

Dacarbazine Therapy

INDICATIONS FOR USE:

INDICATION	ICD10	Regimen Code	Reimbursement Status
Treatment of metastatic malignant melanoma	C43	00464a	Hospital

TREATMENT:

The starting dose of the drugs detailed below may be adjusted downward by the prescribing clinician, using their independent medical judgement, to consider each patients individual clinical circumstances.

Dacarbazine is administered on day 1 of a 21 day cycle for 6 cycles or until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity develops.

Day	Drug	Dose	Route	Diluent & Rate	Cycle
1	Dacarbazine	850mg/m ²	IV infusion	1000mls NaCl 0.9% over 1 hour	Every 21 days
Dacarbazine is sensitive to light exposure. All reconstituted solutions should be suitably protected from light also during administration (light-resistant infusion set)					

ELIGIBILITY:

- Indications as above

EXCLUSIONS:

- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients
- Pregnancy or breastfeeding
- Leukopenia and/or thrombocytopenia
- Severe liver or kidney diseases.

PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY:

The treatment plan must be initiated by a Consultant Medical Oncologist.

TESTS:

Baseline tests:

- FBC, renal and liver profile

Regular tests:

- FBC, renal and liver profile prior to each treatment

NCCP Regimen: Dacarbazine Therapy	Published: 16/02/2018 Review: 01/05/2025	Version number: 2
Tumour Group: Skin/Melanoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00464	ISMO Contributor: Dr Fergal Kelleher	Page 1 of 3

The information contained in this document is a statement of consensus of NCCP and ISMO or IHS professionals regarding their views of currently accepted approaches to treatment. Any clinician seeking to apply or consult these documents is expected to use independent medical judgement in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine any patient's care or treatment. Use of these documents is the responsibility of the prescribing clinician and is subject to HSE's terms of use available at <http://www.hse.ie/eng/Disclaimer>

This information is valid only on the day of printing, for any updates please check www.hse.ie/NCCPchemoregimens

Disease monitoring:

Disease monitoring should be in line with the patient's treatment plan and any other test/s as directed by the supervising Consultant.

DOSE MODIFICATIONS:

- Any dose modification should be discussed with a Consultant.

Haematological:

Table 1: Dose modification of dacarbazine in haematological toxicity

ANC ($\times 10^9$ /L)		Platelets ($\times 10^9$ /L)	Dose
<1.5	or	<100	Delay for 1 week. Repeat FBC, if within normal parameters resume treatment with 100% dose.

Renal and Hepatic Impairment:

Table 2: Dose modifications in renal and hepatic impairment

Renal Impairment		Hepatic Impairment
CrCl (ml/min)	Dose	
45-60	80%	Can be hepatotoxic. Consider dose reduction.
30-45	75%	
<30	70%	

SUPPORTIVE CARE:

EMETOGENIC POTENTIAL: High (Refer to local policy).

PREMEDICATIONS: None usually required

OTHER SUPPORTIVE CARE: No specific recommendations

ADVERSE EFFECTS / REGIMEN SPECIFIC COMPLICATIONS:

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

- Neutropenia:** Fever or other evidence of infection must be assessed promptly and treated appropriately.
- Vein Irritation:** Dacarbazine often causes pain during administration that usually responds to slowing the infusion rate.
- Hepatotoxic drugs** and alcohol should be avoided during chemotherapy.

NCCP Regimen: Dacarbazine Therapy	Published: 16/02/2018 Review: 01/05/2025	Version number: 2
Tumour Group: Skin/Melanoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00464	ISMO Contributor: Dr Fergal Kelleher	Page 2 of 3
<p>The information contained in this document is a statement of consensus of NCCP and ISMO or IHS professionals regarding their views of currently accepted approaches to treatment. Any clinician seeking to apply or consult these documents is expected to use independent medical judgement in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine any patient's care or treatment. Use of these documents is the responsibility of the prescribing clinician and is subject to HSE's terms of use available at http://www.hse.ie/eng/Disclaimer</p> <p>This information is valid only on the day of printing, for any updates please check www.hse.ie/NCCPchemoregimens</p>		

DRUG INTERACTIONS:

- Dacarbazine is metabolised by cytochrome P450 (CYP1A1, CYP1A2, and CYP2E1). This has to be taken into account if other medicinal products are co-administered which are metabolised by the same hepatic enzymes.
- Concomitant use of phenytoin and dacarbazine should be avoided since there is a risk of exacerbation of convulsions resulting from the decrease of phenytoin digestive absorption.
- Current drug interaction databases should be consulted for more information.

ATC CODE:

Dacarbazine - L01AX04

REFERENCES:

1. Chapman PB, Einhorn LH, Meyers ML, et al. Phase III multicenter randomized trial of the Dartmouth regimen versus dacarbazine in patients with metastatic melanoma. J Clin Oncol 1999;2745-51.
2. Dosage Adjustment for Cytotoxics in Renal Impairment January 2009; North London Cancer Network. Available at <http://londoncancer.org/media/65600/renal-impairment-dosage-adjustment-for-cytotoxics.pdf>
3. Dosage Adjustment for Cytotoxics in Hepatic Impairment January 2009; North London Cancer Network. Available at <http://londoncancer.org/media/65594/hepatic-impairment-dosage-adjustment-for-cytotoxics.pdf>
4. Dacarbazine Summary of Product Characteristics. Last updated: 12/11/2019. Accessed Jan 2020. Available at https://www.hpra.ie/img/uploaded/swedocuments/Licence_PA0623-003-004_12112019153147.pdf
5. NCCP Classification Document for Systemic AntiCancer Therapy (SACT) Induced Nausea and Vomiting. V2 2019. Available at: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/profinfo/chemoprotocols/nccp-classification-document-for-systemic-anti-cancer-therapy-sact-induced-nausea-and-vomiting.pdf>

Version	Date	Amendment	Approved By
1	16/02/2018		Dr Fergal Kelleher
2	01/05/2020	Reviewed.	Dr Fergal Kelleher

Comments and feedback welcome at oncologydrugs@cancercontrol.ie.

NCCP Regimen: Dacarbazine Therapy	Published: 16/02/2018 Review: 01/05/2025	Version number: 2
Tumour Group: Skin/Melanoma NCCP Regimen Code: 00464	ISMO Contributor: Dr Fergal Kelleher	Page 3 of 3
<p>The information contained in this document is a statement of consensus of NCCP and ISMO or IHS professionals regarding their views of currently accepted approaches to treatment. Any clinician seeking to apply or consult these documents is expected to use independent medical judgement in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine any patient's care or treatment. Use of these documents is the responsibility of the prescribing clinician and is subject to HSE's terms of use available at http://www.hse.ie/eng/Disclaimer</p> <p><i>This information is valid only on the day of printing, for any updates please check www.hse.ie/NCCPchemoregimens</i></p>		