


Coversheet for Network Site Specific Group Agreed Documentation

This sheet is to accompany all documentation agreed by Pan Birmingham Cancer Network Site Specific Groups. This will assist the Network Governance Committee to endorse the documentation and request implementation.

Document Title	Guideline for Regimens not in the Network Approved Lists				
Document Date	January 2008				
Document Purpose	<p>This guideline has been produce to support the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The prescribing and dispensing of chemotherapy regimens that are not on the current approved list¹ ○ The continued review and development of the Network Approved list of Chemotherapy Regimens. <p>This guideline should be read in conjunction with the Network High Cost Drugs Formulary. Regimes that include drugs not routinely available should follow the usual route for funding applications. This guideline is not an indication of approval of funding being allocated.</p>				
Authors	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Andrew Stanley</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Network Pharmacist</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lara Barnish</td> <td>Lead Nurse</td> </tr> </table>	Andrew Stanley	Network Pharmacist	Lara Barnish	Lead Nurse
Andrew Stanley	Network Pharmacist				
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References					
Consultation Process	Consultation was via the authors, Chemotherapy Network Site Specific Group, Clinical and Medical Oncologists and the Haematology Network Site Specific Group				
Review Date (must be within three years)	February 2011				
Approval Signatures: Network Site Specific Group Clinical Chair					
Date Approved by Network Governance Committee	08/05/08				

Guideline for the Use of Chemotherapy Regimens Not in the Network Approved Lists

Version History

Version	Summary of Change	Date Issued
Draft 0.1	First draft by Andrew Stanley taken to the Chemotherapy NSSG 1 st October 2007	3 rd October 2007
Draft 0.2	With LB comments for consultation with AS and the Medical and Clinical Oncologists and the Haematology NSSG.	22 nd October
Draft 0.3	For presentation at the Chemotherapy NSSG 17.12.07	10.12.07
Draft 0.4	With comments following Chemotherapy NSSG on 17.12.07	18.12.07
Draft 0.5	With comments from Harriet Brown and approved by the NSSG Chair	31.01.08
0.6	Following Submission to the Clinical Governance Committee (Feb '08) with addition of funding statements	02.06.08
1.0	Endorsed by the Governance Committee and prepared for distribution and implementation	16.06.08

1. **This guideline has been produce to support the following:**

- 1.1 The prescribing and dispensing of chemotherapy regimens that are not on the current approved list¹
- 1.2 The continued review and development of the Network Approved list of Chemotherapy Regimens.
- 1.3 **This guideline should be read in conjunction with the Network High Cost Drugs Formulary. Regimes that include drugs not routinely available should follow the usual route for funding applications. This guideline is not an indication of approval of funding being allocated.**

2. Background

- 2.1 Pan Birmingham Cancer Network has an approved list of chemotherapy regimens to support the disease specific guidelines for treatment¹ as required by peer review. In general only regimens included in the Network approved lists may be used. However, there may be occasions when an individual patient requires further chemotherapy options where there is a level of evidence to support this.

2.2 In these cases the following procedure must be followed:

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3. Guideline Statements

3.1 **All Regimens**

- 3.1.1 A decision to prescribe a regimen that is not on the Network approved list should be made by the Consultant.
- 3.1.2 The local pharmacy must be informed in advance of the intended treatment date. The consultant must provide the pharmacy with full information of the intended treatment and agree the details i.e.:
- a) Cancer type, stage
 - b) Name of regimen
 - c) Therapeutic intent
 - d) Drugs
 - e) Doses of drugs (per m² or per kg etc)
 - f) Routes of administration
 - g) Number of cycles or whether this is indeterminate
 - h) Length of cycle and schedule of administrations within a cycle
 - i) Mandatory tests prior to a course and individual cycle
 - j) Mandatory supportive drugs with each cycle
 - k) Mandatory cytotoxic dose modifications and their indications
 - l) Evidence, e.g. published references to support the regimen's use in a 'one-off' situation or to support inclusion into the approved list
- 3.1.3 The local pharmacy will produce a pre-printed prescription if appropriate, dispense the treatment and monitor the regimen's use.
- 3.1.4 The local Chemotherapy Group will review these regimens on a regular basis.
- 3.1.5 The Lead Cancer Services Pharmacist for the Trust will notify the Chair of the Network Chemotherapy Group of the regimen's.
- 3.1.6 The Network Chemotherapy Group will review all notifications of non-approved regimens and make recommendations to the Network Site Specific Groups regarding their inclusion in approved lists.
- 3.1.7 The Network Chemotherapy Group will report non-approved regimens annually to the Network Drugs and Therapeutics Committee for information purposes only.
- 3.2 ***In addition, for regimens that include high cost drugs which are not included in the Network's formulary lists of funded drugs/indications:***
- 3.2.1 Local Trust formulary processes must be followed to approve the use of the regimen and to secure funding **BEFORE** treatment commences.
- 3.2.2 The local pharmacy will only dispense the drug when evidence of funding is provided.

3.2.3 The Network's procedure for adding a drug to the formulary should be followed if more routine use is anticipated.

4. Monitoring of the guideline

Implementation of the guidance will be considered as a topic for audit by the NSSG in 2009/2010 and reviewed in December 2010.

References

1. Pan Birmingham Cancer Network Approved Regimens List

Approval Date of Network Site Specific Group Date 31.01.08

Approval Date by the Clinical Governance Committee Date 08.05.08

Approval Signatures

Pan Birmingham Cancer Network Clinical Governance Committee Chair

Name: Doug Wulff

Signature  Date 08.05.08

Pan Birmingham Cancer Network Manager

Name: Karen Metcalf

Signature  Date 08.05.08

Network Site Specific Group Clinical Chair

Name: Harriet Brown

Signature  Date 31.01.08