Paclitaxel is a plant-derived mitotic-inhibiting antineoplastic agent used in cancer chemotherapy.

Pre-Authorization Criteria:

VCHCP will authorize Taxol for the following: ovarian carcinoma; metastatic breast cancer; nonsmall cell lung cancer; AIDS-related Kaposi’s sarcoma

Adult Dosing (should be prescribed by an Oncologist):

Ovarian carcinoma:

I.V.: 135-175 mg/m² over 3 hours every 3 weeks or
135 mg/m² over 24 hours every 3 weeks or
50-80 mg/m² over 1-3 hours weekly or
1.4-4 mg/m²/day continuous infusion for 14 days every 4 weeks

Intraperitoneal (unlabeled route): 60 mg/m² on day 8 of a 21-day treatment cycle for 6 cycles, in combination with I.V. paclitaxel and intraperitoneal cisplatin. Note: Administration of intraperitoneal paclitaxel should include the standard paclitaxel premedication regimen.

Metastatic breast cancer: I.V.: 175-250 mg/m² over 3 hours every 3 weeks or
50-80 mg/m² weekly or
1.4-4 mg/m²/day continuous infusion for 14 days every 4 weeks

Nonsmall cell lung carcinoma: I.V.: 135 mg/m² over 24 hours every 3 weeks

AIDS-related Kaposi’s sarcoma: I.V.: 135 mg/m² over 3 hours every 3 weeks
or 100 mg/m² over 3 hours every 2 weeks

Note: adjustments should be made for hepatic impairment

PRECAUTIONS: bone marrow suppression; hypersensitivity reaction [U.S. Boxed warning]; peripheral neuropathy; infusion-associated hypotension; elderly (increased risk of toxicity)
DRUG INTERACTIONS: There are several potential drug interactions (e.g. other antineoplastic agents, clozapine, CYP2C8 AND CYP3A4 effects, numerous herbs, etc). Refer to product information for complete listing.

REFERENCES


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Date Reviewed/No Updates: 2/18/20 by H. Taekman, MD; R. Sterling, MD
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