



Chemotherapy

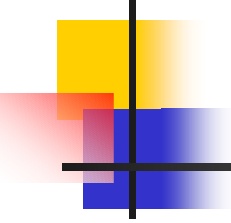
Drug Class	Individual
anthracyclines – cardiomyopathy	bleomycin – pulmonary fibrosis
antimetabolites – diarrhea, mucositis	capecitabine (Xeloda) – hand – foot syndrome
vinca alkaloids – myelosuppression	vincristine – peripheral neuropathy

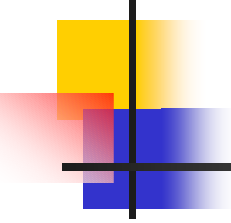


Case Study # 1

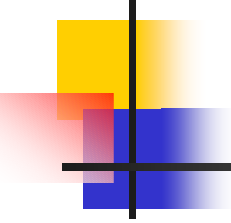
- Mrs. C. (79 yrs) is prescribed 5FU/Leucovorin 5 days every 4 weeks x 6 months for adjuvant treatment for colon cancer. She is fully active but unable to do strenuous activity (PS=1), weighs 72.2 kg. (recent 5 kg. wt. loss) and has no baseline cancer related symptoms.
- *At the beginning of Cycle 2* she informed the nurse she had a sore mouth and thrush. She was started on nystatin by her family doctor.
 - *Upon further questioning* Mrs. C. state she was able to eat and drink normally but only small amounts at a time for four days. She is still fully active but unable to do strenuous activity.

What are the toxicity categories, symptoms and symptom grades?

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- *Categories* – gastrointestinal and pain
 - *Symptom* – mucositis and pain
 - *Symptom grades* – are 2 for mucositis and grade 1 for pain
 - *Performance Status* = 1

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- *At the beginning of Cycle 3* Mrs. C stated she had once again experienced a sore mouth and lips which made it difficult to eat and drink. Her daughter on the weekend took her to the emergency room (ER).
 - *Upon further questioning* Mrs. C. stated that in the ER she was given an intravenous and some liquid pain medication. She is now able to eat and drink but takes frequent naps throughout the day and evening.

What are the toxicity categories, symptoms and symptom grades?

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- *Categories* – gastrointestinal and pain
 - *Symptom* – mucositis and pain
 - *Symptom grades* – are 3 for mucositis and grade 2 for pain
 - *Performance Status* = 3

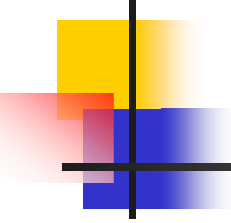
Case Study # 1 Completed



Case Study # 2

- Mrs. M. (51 yrs) is prescribed EC (Epirubicin Cyclophosphamide) for adjuvant treatment for breast cancer. She is fully active and could carry out all activities without restriction (PS=0), weighs 72.7 kg. and had no baseline toxicities.
- *At the beginning of Cycle 3* she experienced constipation and vomiting for a few days.
 - *Upon further questioning* Mrs. M. stated her constipation was resolved by eating more fruit. She had vomited for ten days and on her worst day she experienced five episodes of vomiting within 24 hours.

What are the toxicity categories, symptoms and symptom grades?

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- *Categories* – gastrointestinal
 - *Symptom* – constipation and vomiting
 - *Symptom Grades* – are 1 for constipation and grade 2 for vomiting
 - *Performance Status* = 0

Case Study # 2 Completed