

**Systemic Anti Cancer Treatment Protocol**

**Doxorubicin and Ifosfamide  
Sarcoma**

**PROTOCOL REF: MPHADOXIFO  
(Version No: 1.0)**

**Approved for use in:**

Soft tissue sarcoma

**Dosage:**

Drug	Dosage	Route	Frequency
Doxorubicin	20mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Days 1, 2 and 3 of cycle
Mesna	3g/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Days 1, 2 and 3 of cycle
Ifosfamide + Mesna	3g/m <sup>2</sup> + 3g/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Days 1, 2 and 3 of cycle
Mesna	3g/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Days 1, 2 and 3 of cycle

**Repeat every 21 days for 4 to 6 cycles**  
**For neo-adjuvant patients, usually 4 cycles**

**Supportive treatments:**

**Anti-emetic risk - high**

Dexamethasone tablets, 4mg twice daily for 3 days

Domperidone 10mg oral tablets, up to 3 times a day or as required

Filgrastim to start on day 4 for 7 days, then repeat FBC, if neutrophils below 1.0 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L then continue for further 7 days

**Extravasation risk:**

Doxorubicin: Vesicant – follow trust / network extravasation policy, specific treatment may apply

Ifosfamide: Irritant

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## Administration:

Day	Drug	Dosage	Route	Diluent and Rate
1	Aprepitant 30 minutes prior to chemotherapy	125mg	PO	
1	Dexamethasone 30 minutes prior to chemotherapy	8mg	IV	Bolus injection
1	Ondansetron 30 minutes prior to chemotherapy	8mg	IV	Bolus injection
1	<b>Doxorubicin</b>	20mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Bolus injection over 10 minutes, with concurrent fast flowing Sodium Chloride 0.9%
1	<b>Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	In 500mL Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 60 minutes
1	<b>Ifosfamide + Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup> + 3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	In 1000mL Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 4 hours
1	<b>Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	1000ml Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 8 hours
2	Aprepitant	80mg	PO	24 hours after day 1 dose
2	Dexamethasone	8mg	IV	Bolus injection
2	Ondansetron	8mg	IV	Bolus injection
2	<b>Doxorubicin</b>	20mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Bolus injection over 10 minutes, with concurrent fast flowing Sodium Chloride 0.9%
2	<b>Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	In 500mL Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 60 minutes
2	<b>Ifosfamide + Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup> + 3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	In 1000mL Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 4 hours
2	<b>Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	1000ml Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 8 hours
3	Aprepitant	80mg	PO	24 hours after day 2 dose
3	Dexamethasone	8mg	IV	Bolus injection
3	Ondansetron	8mg	IV	Bolus injection
3	<b>Doxorubicin</b>	20mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	Bolus injection over 10 minutes, with concurrent fast flowing Sodium Chloride 0.9%
3	<b>Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	In 500mL Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 60 minutes
3	<b>Ifosfamide + Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup> + 3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	In 1000mL Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 4 hours
3	<b>Mesna</b>	3000mg/m <sup>2</sup>	IV	1000ml Sodium Chloride 0.9% over 8 hours

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**Notes:**

**Doxorubicin**

Maximum cumulative dose of doxorubicin: 450 to 550mg/m<sup>2</sup>

Perform baseline MUGA if patient is considered at risk of significantly impaired cardiac contractility.

Use alternative regimen if cardiac ejection fraction < 50%

Repeat MUGA during treatment if there is any suspicion of cardiac impairment

**Ifosfamide**

Start the infusions at the same time each morning

Ensure adequate hydration and that fluids with Mesna are prescribed and administered.

Pre hydration with sodium chloride only needed on day 1

Record patients weight at the same time each day as well as a strict fluid balance chart. If there is a positive fluid balance of 2 litres or more, weight gain of > 2kg or symptoms of fluid overload give furosemide 20mg orally.

Test urine for microscopic haematuria using Medi-Test Combi 8 pre-treatment and morning and evening during each cycle as per urine testing protocol (see algorithm)

Observe for insidious signs of encephalopathy, initially somnolence and confusion

**Main Toxicities:**

Doxorubicin - Myelosuppression, alopecia, mucositis, cardiomyopathy (see notes and treatment plan), ovarian failure / infertility

Ifosfamide - Myelosuppression, alopecia, mucositis, nephrotoxicity, central neurotoxicity, haemorrhagic cystitis leading to bladder fibrosis, ovarian failure

