

Regimen Monograph

[Regimen Name](#) | [Drug Regimen](#) | [Cycle Frequency](#) | [Premedication and Supportive Measures](#) | [Administrative Information](#) | [References](#) | [Other Notes](#) | [Disclaimer](#)

A - Regimen Name

MATRIX Regimen**Methotrexate-Cytarabine-Thiotepa-Rituximab**

Disease Site Hematologic
Lymphoma - Non-Hodgkin's Intermediate Grade

(Primary CNS Lymphoma)

Intent Curative

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 Induction therapy in patients with newly diagnosed, previously untreated primary central nervous system (CNS) lymphoma

Supplementary Public Funding [riTUXimab](#)
 New Drug Funding Program (Rituximab (Biosimilar IV) - As Part of the MATRix Regimen in Newly Diagnosed Previously Untreated PCNSL) (Patients previously treated with rituximab for indolent or aggressive histology lymphoma are eligible if the patient has sustained a response and remained disease free for at least 6 months following the last dose of rituximab received (See NDFP form))

[back to top](#)

B - Drug Regimen

Note: Different rituximab products are NOT INTERCHANGEABLE.

riTUXimab	375 mg /m ²	IV	Day -5 and Day 0
methotrexate *	3500 mg /m ²	IV	Day 1

Then,

cytarabine *	2000 mg /m ²	IV	q12h, Days 2 and 3
thiotepa *	30 mg /m ²	IV	Day 4

Note: Only the portion of this regimen delivered on an outpatient basis will be considered within scope for ST-QBP funding. Inpatient portions are denoted with an “*”.

[back to top](#)

C - Cycle Frequency

REPEAT EVERY 21 DAYS

For a usual total of 4 cycles unless disease progression or unacceptable toxicity occurs

[back to top](#)

D - Premedication and Supportive Measures

Antiemetic Regimen: Moderate

Other Supportive Care:

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

[back to top](#)

J - Administrative Information

Approximate Patient Visit

Rituximab: 2 to 5 hours

[back to top](#)

K - References

Ferreri AJ, Cwynarski K, Pulczynski E, et al.; International Extranodal Lymphoma Study Group (IELSG). Chemoimmunotherapy with methotrexate, cytarabine, thiotepa, and rituximab (MATRix regimen) in patients with primary CNS lymphoma: results of the first randomisation of the International Extranodal Lymphoma Study Group-32 (IELSG32) phase 2 trial. *Lancet Haematol*. 2016 May;3(5):e217-27.

Schorb E, Finke J, Ferreri AJ, et al. High-dose chemotherapy and autologous stem cell transplant compared with conventional chemotherapy for consolidation in newly diagnosed primary CNS lymphoma--a randomized phase III trial (MATRix). *BMC Cancer*. 2016 Apr 21;16:282.

PEBC Advice Documents or Guidelines

- [Management of Primary Central Nervous System Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma](#)

January 2023 Removed Unfunded note for thiotepa (funded by HCTFP for inpatient use); added PEBC guideline link

[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.

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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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[back to top](#)