

Indication	Newly diagnosed low to intermediate risk APML and relapsed/refractory APML.
Treatment Intent	Curative
Frequency and number of cycles	Induction: Single cycle Consolidation: Every 8 weeks for 4 cycles NB The arsenic trioxide schedule in the AML-17 trial for newly diagnosed and relapsed/refractory patients and the combination of ATRA and arsenic in relapsed/refractory are both currently unlicensed in the UK. Clinicians must be mindful of their individual responsibilities when prescribing unlicensed doses.
Monitoring parameters pre-treatment	Pre-treatment Tests – BASELINE: • Virology screening: All new patients referred for systemic anti-cancer treatment should be screened for hepatitis B and C and the result reviewed prior to the start of treatment. Patients not previously tested who are starting a new line of treatment, should also be screened for hepatitis B and C. Further virology screening will be performed following individual risk assessment and clinician discretion. • CMV, IgG and HIV status. • FBC, clotting screen, U&Es, magnesium, potassium and LFTs • Correct any pre-existing electrolyte abnormalities. • 12-lead ECG assessment to ensure that the QTc interval <460msec • Echo/MUGA if cardiac history, elderly or risk factors for cardiac disease • Medication review: if possible drugs that are known to prolong QT interval should be discontinued Pre-treatment Tests- During therapy: • FBC, clotting screen, U&Es, LFTs, glycaemia levels at least twice weekly (and more frequently in clinically unstable patients) during induction and at least weekly during consolidation. • Magnesium and Potassium: Serum potassium must be kept above 4mmol/l and the serum magnesium above 0.74 mmol/L before each dose. • ECG assessment to ensure that the QTc interval <500msec before each dose. Supportive Care • Potassium and magnesium supplementation are often required to keep electrolytes within desired limits. Induction Single cycle: • Patients should have post cycle 1 (Induction) bone marrow assessment including molecular studies and patients should enter consolidation if they are in complete morphological remission and there is an absolute neutrophil count of more than $1.0 \times 10^9/l$ and platelet count of at least $100 \times 10^9/l$. Consolidation: 4 cycles:

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Version	V3	Written by	M.Archer
Supersedes version	V2	Checked by	H.Paddock (V2/3) M.Capomir (V1) V2 updated in line with SPC change V3 protocol name change only.
Date	15.09.2025	Authorising consultant (usually NOG Chair)	S.Munisamy (V1)

	• Marrow samples will be collected after each consolidation cycle of ATO, to be tested by RQ-PCR for assessment of molecular remission. Patients who do not achieve molecular remission by the end of the 3rd consolidation cycle will be considered as molecular resistant. • Infusion related reactions: • The infusion duration of arsenic trioxide may be extended up to 4 hours if vasomotor reactions (e.g. flushing, tachycardia, dizziness) are observed. If severe symptoms or hypotension, the infusion should be stopped until recovery, then restarted at a reduced rate. • Renal Impairment ○ Arsenic Trioxide: The plasma clearance of the active metabolite in patients with creatinine clearance less than 30ml/min was 40% lower when compared with patients with normal renal function, therefore patients with CrCl <30ml/min may require a dose reduction. Clinical decision ○ Tretinoin: Limited information - Manufacturer advises that the dose be decreased to 25mg/m² as a precautionary measure as studies have not been done in patients with renal dysfunction. Clinical decision • Hepatic impairment ○ Arsenic Trioxide: If serum bilirubin, AST/ALT, or alkaline phosphatase >5 times the normal upper level temporarily suspend arsenic ○ Tretinoin: If serum bilirubin, AST/ALT, or alkaline phosphatase >5 times the normal upper level temporarily suspend tretinoin. When serum bilirubin, AST/ALT or alkaline phosphatase are reduced to <4 times the normal upper level tretinoin may be resumed at 50% dose. If liver enzymes do not worsen, full dose tretinoin may be resumed. If hepatotoxicity persists following discontinuation of tretinoin, arsenic should be temporarily discontinued. • Dose Modifications and Toxicity: Cardiac toxicity • Arsenic trioxide can cause QT prolongation and complete AV block. QT prolongation can lead to a torsade de pointes-type ventricular arrhythmia. • During therapy with arsenic trioxide, potassium concentrations must be kept above 4mmol/L and magnesium concentrations must be kept above 0.74mmol/L. Patients who reach an absolute QTc interval value >500msec must be reassessed and immediate action must be taken to correct concomitant risk factors, if any, while the risk/benefit of continuing versus suspending arsenic trioxide therapy must be considered. In view of this, during therapy U&Es should be checked on every day of treatment and the serum potassium must be kept above 4mmol/L and the serum magnesium above 0.74mmol/L • If syncope, rapid or irregular heartbeat develops, the patient must be hospitalised and monitored continuously, serum electrolytes must be assessed, arsenic trioxide therapy must be temporarily discontinued until the
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	QTc interval regresses to below 460msec, electrolyte abnormalities are corrected, and the syncope and irregular heartbeat cease. • Differentiation Syndrome (Retinoic Acid Syndrome) • This is reported to occur in up to 25% of patients and should be treated as recommended for the Retinoic acid/ATRA syndrome. • At the earliest manifestation of suspected Differentiation Syndrome (e.g. unexplained respiratory distress), and prior to development of a full-blown syndrome, the following measures should be immediately undertaken: ○ Temporary discontinuation of arsenic treatment ○ Prompt initiation of dexamethasone 10mg intravenously 12-hourly until disappearance of symptoms and signs, and for a minimum of 3 days. ○ Furosemide when clinically required. • For patients at a higher risk of developing "differentiation syndrome" (e.g. presenting with an elevated WCC) consideration should be given to admitting the patient for treatment. • Hyperleukocytosis Treatment with arsenic has been associated with the development of hyperleukocytosis (WBC ≥ 10) in some relapsed/refractory APL patients. Hyperleukocytosis was never treated with additional chemotherapy and resolved on continuation of arsenic. • Pseudotumour cerebri can occur with tretinoin presenting as a severe headache, vomiting and visual disorders. It may be necessary to reduce the tretinoin dose and treat with diuretics (acetazolamide), corticosteroids and/or analgesics. • Other treatment related toxicities During treatment arsenic must be temporarily interrupted in the event of a grade 3 or greater toxicity possibly related to arsenic. Treatment should be interrupted for: ○ Nephrotoxicity (serum creatinine $>3.5 \times \text{ULN}$) ○ Significant neurological impairment ○ Severe peripheral neuropathy • Patients must resume treatment only after resolution of the toxic event or after recovery to baseline. In such cases, treatment must resume at 50% of the preceding daily dose. If the toxic event does not recur within 7 days of restarting treatment at the reduced dose, the daily dose can be escalated back to 100% of the original dose. Patients who experience a recurrence of toxicity must be removed from treatment. • Pregnancy and contraceptive guidance: ○ Tretinoin is highly teratogenic. Women of child bearing potential must have a negative pregnancy test before starting treatment and repeated monthly until 6 months after stopping treatment. Due to the genotoxic risk of arsenic compounds, women of childbearing potential must use effective contraceptive measures during treatment and for 6 months following completion of treatment.
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	○ Men should use effective contraceptive measures and be advised to not father a child while receiving treatment, and for 3 months following completion of treatment. ● Interactions ○ Avoid concomitant use of ATRA and agents known to cause pseudotumor cerebri/intracranial hypertension e.g. tetracyclines may increase risk ○ Avoid concomitant use of arsenic and QT prolonging medicinal products or those that may result in hypokalaemia or hypomagnesaemia. ● For oral self-administration: refer to local Trust policy on oral anti-cancer medicines and supply Patient Information Leaflet.
Reference(s)	DERBY-BURTON LOCAL CANCER NETWORK DOC NO: HCCPG B86 SPC accessed online 11.07.2022 KMCC protocol HAEM-AML-027 V1

