

HISTORICALLY ACCEPTED USE

Tertiary and Quaternary Committee

Executive Summary

Date: March 2019

Medicine (INN): Mesna

Medicine (ATC): V03AF01

Indication (ICD10 code): Haemorrhagic cystitis post high dose cyclophosphamide/ifosfamide

Patient population: for patients getting high dose cyclophosphamide/ifosfamide (stem cell transplant and soft tissue sarcoma).

Prevalence of condition: 45 allogeneic stem cell transplants in 2017 (SA bone marrow registry). Incidence of soft tissue sarcomas in South Africa is unknown.

Level of Care: Tertiary and Quaternary

Prescriber Level: Oncologist/ haematologist

Current standard of Care: Mesna

Efficacy estimates: Both mesna and bladder-irrigation were shown to be equally effective in preventing severe haemorrhagic cystitis associated with high-dose cyclophosphamide and bone marrow transplantation. Incidence of any grade III or IV was 18% for both groups. Use of mesna was associated with significantly less ($p < 0.0001$) discomfort.¹

Historically accepted use Criteria

Criteria		Comment	
1	The medicine is included in the WHO Model Essential Medicines List, either as a core or complementary item, for the indication requested.	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
2	The medicine is currently registered by SAHPRA for the indication.	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
3	There is evidence of long-established (prior to 1996*) safe and effective use of the medicine for the recognised indication in the public health sector.	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Comment:	
4	There are no new safety or efficacy concerns.	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
5	The budget impact is not expected to be sufficiently large that a de novo review is justified.	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
6	There is equitable access across the country, and is limited only by the availability of adequately trained staff and availability of equipment.	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Comment	

* The Essential Drugs Programme (EDP) of South Africa was established in terms of the National Drug Policy (NDP) which was implemented in 1996

Recommendation

It is recommended that mesna be included as an Essential Medicine in the management of haemorrhagic cystitis post high dose cyclophosphamide/ifosfomide.

¹ Dechant KL, Brogden RN, Pilkington T, Faulds D. Ifosfamide/mesna. A review of its antineoplastic activity, pharmacokinetic properties and therapeutic efficacy in cancer. *Drugs*, 1991, 42 (3): 428-467