**Taxol (paclitaxel)**

Effective Date: 10/22/13  
Date Developed: 09/3/13 by Albert Reeves MD  
Last Approval Date: 1/26/16, 1/24/17, 1/23/18, 1/22/19

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


Revision History:
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 10/22/13
Date Reviewed/No Updates: 1/28/14 by C. Sanders MD
Date Approved by P&T Committee: 1/28/14