

of fluid in the 24hrs following treatment, and to contact the hospital if this is impossible because of problems e.g. nausea and vomiting.

Coronary artery spasm is a recognised complication of 5FU although the evidence base regarding aetiology, management and prognosis is not particularly strong. Coronary artery spasm is more common in patients receiving continuous infusions of 5FU, which is usually reversible on discontinuing the infusion. Should a patient receiving 5FU present with chest pains, stop the 5FU. Standard investigation & treatment of angina may be required. If rechallenge is deemed necessary, this can be performed under close supervision, but should symptoms redevelop, the 5FU should be withdrawn permanently.¹ Refer to Consultant to discuss.

Dose Modifications

Haematological Toxicity: WBC < 3.0 x 10⁹/l or Neutrophils < 1.5 x 10⁹/l or Platelets < 100 x 10⁹/l Delay treatment for 1 week. Repeat FBC. If normal, resume treatment at full dose. If there is a 2 week delay, give both drugs at 75% dose. If there is a > 2 week delay, give both drugs at 50% dose.

Renal Impairment: NB. Cisplatin is both eliminated primarily (> 90%) in the urine and is itself nephrotoxic.

GFR (ml/min)	Cisplatin Dose
≥ 60	Give 100% dose
45 - 59	Give 75% dose
44 – 20	Cisplatin contra-indicated Carboplatin AUC 5, administered in 250ml 5% Glucose over 30 minutes, may be substituted. It may be given according to this protocol, with however no requirement for pre- or post-hydration, nor fluid balance/urine monitoring
< 20	Carboplatin contra-indicated

Hepatic Impairment:

Moderate hepatic impairment	Reduce initial 5FU dose by 1/3
Severe hepatic impairment	Reduce initial 5FU dose by 1/2

Increase dose if no toxicity. If in doubt, check with relevant consultant.

Other Toxicities: If Grade 3/4 mucositis, diarrhoea or PPE occurs, give a 25% dose reduction for 5FU in subsequent cycles. Cisplatin will continue at full dose. Patients with any grade PPE should receive pyridoxine 50mgs po tds throughout treatment. If patient develops Grade 2 neuropathy or ototoxicity, discuss with Consultant.

References: Adapted from following studies:

O'Brien, M et al; Eur J Cancer B Oral Oncol (1994); 30B (4): 265 – 267
Ghaemmaghami, F et al; J Obstet Gynaecol (2003); 23 (4): 422 - 425
¹COIN Guidelines Oct 2000

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