

Regimen Reference Order

H&N – PACLitaxel weekly with concurrent radiation

ARIA: H&N – [PACLitaxel (weekly) + RT]

Planned Course: PACLitaxel every 7 days for 7 doses with concurrent radiation

Indication for Use: Squamous Cell Carcinoma of Head and Neck

CVAD: At Provider's Discretion

Proceed with treatment if:

Day 1

- ANC equal to or greater than $1.5 \times 10^9/L$ AND Platelets equal to or greater than $100 \times 10^9/L$

Day 8 and onwards

- ANC equal to or greater than $1.2 \times 10^9/L$ AND Platelets equal to or greater than $75 \times 10^9/L$
- ❖ Contact Physician if parameters are not met

SEQUENCE OF MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

Pre-treatment Requirements

Drug	Dose	CCMB Administration Guideline
Not Applicable		

Treatment Regimen – H&N – PACLitaxel weekly with concurrent radiation

Establish primary solution 500 mL of: normal saline

Drug	Dose	CCMB Administration Guideline
Days 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 36 and 43		
cetirizine	20 mg	Orally 1 hour prior to PACLitaxel
dexamethasone	20 mg	IV in normal saline 50 mL over 15 minutes 1 hour prior to PACLitaxel <i>*Nursing Alert: PACLitaxel starts 1 hour after completion of dexamethasone infusion</i>
Wait 1 hour after completion of IV pre-medication(s) before starting PACLitaxel		
PACLitaxel	40 mg/m ²	IV in normal saline 250 mL over 1 hour, following the administration rates below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer at 100 mL/hour for 15 minutes, then • Administer remaining volume over 45 minutes Use non-DEHP bags and non-DEHP administration sets with 0.2 or 0.22 micron filter <i>*Nursing Alert: Gently invert bag 8 to 10 times immediately prior to administration of PACLitaxel to evenly distribute the drug</i>

In the event of an infusion-related hypersensitivity reaction, refer to the 'Hypersensitivity Reaction Standing Order'

REQUIRED MONITORING

Weekly

- CBC, serum creatinine, urea, electrolytes, liver enzymes and total bilirubin as per Physician Orders
- Full vital signs (temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure and O2 saturation) at baseline and as clinically indicated
- No observation period required after PACLitaxel administration. Patient can be discharged from treatment room if stable whether they had a reaction or not

Recommended Support Medications

Drug	Dose	CCMB Administration Guideline
metoclopramide	10 - 20 mg	Orally every 4 hours as needed for nausea and vomiting

DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

- Patients should be instructed to contact their cancer team immediately if symptoms of hypersensitivity reactions occur after discharge
- Instruct patient to continue taking anti-emetic(s) at home
- Reinforce applicable safe handling precautions of medications, blood and body fluids for 48 hours after completion of chemotherapy

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- PACLitaxel may cause progressive, irreversible neuropathy
- If PACLitaxel needs to be held for toxicity, radiation may continue
- Since PACLitaxel is given concurrently with radiation, site restrictions are in place