

Quality Improvement For Inpatient Chemotherapy Induced Anti-Emetic Management in the Pediatric Hematology Oncology Department at Children's Hospital New Orleans



Heather Valdin, MD; Mackenzie Creamer, PharmD; Kelly Bahn; Cori Morrison, MD; Zachary Leblanc, MD Louisiana State University School of Medicine; Children's Hospital New Orleans

Background

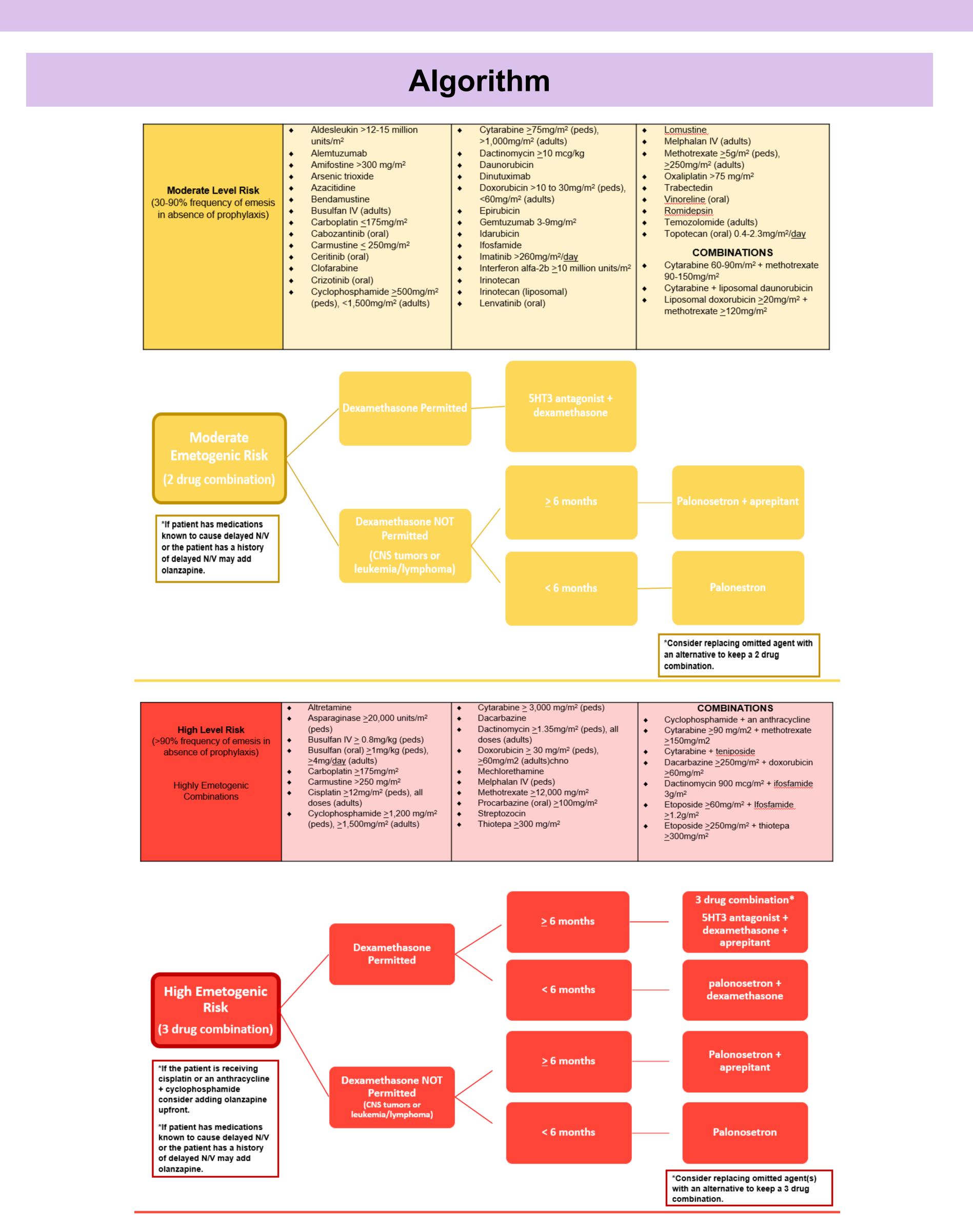
- Chemotherapy Induced Nausea and Vomiting (CINV) is the most common adverse effect of cancer treatment
- CINV can lead to significant impacts on quality of life
- Highly emetogenic agents produce emesis in 90% of patients in the absence of prophylaxis

Aims

- Improve adherence to national guidelines in 75% of inpatient chemotherapy encounters
- Reduce episodes of CINV
- Decrease length of hospital stay related to CINV

Interventions

- Created Algorithm using the emetogenic potential of each chemotherapeutic based on national guidelines
- Incorporation of the use of Palonosetron into hospital formulary
- Staff education
- Epic build
- Post data analysis underway



Retrospective Data Analysis Results

- 47 individual patients, pulled from the new cancer diagnoses of 2020, met criteria of requiring inpatient chemotherapy
- 63% were male with an average age of 9.8 years old
- Hematologic malignancies encompassed the majority of cases with 55%, followed by Solid tumors and CNS tumors with 40% and 5% respectively
- 242 inpatient chemotherapy encounters with the average length of stay being 7.3 days
- 59% of encounters used highly emetogenic regimens with only 30% of those being adherent to national CINV guidelines
- These results highlight the room for improvement in supportive care measures for pediatric patients undergoing cancer treatment
- Results of our post-data is soon to follow.