

## Regimen Reference Order – HEME – ruxolitinib (polycythemia vera)

Planned Course: Twice daily until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity (1 cycle = 28 days)

Indication for Use: Polycythemia Vera

### **Proceed with treatment if:**

- **ANC equal to or greater than  $0.5 \times 10^9/L$  AND Platelets equal to or greater than  $50 \times 10^9/L$**
- **Hemoglobin equal to or greater than 80 g/L**
- ❖ **Contact Hematologist if parameters not met**

## SEQUENCE OF MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

### Treatment Regimen – HEME – ruxolitinib (polycythemia vera)

Drug	Initial Dose	Criteria for initial dose
ruxolitinib	10 mg orally twice daily	IF platelet value equal to or greater than $100 \times 10^9/L$
	5 mg orally twice daily	IF platelet value is between 50 to $100 \times 10^9/L$
ruxolitinib (Jakavi®) available dosage strengths: 5 mg, 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg tablets		
Classification: Cytotoxic, Hazardous		

## REQUIRED MONITORING

- CBC, biochemistry, serum creatinine, liver function tests at baseline, then every 2 – 4 weeks until dose is stabilized then as clinically indicated thereafter as per physician order
- Before starting treatment, patients should be evaluated for active and latent tuberculosis, hepatitis B and C, HIV serology
- ECG at baseline and then as required
- Blood pressure and pulse rate should be evaluated at each physician appointment

### Recommended Support Medications

Drug	Dose	CCMB Administration Guideline
valacyclovir*	500 mg	Orally once daily <b>(self-administered at home)</b>  *valacyclovir will only be prescribed for patients at risk of herpes zoster

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENT

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- ruxolitinib may be taken with or without food
  - Patients should:
    - be instructed that their dose may be adjusted during their course of therapy
    - be advised not to stop ruxolitinib abruptly as rebound symptoms can occur
    - be aware of the risk of low blood counts and to report any signs or symptoms of infection
    - be aware that ruxolitinib can increase the risk of non-melanoma skin cancers and to report any new or changing skin lesions
    - be aware that ruxolitinib can increase cholesterol levels
  - Patients should not receive the shingles vaccine while on ruxolitinib
  - Reinforce applicable safe handling precautions of medications, blood and body fluids for 48 hours after ruxolitinib
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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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- N/A