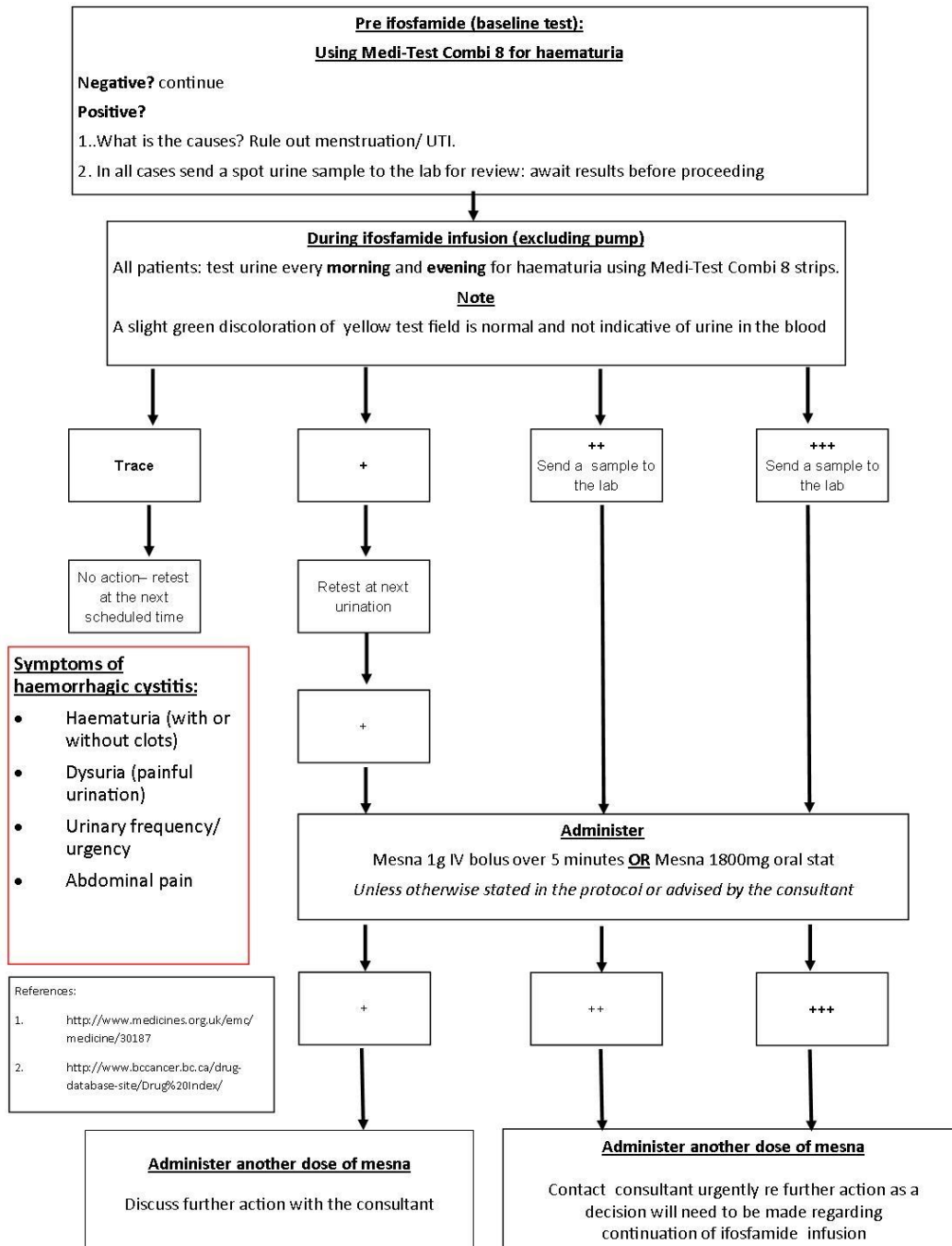
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## Investigations and treatment plan

	Pre	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3	Cycle 4	Cycle 5	Cycle 6	Comments
Medical Assessment	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Nursing Assessment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle
ECHO / ECG	X							If clinically indicated
FBC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle
U&E & LFT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle
CrCl (Cockcroft and Gault)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Mg <sup>2+</sup> , Cl <sup>-</sup> , HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle
Urine PO <sub>4</sub> , creatinine, osmolarity (early morning)	X		X		X		X	
CT scan	X			X				As clinically indicated
Informed Consent	X							
Blood pressure measurement	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Repeat if clinically indicated
PS recorded	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle
Toxicities documented	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle
Weight recorded	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle
Urine dipstick for protein / blood	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Every cycle

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## Urine Testing for Ifosfamide Patients (excluding pump)



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## Dose Modifications and Toxicity Management:

### Haematological toxicity

Proceed on day 1 if all apply:-

ANC $\geq 1.0 \times 10^9/L$	Platelets $\geq 100 \times 10^9/L$
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Delay on day 1 if:

ANC $\leq 0.9 \times 10^9/L$	Platelets $\leq 99 \times 10^9/L$
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Discuss with consultant, and recheck every 2 to 3 days until recovered.

