

**Chemotherapy Protocol**  
**GYNAECOLOGICAL CANCER**

**CARBOPLATIN (AUC5) – PEGYLATED LIPOSOMAL DOXORUBICIN (Caelyx) Retreat**

Please note this protocol is based on information for the use of the Caelyx brand of pegylated liposomal doxorubicin. Brands may not be interchangeable.

Regimen

- Ovary – Carboplatin (AUC5)- Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin (Caelyx) Retreat

Indication

- Second line or subsequent treatment of platinum sensitive or partially platinum-sensitive relapsed ovarian cancer in patients previously treated with a taxane/platinum regimen.
- WHO performance status 0,1, 2
- Palliative intent

Toxicity

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Adverse Effect</b>
Carboplatin	Thrombocytopenia, peripheral neuropathy, nephrotoxicity at high doses, electrolyte disturbances
Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin	Palmar plantar erythrodysesthesia (hand and foot syndrome), rash, GI disturbances, cardiotoxicity, asthenia, paresthesia

The adverse effects listed are not exhaustive. Please refer to the relevant Summary of Product Characteristics for full details.

Monitoring

Drugs

- FBC, LFT's and U&E's prior to each cycle
- EDTA or calculated creatinine clearance prior to each cycle
- CA125 prior to each cycle
- Ensure adequate cardiac function before starting therapy. Baseline ECG and LVEF should be measured in patients with a history of cardiac problems or in the elderly. Discontinue pegylated liposomal doxorubicin if cardiac failure develops

## Dose Modifications

The dose modifications listed are for haematological, liver and renal function and drug specific toxicities only. Dose adjustments may be necessary for other toxicities as well.

In principle all dose reductions due to adverse drug reactions should not be re-escalated in subsequent cycles without consultant approval. It is also a general rule for chemotherapy that if a third dose reduction is necessary treatment should be stopped.

Please discuss all dose reductions / delays with the relevant consultant before prescribing, if appropriate. The approach may be different depending on the clinical circumstances.

### *Haematological*

Consider blood transfusion if patient symptomatic of anaemia or has a haemoglobin of less than 8g/dL.

Prior to cycle 1 the following criteria must be met;

Criteria	Eligible Level
Neutrophil	equal to or more than $1 \times 10^9/L$
Platelets	equal to or more than $100 \times 10^9/L$

### Day 1

Neutrophils ( $\times 10^9/L$ )	Dose Modifications (carboplatin and pegylated liposomal doxorubicin)
1 or greater	100%
less than 1	Delay one week. If the counts have recovered to $1 \times 10^9/L$ or greater at this point continue with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin $25\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ and carboplatin AUC 4.
0.5 or below for at least 7 days or febrile neutropenia	Delay until recovery to $1 \times 10^9/L$ or greater then continue with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin at $25\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ and carboplatin AUC 4.
Platelets ( $\times 10^9/L$ )	Dose Modifications (carboplatin and pegylated liposomal doxorubicin)
100 or greater	100%
less than 100	Delay one week. If recovery to $100 \times 10^9/L$ or greater at this point continue with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin at $25\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ and carboplatin AUC 4.
less than 25 or bleeding	Delay until recovery to $100 \times 10^9/L$ or greater then continue with pegylated liposomal doxorubicin $25\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ and carboplatin AUC 4.

### Hepatic Impairment

The doses recommended below are for initial dosing. If the first dose of pegylated liposomal doxorubicin is well tolerated with minimal toxicity and no increase in bilirubin or liver enzymes the dose may be increased from \*75% to 100% and from \*\*50% to 75% at the next cycle (and from\*\* 75% to 100% on subsequent cycles where appropriate.)

Drug	Bilirubin µmol/L	AST/ALT units	Dose (% of original dose)
Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin	20 or less		100%
	21-51		75%*
	51 or greater		50%**
Carboplatin	N/A	N/A	No dose adjustment needed

### Renal Impairment

Drug	Creatinine Clearance (ml/min)	Dose (% of original dose)
Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin	30 or greater	No dose modification needed
	Less than 30	Clinical decision
Carboplatin	Less than 20	Omit

### Other

Dose reductions or interruptions in therapy are not necessary for those toxicities that are considered unlikely to be serious or life threatening. For example, alopecia, altered taste or nail changes.

For all other non-haematological NCI-CTC grade 3 and above toxicities delay treatment until the adverse effect has resolved to NCI-CTC grade 1 or below. The dose of the causative agent(s) should then be reduced to 75% of the original dose or discontinued as appropriate.

### Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin

Palmer-Plantar Erythrodesia / Stomatitis			
NCI-CTC Toxicity Grade	Number of Weeks after the Dose of Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin		
	4	5	6
1	Re-dose unless patient has experienced a previous grade 3 or 4 skin toxicity, in which case wait an additional week	Re-dose unless patient has experienced a previous grade 3 or 4 skin toxicity, in which case wait an additional week	Decrease dose by 25 % and return to 4 week interval or stop treatment
2	Wait an additional week	Wait an additional week	Decrease dose by 25 % and return to 4 week interval or stop treatment
3	Wait an additional week	Wait an additional week	Stop treatment
4	Wait an additional week	Wait an additional week	Stop treatment

### Regimen

The starting dose of carboplatin AUC 5 is used with calculated GFR. AUC 4 may be considered with EDTA clearance, seek advice from the appropriate consultant before prescribing. The recommended maximum dose when using a calculated creatinine clearance at AUC5 is 750mg (creatinine clearance 125ml/min). This is not a dose included in the national dose banding table. The maximum dose has been set at 790mg in ARIA. Please check if this dose is appropriate. If you have an obese patient or an individual with a calculated creatinine clearance above 125ml/min please seek advice from the relevant consultant.

It should be noted that the dose of carboplatin may need to be altered if there is a change (improvement or reduction) in renal function of more than 10% from the previous cycle.

### 28 day cycle for 6 cycles

Drug	Dose	Days	Administration
Carboplatin	AUC 5 (max dose)	1	Intravenous infusion in 500ml glucose 5% over 60 minutes.
Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin	30mg/m <sup>2</sup>	1	Intravenous infusion in 250ml glucose 5%. (The first infusion to be given at a maximum rate of 1mg/minute. If well tolerated subsequent infusions may be given over 60 minutes.)

## Dose Information

- Carboplatin will be dose banded in accordance with the national dose bands (10mg/ml)
- The maximum dose of carboplatin for AUC 5 is 750mg. This will be set as 790mg in ARIA to comply with national dose bands.
- It should be noted that the dose of carboplatin may need to be altered if there is a change (improvement or reduction) in renal function of more than 10% from the previous cycle.
- Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin will be dose banded in accordance with the national dose bands (2mg/ml)
- The maximum lifetime cumulative dose of doxorubicin is 450mg/m<sup>2</sup>. However prior radiotherapy to mediastinal/pericardial area should receive a lifetime cumulative doxorubicin dose of no more than 400mg/m<sup>2</sup>. Also consider previous anthracycline exposure.

## Administration Information

### *Extravasation*

- Carboplatin – irritant
- Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin – exfoliant

### *Other*

- The first infusion of pegylated liposomal doxorubicin is to be given at a maximum rate of 1mg/minute. If this is well tolerated subsequent infusions may be given over 60 minutes. The default time on Aria is 120 minutes.
- If the patient experiences early symptoms or signs of infusion reaction immediately discontinue the infusion and administer appropriate treatment with chlorpheniramine and hydrocortisone. Once the patient has fully re-covered the infusion may be restarted slowly by infusing 5% of the total dose over the first 15 minutes. If tolerated without reaction, the infusion rate may then be doubled for the next 15 minutes. If tolerated, the infusion may then be completed over the next hour for a total infusion time of 90 minutes.
- Pegylated liposomal doxorubicin is incompatible with sodium chloride 0.9%. Always use a glucose 5% flush.
- Do not use in-line filters during the administration of pegylated liposomal doxorubicin.
- Doses of pegylated liposomal doxorubicin less than 90mg may be diluted in 250ml of glucose 5%. Doses of 90mg and above should be diluted in 500ml of glucose 5%.

### Additional Therapy

- Antiemetics

15 – 30 minutes prior to chemotherapy

- ondansetron 8mg oral or intravenous

As take home medication

- dexamethasone 4mg oral twice a day for 3 days
- metoclopramide 10mg oral three times a day as required
- ondansetron 8mg oral twice a day for 3 days

- For the prevention of allergic reactions to carboplatin 30 minutes prior to chemotherapy

- chlorphenamine 10mg intravenous
- dexamethasone 10mg intravenous
- H<sub>2</sub> antagonist according to local formulary choice and availability

- Mouthwashes for the treatment and prevention of mucositis or stomatitis as per local policy.

