> <li>• Arrhythmia</li> <li>• PR interval prolonged</li> <li>• Cardiotoxicity</li> <li>• Hepatic failure</li> <li>• Cirrhosis</li> <li>• Renal failure</li> <li>• Hypersensitivity</li> <li>• Tumor lysis syndrome</li> <li>• Secondary malignancy (non-melanoma skin cancer, non-skin cancer)</li> <li>• Hemorrhage</li> <li>• Leukoencephalopathy (PML)</li> <li>• Interstitial lung disease</li> </ul>

[back to top](#)

## G - Interactions

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

- For strong CYP3A inhibitors, avoid concomitant use due to ↑ ibrutinib exposure; if unavoidable short term ( $\leq 7$  days), hold\* ibrutinib for duration of inhibitor use.
- For moderate CYP3A inhibitors (excluding voriconazole), reduce\* ibrutinib dose to 280 mg daily for duration of inhibitor use due to ↑ ibrutinib exposure.
- For voriconazole, reduce\* ibrutinib dose to 140 mg for duration of inhibitor use due to ↑ ibrutinib exposure.
- For strong CYP3A inducers, avoid concomitant use due to ↓ ibrutinib exposure.
- Caution with the concurrent use of ibrutinib and anticoagulants or drugs that inhibit platelet function. If anticoagulation is required, consider temporary hold of ibrutinib until stable anticoagulation achieved.
- Avoid supplements that may inhibit platelet aggregation (e.g. fish oil, flaxseed, vitamin E).
- PGP substrates (e.g. verapamil, digoxin) and BCRP substrates (e.g. methotrexate) with narrow therapeutic range must be taken  $\geq 6$  hours before or after the ibrutinib dose. BCRP substrates may require dose reduction.

*\*Resume previous dose of ibrutinib after strong or moderate CYP3A inhibitor discontinuation.*

[back to top](#)

## H - Drug Administration and Special Precautions

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

### Administration

- Administer ibrutinib with or without food.
- Swallow whole with a glass of water. Do not open, break or chew capsules.
- Grapefruit, starfruit, Seville oranges, their juices or products should be avoided during ibrutinib treatment.

- 
- If a dose of ibrutinib is missed, patient may take it as soon as possible on the same day and return to the scheduled time the next day. Patient should not take an extra dose to make up for a missed dose.
  - Store at room temperature (15-30°C).

### Contraindications

- Patients who have a hypersensitivity to this drug or any components of the formulation.

### Warnings/Precautions

- Do not use ibrutinib in patients with moderate or severe hepatic impairment due to ↑ risk of coagulopathy and bleeding. Patients with AST/ALT  $\geq 3 \times$  ULN were excluded from clinical trials.
- Avoid concomitant use of ibrutinib with strong CYP3A inhibitors due to ↑ ibrutinib exposure.
- Exercise caution in patients at risk of bleeding, including those receiving anticoagulants or medications that inhibit platelet function. A higher risk for major bleeding was observed with anticoagulant than with antiplatelet agents. Patients on warfarin or other vitamin K antagonists and those with a history of recent stroke or intracranial hemorrhage were excluded from clinical trials. Patients with congenital bleeding conditions have not been studied.
- Exercise caution in patients with cardiac risk factors, hypertension, pre-existing conduction system abnormalities, history of arrhythmias/atrial fibrillation or acute infection.
- Transient lymphocytosis has been observed in patients treated with ibrutinib and should not be considered progressive disease in the absence of other clinical findings.
- Patients should use caution when driving or operating a vehicle or potentially dangerous machinery due to fatigue, dizziness and asthenia.

### Pregnancy/Lactation

- Ibrutinib is not recommended for use in pregnancy. Adequate contraception should be used by both sexes during treatment, and for at least **3 months** after the last dose.
- Women who use hormonal contraception should add a barrier method. Male patients should use a condom and not donate sperm during treatment, and for at least **3 months** after the last dose.
- Breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment and for **1 week** after the last dose.
- Fertility effects: Unknown

---

[back to top](#)

## 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.

Refer to the [hepatitis B virus screening and management](#) guideline for monitoring during and after treatment.

### Recommended Clinical Monitoring

- CBC; Baseline and monthly
- Liver function tests; Baseline and at each visit
- Renal function tests; Baseline and as clinically indicated
- Blood pressure; Baseline and at each visit
- Coagulation parameters; Baseline and as clinically indicated, more frequent in patients at risk of bleeding
- Heart failure and arrhythmia assessment; Baseline and as clinically indicated
- ECG in patients with cardiac risk factors, history of atrial fibrillation, acute infection, or who develop arrhythmic symptoms; Baseline and as clinically indicated
- Clinical toxicity assessment for infection, hepatitis B reactivation, leukostasis, TLS, bleeding, GI, cardiovascular, neurologic and respiratory effects; At each visit
- Grade toxicity using the current [NCI-CTCAE \(Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events\) version](#)

[back to top](#)

## J - Administrative Information

Outpatient prescription for home administration

[back to top](#)



## K - References

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

Wang ML, Rule S, Martin P, et al. Targeting BTK with ibrutinib in relapsed or refractory mantle-cell lymphoma. *N Engl J Med* 2013 Aug 8;369(6):507-16.

**February 2023** Updated dose modifications section

[back to top](#)

## 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.*

*The information set out in the drug monographs, regimen monographs, appendices and symptom management information (for health professionals) contained in the Drug Formulary (the "Formulary") is intended for healthcare providers and is to be used for informational purposes only. The information is not intended to cover all possible uses, directions, precautions, drug interactions or adverse effects of a particular drug, nor should it be construed to indicate that use of a particular drug is safe, appropriate or effective for a given condition. The information in the Formulary is not intended to constitute or be a substitute for medical advice and should not be relied upon in any such regard. All uses of the Formulary are subject to clinical judgment and actual prescribing patterns may not follow the information provided in the Formulary.*

*The format and content of the drug monographs, regimen monographs, appendices and symptom management information contained in the Formulary will change as they are reviewed and revised on a periodic basis. The date of last revision will be visible on each page of the monograph and regimen. Since standards of usage are constantly evolving, it is advised that the Formulary not be used as the sole source of information. It is strongly recommended that original references or product monograph be consulted prior to using a chemotherapy regimen for the first time.*

*Some Formulary documents, such as the medication information sheets, regimen information sheets and symptom*

---

*management information (for patients), are intended for patients. Patients should always consult with their healthcare provider if they have questions regarding any information set out in the Formulary documents.*

*While care has been taken in the preparation of the information contained in the Formulary, 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.*

*CCO and the Formulary’s content providers shall have no liability, whether direct, indirect, consequential, contingent, special, or incidental, related to or arising from the information in the Formulary or its use thereof, whether based on breach of contract or tort (including negligence), and even if advised of the possibility thereof. Anyone using the information in the Formulary does so at his or her own risk, and by using such information, agrees to indemnify CCO and its content providers from any and all liability, loss, damages, costs and expenses (including legal fees and expenses) arising from such person’s use of the information in the Formulary.*

[back to top](#)