### Non-haematological toxicity

<b>Hepatic</b>	<b>Bilirubin (<math>\mu\text{mol/L}</math>)</b>	<b>Doxorubicin dose</b>
	20 to 50	50%
	51 to 85	25%
	Above 85	omit
	<b>Ifosfamide</b> – note that ifosfamide is generally not recommended if bilirubin > ULN or ALP > 2.5 ULN – discuss with consultant if this is the case. Note that in the reference trial patients were eligible for full dose treatment if bilirubin less than 30micromol/L.	
<b>Renal</b>	Measure serum creatinine each cycle and calculate CrCl using Cockcroft and Gault	
	<b>GFR (mL/min)</b>	<b>Ifosfamide dose</b>
	$\geq 60$	100%
	40 to 59	70%
	Below 40	Clinical decision
	Measure serum electrolytes and bicarbonate levels and calculate tubular function (Tp/Ccrea) before each cycle of Ifosfamide $\text{Tp/C}_{\text{creat}} = \frac{\text{PO}_{4\text{serum}} - \text{PO}_{4\text{urine}} \times \text{SrCr}_{\mu\text{mol/l}}}{\text{Creatinine}_{\text{Urine}}}$	

Toxicity Grade*	GFR (ml/min/1.73m <sup>2</sup> )	TpCreat (mmol/L)	HCO <sub>3</sub> * (mmol/L)	Action (apply worst grade)
Grade 0/1	$\geq 60$	$\geq 1.00$	$\geq 17.0$	Continue Ifosfamide at 100% dose
Grade 2	40 to 59	0.80 to 0.99	14.0 to 16.9	Ifosfamide 70% dose
Grade 3/4	$\leq 40$	$\leq 0.80$	$\leq 14.0$	Use cyclophosphamide** instead dose 1500mg/m <sup>2</sup> /d, day 1 only

\*Check low values of HCO<sub>3</sub> when patient is clinically stable to exclude e.g. infection as a cause

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<p>before modifying ifosfamide dose / treatment</p> <p><b>**Always discuss / check with consultant to confirm before substituting Cyclophosphamide 1500mg/m<sup>2</sup> dayc1 for ifosfamide.</b></p> <p>If ifosfamide is stopped mid administration due to deteriorating renal function, continue with post hydration mesna until completed.</p>	
<p><b>Doxorubicin Cardiomyopathy</b></p>	<p>Perform baseline MUGA in any patient with suspected cardiac impairment. If cardiac ejection fraction &lt; 50% discuss with consultant and consider an alternative regimen.</p> <p>Consider a lower maximum cumulative doxorubicin dose of 400mg/m<sup>2</sup> for any patient with cardiac dysfunction or that has been exposed to mediastinal radiation</p> <p>Note that cardiomyopathy may be delayed – if 20% reduction in LVEF after 300mg/m<sup>2</sup> then stop doxorubicin</p>
<p><b>Ifosfamide neurotoxicity</b></p>	<p><b>Central</b></p> <p>Observe closely for signs of encephalopathy. This may present insidiously in a variety of ways but usually includes somnolence and confusion initially. Report any early signs to medical staff immediately Three risk factors may predispose to encephalopathy: renal impairment, low albumin, and large pelvic tumour mass.</p> <p>Note that most mild cases of encephalopathy will resolve spontaneously in 24 to 72 hours.</p> <p>If CTC grade 3 or 4 central neurotoxicity occurs (somnolence 30% of the time, disorientation / hallucination / coma or seizures on which consciousness is altered etc)</p> <p><b>Stop Ifosfamide infusion</b></p> <p>consider the use of methylene blue (methylonium) 50mg IV infusion as follows:</p> <p>50mg (5ml ampoule of 1% solution) every 4 hours, by IV slow bolus</p> <p>Patients who have had an episode of ifosfamide induced encephalopathy in a previous cycle should be treated as follows:</p> <p>Give one dose of 50mg (5ml ampoule of 1% solution) IV slow bolus 24 hours prior to ifosfamide. During ifosfamide infusion give 50mg (5ml ampoule of 1% solution) IV slow bolus every 6 hours during the infusion.</p> <p>If repeated grade 3 or 4 central neurotoxicity occurs consider withholding ifosfamide and substitute cyclophosphamide 1500mg/m<sup>2</sup> on d1 only</p>
<p><b>Mucositis</b></p>	<p>Grade 3 or 4: defer treatment until recovery, reduce subsequent doses of both drugs by 20%</p>

### Cockroft and Gault formula

Male patients  $\frac{1.23 \times (140 - \text{age}) \times \text{weight (kg)}}{\text{Serum Creatinine (micromol/L)}}$

Female patients  $\frac{1.04 \times (140 - \text{age}) \times \text{weight (kg)}}{\text{Serum Creatinine (micromol/L)}}$

### References:

Judson et al, Doxorubicin alone vs intensified doxorubicin plus ifosfamide for 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment of advanced or metastatic soft – tissue sarcoma: a randomised phase 3 trial, Lancet Oncology, volume 15, No4, p415-423, April 2014

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Collaboration SM-a. Adjuvant chemotherapy for localised resectable soft-tissue sarcoma of adults: meta-analysis of individual data. Lancet 1997;350(9092):1647-54

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