

RHEUMATOLOGY

Vasculitis Cyclophosphamide Pulse Therapy

INDUCTION

Cyclophosphamide 10 mg/kg for SRV, 15 mg/kg for WG/PAN. The first 3 pulses of are given at intervals of 2 weeks and must be given I.V.. If subsequent pulses are oral, the dose of CYC is divided over 3 days giving 5 mg/kg each day (or 3.3 mg/kg for rheumatoid vasculitis).

Date	Pulse	Week	Route	Weight	Cyclophosphamide mg/kg	Oral Prednisolone
	1	0	IV		mg	60 mg
	2	2	IV		mg	45 mg
	3	4	IV		mg	30 mg
	4	7	IV/Oral		mg	20 mg
	5	10	IV/Oral		mg	15 mg
	6	13	IV/Oral		mg	12.5 mg

REMISSION

This regimen implies remission within 3 months and a further 3 months of pulse CYC after entry into remission (i.e. 6 months in total). Should remission not be achieved by 3 months, continue CYC pulses at 3 week intervals until remission is reached, then give another 3 months of CYC pulse therapy before you switch to azathioprine. Remission must be reached by 9 months and the total duration of CYC must not exceed 12 months as above.

Date	Pulse	Week	Route	Weight	Cyclophosphamide mg/kg	Oral Prednisolone
	7	16	Oral		mg	mg
	8	19	Oral		mg	mg
	9	22	Oral		mg	mg
	10	25	Oral		mg	
			Oral		mg	
			Oral		mg	

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ADJUNCTIVE THERAPIES

MESNA, Anti-emetic, Anti-fungal, Gastroprotection, Bisphosphonate, Calcium & vitamin D

CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE DOSAGE ADJUSTMENTS FOR AGE AND RENAL FUNCTION.

AGE	CREATININE	
	150 - 300	300 - 500
< 60	15 mg/kg	12.5 mg/kg
60 - 70	12.5 mg/kg	10 mg/kg
> 70	10 mg/kg	7.5 mg/kg

CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE DOSAGE ADJUSTMENTS FOR LEUCOPENIA

- a) leucocyte nadir 1 - $2 \times 10^9/L$ reduce CYC dose by 40 % of previous pulse.
- b) leucocyte nadir 2 - $3 \times 10^9/L$ reduce CYC dose by 25 % of previous pulse.

AZATHIOPRINE REMISSION MAINTENANCE REGIME:

Switch CYC to azathioprine (AZA), 3 months after remission achieved. AZA dose is 2 mg/kg/day providing TPMT is normal. AZA dose is reduced for age > 60 years by 25%, > 75 years by 50%. Maximum dose is 200 mg.

PREDNISOLONE TARGET DOSES

time from entry (weeks)	PREDNISOLONE mg/day
reduce at end of month 4	12.5
reduce at end of month 5	10
during months 12 - 15	7.5
during months 15 - 18	5