Indication	1 st line treatment of adult patients with Kit (CD117) positive unresectable and/or metastatic malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumour		
Antineoplastic agent	Imatinib	400mg orally once daily with a meal and a large glass of water	
		Dispense every 30 days	
		For patients unable to swallow the tablets disperse tablets in 200ml still mineral water or apple juice.	
Drug Interactions		Ice cytochrome P450 isoenzyme CYP3A4 activity could	
(see SPC for full list http://emc.medicines.org.uk/)	affect imatinib concentrations.		
	The following drugs increase plasma levels of imatinib: clarithromycin, erythromycin, itraconazole.		
	The following drugs decrease plasma levels of imatinib: carbamazepine, dexamethasone, phenytoin.		
	Drugs whose plasma levels may be increased by imatinib: ciclosporin, statins, warfarin.		
	Imatinib may inhibit the metabolism of warfarin, consider using a low molecular weight or unfractionated heparin in patients requiring anticoagulation.		
	Monitor liver function carefully if on concomitant hepatotoxic medications.		
	Grapefruit juice should be avoided; increased imatinib plasma concentration.		
	Aprepitant- potentially elevated plasma levels of imatinib.		
	Levothyroxine- decreased effectiveness, worsening hypothyroidism.		
Length of treatment	Continuous until progression of disease		
Dose modifications	Neutrophils <1.0 x 10 ⁹ /L or Platelets <50 x 10 ⁹ /L	Stop treatment until neutrophil 1.5 x 10 ⁹ /L and platelets 75 x 10 ⁹ /L. Restart at same dose but if recurrence, repeat delay of treatment and then recommence at 300mg	
	Impaired liver function	If bilirubin >3x ULN or transaminases >5ULN, withhold treatment until bilirubin <1.5 x ULN and transaminase <2.5 ULN. Continue imatinib at a reduced dose	
	Impaired renal function	Patients with renal dysfunction or on dialysis should be given the minimum recommended dose of 400mg daily with caution.	

Imatinib for gastrointestinal stromal tumour (GIST)			
Mandatory tests	FBC, LFT, U&E	Every 4 weeks for the first 3 months and then every 3 months during treatment	
	Hepatitis B serology should be tested before starting treatment		
Mandatory supportive drugs	None		
Mandatory information	Patients should be supplied with a patient information leaflet, Cancerbackup information sheet and a copy of their treatment plan		

Ratifying consultant

Justin Waters

Pharmacists:

S Lightfoot & C Waters

Version 4

Review May 18

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