

Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL) treatment: AL-4 CNS prophylaxis

This part of treatment is called CNS (Central Nervous system) treatment. The treatment is used if you are in complete remission and have CNS involvement. The treatment goes over 21 days. Then, IT MAH 18 weeks from start of CNS treatment and repeated every 18 weeks throughout intensification and continuation cycles. Please see back page.

Antibiotic medication and folic acid begin on Day 1.

Folic acid pill is taken every day.

You will need to take antibiotics. You will either take:

- Dapsone 100 mg pill everyday, **OR**
- Septra DS pills 2 times a day on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
Septra DS is not taken on Methotrexate days.

Day	Drug	Comments
1	6-MP - pills IV Vincristine IV Doxorubicin	Cranial Radiation for 5 days: begins Monday to Friday.
2	IT MAH	IT (Intrathecal) drug given in the spinal fluid, in the lower back. MAH is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methotrexate • Cytarabine • Hydrocortisone
5	IT MAH	Cranial radiation Monday to Friday
7		Bone Marrow test is needed.
9	IT MAH	
12	IT MAH	
14		Bone Marrow test is needed.
21		Day 21 becomes day 1 of Intensification therapy.

Possible side effects

- Nausea and vomiting, take anti-nausea medications as directed
- Hair loss
- Headache
- Mouth sores (mucositis)
- Low blood counts which leads to infection, fatigue and bleeding
- Constipation
- Numbness and tingling in fingers and toes

Chemotherapy – What you need to know

There will be a decrease in your blood cells. These include white blood cells, red blood cells, hemoglobin and platelets.

- **Call if any side effects seem unexpected or extreme.**

Contact information

Primary Team:

- Doctor: _____
- Nurse: _____ } Phone: _____
- Pharmacy: _____
- Phone: _____ Fax: _____



**You will need a digital thermometer.
You can buy one at most drug stores.**

If you have any of these signs of an infection call your primary doctor/nurse care team right away:



- A temperature of 38°C or 100°F or more. This is a fever. **Do not take Tylenol, Aspirin, ibuprofen or anti-inflammatory medications without checking with your team first.** They may cause bleeding or may hide a fever. Call if you need medication for pain.
- A cough productive of coloured phlegm or sputum.
- Red inflamed skin.
- Diarrhea that does not go away.
- Increased shortness of breath.
- Pain or burning with urination.
- Sore throat.
- Watch for signs of shingles: pain, blisters or a skin rash that may look like chicken pox.

What to watch for:

- Unusual bleeding. Call us right away.
- Constipation. Use your laxatives as needed. Do not use a suppository or enema.
- Numbness and tingling in your fingers and toes.
- Increase swelling of the feet, legs, arms and hands. Voiding less.

We encourage you to:

- Attend the chemotherapy class and read the chemotherapy book.
- Eat and drink well (at least 2 liters of non-caffeinated beverages a day).
- Practice good hygiene.
- Practice good mouth care.

Possible severe or long term side effects

- Heart damage.
- Potential future bone marrow damage.
- Back pain at injection sites.

IT MAH 18 weeks from start of CNS treatment and repeated every 18 weeks throughout intensification and continuation cycles. Please see back page.

Week	Drug	Comments
18	IT MAH	
36	IT MAH	
54	IT MAH	
72	IT MAH	
90	IT MAH	
108	IT MAH	