- Gastric protection with a proton pump inhibitor or a H<sub>2</sub> antagonist may be considered in patients considered at high risk of GI ulceration or bleed.

### References

1. Pujade-Lauraine E, Mahner S, Kaern J, et al. A randomized, phase III study of Carboplatin and pegylated liposomal doxorubicin versus carboplatin and paclitaxel in relapsed platinum sensitive ovarian cancer (OC): CALYPSO study of the Gynecologic Cancer Intergroup (GCIG). J Clin Oncol 2009; 27:18s, (suppl; abstr LBA5509)

## REGIMEN SUMMARY

### Carboplatin (AUC5)- Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin (Caelyx) Retreat

#### Day 1

1. Chlorphenamine 10mg intravenous
2. Dexamethasone 10mg intravenous
3. H<sub>2</sub> antagonist according to local formulary choice and availability

Administration Instructions:

Administer according to local formulary choice and availability one of the following 30 minutes prior to SACT;

- ranitidine 50mg intravenous once only
- famotidine 20mg oral once only
- nizatidine 150mg oral once only
- ranitidine 150mg oral once only

If there is no stock of these products due to national shortages treatment may proceed without the H<sub>2</sub> antagonist provided there is no instruction in the ARIA journal indication the patient **must have** H<sub>2</sub> antagonist treatment.

All infusion related reactions must be recorded in the ARIA journal and reported to the appropriate consultant. Many Trusts do not administer an H<sub>2</sub> antagonist from cycle three onwards. They have been left in the ARIA protocols so that decisions can be made on an individual Trust and patient basis.

4. Ondansetron 8mg oral or intravenous  
Administration Instructions  
Administer ondansetron 8mg intravenous if required
5. Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin 30mg/m<sup>2</sup> intravenous infusion in 250ml glucose 5% over 120 minutes.
6. Warning - Carboplatin Maximum Dose  
Administration Instructions  
The dose of carboplatin is capped at a creatinine clearance of 125ml/min. The internationally recommended maximum dose of carboplatin for AUC 5 is 750mg. The national dose bands do not contain this dose so the cap has been set at 790mg in ARIA. Please check this dose is appropriate for your patient.
7. Carboplatin AUC 5 intravenous infusion in 500ml glucose 5% over 60 minutes  
Administration Instructions  
The dose of carboplatin is capped at a creatinine clearance of 125ml/min. The internationally recommended maximum dose of carboplatin for AUC 5 is 750mg. The national dose bands do not contain this dose so the cap has been set at 790mg in ARIA. Please check this dose is appropriate for your patient

#### Take Home Medicines

8. Dexamethasone 4mg oral twice a day for 3 days starting on day 2 of the cycle  
Administration Instructions  
Take 4mg twice a day (morning and lunch) for 3 days starting on day 2 of the cycle
9. Metoclopramide 10mg oral three times a day for three days then 10mg three times a day when required for nausea  
Administration Instructions  
Please supply 28 tablets or an original pack as appropriate

10. Ondansetron 8mg oral twice a day for 3 days starting on the evening of day 1 of the cycle

Administration Instructions

Take 8mg twice a day for three days starting on the evening of day 1 of the cycle



## DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Date	Amendment	Written By	Approved By
1.3	August 2022	National dose bands added Maximum dose added Coding removed Administration instructions added	Dr Deborah Wright Pharmacist	Donna Kimber Pharmacy Technician
1.2	Nov 2020	Updated Liposomal Doxorubicin to be Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin	Donna Kimber Pharmacy Technician	Becky Wills Pharmacist
1.1	October 2020	Update of premedication due to shortage of IV ranitidine. IV ranitidine changed to H <sub>2</sub> antagonist according to local formulary choice and availability Coding removed Dose banding updated	Arum Shortland Pharmacist	Dr Deborah Wright Pharmacist
1	Sept 2014	None	Dr Deborah Wright Pharmacist	Dr V McFarlane Consultant Clinical Oncologist

This chemotherapy protocol has been developed as part of the chemotherapy electronic prescribing project. This was and remains a collaborative project that originated from the former CSCCN. These documents have been approved on behalf of the following Trusts;

Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
 NHS Isle of Wight  
 Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust  
 Salisbury Hospital NHS Foundation Trust  
 University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust  
 Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

All actions have been taken to ensure these protocols are correct. However, no responsibility can be taken for errors which occur as a result of following these guidelines.