



Epirubicin 90 / Cyclophosphamide 600, Breast Cancer, adjuvant

Protocol-ID: 579 V1.1 (Standard), EC (EPIR90/CYCL600), Breast Ca, adj.

Indication(s)

- Breast Cancer; ICD-10 C50.-

Protocol classification

- Classification: alternative
- Intensity: Standard dose
- Therapy phase:
- Therapy intention: curative

Cycles

Cycle length 21 days, recommended cycles: 4

Protocol sequences

- [EC \(EPIR90/CYCL600\), Breast Ca, adj. \(PID579\) -|- PACL80, Breast Ca, adj. \(PID581\)](#)
- [Neoadjuvant WSG-TP-II \(Paclitaxel\)](#)
- [Neoadjuvant WSG-TP-II \(Letrozole\)](#)
- [Neoadjuvant WSG-TP-II \(Tamoxifen\) -|- PERT840/TRAS8/TMXF20, Breast Ca, adj., C1 \(PID2450\)](#)
- [EC \(EPIR90/CYCL600\), Breast Ca, adj. \(PID579\) -|- DOCE100, adj. \(PID395\)](#)

Risks

- Emetogenicity (MASCC/ESMO): moderate (30-90%)
- Neutropenia: very high (>41%)
- Febrile Neutropenia: intermediate (10-20%)
- Thrombocytopenia below 50 000/ μ l: low (<10%)
- Anemia Hb below 8g/dl: low (<5%)
- Dyspnea: CTC AE \circ 3-4: 5%

Therapy

Hydration: Balanced Crystalloid Solution

HYD

Access: peripheral venous

Hydration before, during, or after antitumor therapy

Day	Substance	Dosage	Solution	Appl.	Inf. time	Procedure
1	Balanced Crystalloid Solution	500 ml		i.v.	30 min	30 min before Epirubicin (d1)

Antiemesis: Emetogenicity high (AC), FOSAP, GRAN i.v., DEXA i.v

AE

Access: peripheral venous

DGHO 2016, DKG 2016, MASCC/ESMO 2016, on combinations of anthracycline and cyclophosphamide

Day	Substance	Dosage	Solution	Appl.	Inf. time	Procedure
1	Fosaprepitant	150 mg	NaCl 0.9% 150 ml	i.v.	20 min	30 min before Epirubicin (d1)
1	Dexamethasone	12 mg	NaCl 0.9% 50 ml	i.v.	5 min	30 min before Epirubicin (d1)
1	Granisetron	1 mg	NaCl 0.9% 50 ml	i.v.	5 min	15 min before Epirubicin (d1)

or other 5-HT3 receptor antagonist

Supportive therapy: Mesna i.v., hour 0 (pre), p.o. 2 h, 6 h after onset Cyclophosphamide

SUP

Access: peripheral venous

Mesna 0h,2h,6h, prophylaxis of urinary tract toxicity by cyclophosphamide. At the time of oxazaphosphorin injection, 20% of the oxazaphosphorin dose is injected simultaneously as mesna. 2 and 6 h after onset, oral intake of 40% of the oxazaphosphorin dose.

Day	Substance	Dosage	Solution	Appl.	Inf. time	Procedure
1	Mesna	120 mg/m ² BSA		i.v.	1 min	1 min before Cyclophosphamide (d1)
1	Mesna	240 mg/m ² BSA		p.o.		90 min after Cyclophosphamide (d1)
1	Mesna	240 mg/m ² BSA		p.o.		5 h after Cyclophosphamide (d1)

It is to be taken 6 hours after the start of the cyclophosphamide infusion.

Antineoplastic therapy: EPIR/CYCL Breast Carcinoma (EC)

CTX

Access: central venous, port

Day	Substance	Dosage	Solution	Appl.	Inf. time	Procedure
1	Epirubicin	90 mg/m ² BSA	Dextrose 5% 500 ml	i.v.	45 min	Sequence
1	Cyclophosphamide	600 mg/m ² BSA	NaCl 0.9% 500 ml	i.v.	30 min	Sequence

Hematopoietic growth factors: FN risk 10-20%, G-CSF long-acting, pegylated

HW

Access: - none -

Risk of febrile neutropenia (FN) 10-20% and 1 risk factor: age > 65 y, laboratory parameters (anemia, lymphocytopenia < 700/μl, hypalbuminemia, hyperbilirubinemia) previous chemotherapy, comorbidities, low performance status, advanced symptomatic tumor disease (DKG 2016)

Day	Substance	Dosage	Solution	Appl.	Inf. time	Procedure
2	Pegfilgrastim	6 mg		subc	Bolus	24 h after Cyclophosphamide (d1)

Use at risk: FN 10-20% and 1 risk factor, other long-acting G-CSF possible.

WarningsEpirubicin: cardiac toxicity, maximum cumulative dose 900-1000 mg/m² KOF.For EPIR extravasation: dry cold (not just before or after Dexrazoxane infusion) on day of extravasation. Dexrazoxane i.v. for 3 days: 2 days 1000 mg/m², 3rd day 500 mg/m², do not use in parallel with DMSO. First infusion as soon as possible and within the first 6 hours.**Notes**

This protocol was established based on a recommendation from the AGO to extrapolate from AC + paclitaxel to EC + paclitaxel and use in dose equivalent because of the more favorable side effect profile. In the work of Smith and Khasraw, the lower cardiotoxicity of EPIR vs DOXO is addressed.

The side effect profile was based on the publication by Minckwitz for EC followed by docetaxel.

Controls:

- Blood count: on day 1 and subsequently weekly
- ECG Cardiotoxicity of epirubicin, check cardiac function before/under therapy recommended. See technical info

- Day 1: GOT, GPT, GGT, Bilirubin, AP, Cholinesterase Epirubicin: continuous liver monitoring is necessary during therapy. In case of elevated bilirubin, dose adjustment, if necessary, see summary of product characteristics. Cyclophosphamide: dose reduction is recommended in case of impaired liver function.
- Day 1: Creatinine, glomerular filtration rate (GFR) Epirubicin: If serum creatinine levels are elevated (> 5 mg/dl), the dose should be reduced. Cyclophosphamide: In case of impaired renal function, dose reduction is recommended.
- Day 1: Urine status Urinary sediment must be checked regularly for erythrocytes and other signs of uro/nephrotoxicity.
- Day 1: Na⁺, K⁺, Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺ Cyclophosphamide: exclusion of electrolyte disturbances before use.

Original author

Sparano JA (2008)

Origin

The Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, Southwest Oncology Group, Cancer and Leukemia Group, North Central Cancer Treatment Group

References

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Recommendations

- 12/2023: [European Society for Medical Oncology](#)

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