NB For funding information refer to CDF and NICE Drugs Funding List

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Induction: Single Cycle

Day/Week	Drug	Dose	Route	Directions
Day 1 until complete remission Or maximum of 60 days	Tretinoin (ATRA)	45mg/m²/day	PO	TWO equally divided doses. Round to the nearest 10mg increment.
Week 1: Day1-5	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)	0.3mg/kg/day for 5 days	IV	IV infusion in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% over 1-2 hours
Weeks 2-8 Twice weekly	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)	0.25mg/kg twice weekly for 7 weeks	IV	IV infusion in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% over 1-2 hours
TTO	Drug	Dose	Route	Directions
Day 1	Metoclopramide	10mg	PO	10mg up to 3 times a day as required. Do not take for more than 5 consecutive days
	Chlorhexidine Gluconate	0.2%	TOP	Rinse mouth with 10ml four times a day
	Allopurinol (or Rasburicase)	300mg	PO	Once daily for 28 days Cycle 1 only Clinical Decision: high risk of tumour lysis syndrome

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Consolidation: every 8 weeks for 4 cycles**Cycles 1-3**

Day/Week	Drug	Dose	Route	Directions
Day 1 -14 and 29-42	Tretinoin (ATRA)	45mg/m²/day	PO	TWO equally divided doses. Round to the nearest 10mg increment.
Week 1: day 1 - 5	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)	0.3mg/kg/day for 5 days	IV	IV infusion in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% over 1-2 hours
Weeks 2 - 4: Twice weekly	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)	0.25mg/kg twice weekly	IV	IV infusion in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% over 1-2 hours
Weeks 5 - 8	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)			No Treatment
TTO	Drug	Dose	Route	Directions
Day 1	Metoclopramide	10mg	PO	10mg up to 3 times a day as required. Do not take for more than 5 days continuously
	Chlorhexidine Gluconate	0.2%	TOP	Rinse mouth with 10ml four times a day

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Cycle 4 only

Day/Week	Drug	Dose	Route	Directions
Day 1-14 only	Tretinoin (ATRA)	45mg/m²/day	PO	TWO equally divided doses. Round to the nearest 10mg increment.
Week 1: day 1 – 5	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)	0.3mg/kg/day for 5 days	IV	IV infusion in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% over 1-2 hours
Weeks 2-4: Twice weekly	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)	0.25mg/kg twice weekly	IV	IV infusion in 100ml sodium chloride 0.9% over 1-2 hours
Weeks 5 - 8	Arsenic Trioxide (ATO)			No Treatment
TTO	Drug	Dose	Route	Directions
Day 1	Metoclopramide	10mg	PO	10mg up to 3 times a day as required. Do not take for more than 5 days continuously
	Chlorhexidine Gluconate	0.2%	TOP	Rinse mouth with 10ml four times a day

Notes:

The infusion duration may be extended up to 4 hours if vasomotor reactions are observed. A central venous catheter is not required.

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