

UKINETS bitesize guidance

Peri-operative management of patients with neuroendocrine or carcinoid tumours

PAGE 1 - DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT ALGORITHM

	Surgical / Interventional Radiology procedure not related to tumour	Minor procedure (surgery, biopsy, ablation) to primary tumour	Major Surgery / TAE on metastatic deposits or bulky primary tumour
Non-functioning NET	No Octreotide required	No Octreotide required	Octreotide 100ug IV On induction
History carcinoid syndrome Well controlled on SSA	No Octreotide required	Octreotide 100ug IV On induction	Octreotide 12.5ug/hr IV infusion 8-12 hours pre-operatively, 12-24 hours post procedure
Active carcinoid syndrome Frequent symptoms despite SSA	Octreotide 100ug IV On induction	Octreotide 12.5ug/hr IV infusion 8-12 hours pre-operatively, 12-24 hours post procedure	Octreotide 25ug/hr IV infusion 24 hours pre-operatively, then 24-48 hours post procedure
Active carcinoid syndrome Symptomatic/ significant carcinoid heart disease	Octreotide 12.5ug/hr IV infusion 8-12 hours pre-operatively, 12-24 hours post procedure	Octreotide 25ug/hr IV infusion 24 hours pre-operatively, then 24-48 hours post procedure	Octreotide 50ug/hr IV infusion 24 hours pre-operatively, then 72 hours post procedure



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PAGE 2 - NOTES & REFERENCES

Octreotide 12.5ug/hr - octreotide 300ug in 250mls of 0.9% saline. Run at 10mls/hr.

Octreotide 25ug/hr – octreotide 600ug in 250mls of 0.9% saline. Run at 10mls/hr.

Octreotide 50ug/hr – octreotide 1200ug in 250mls of 0.9% saline. Run at 10mls/hr.

Regardless of chosen regimen: if signs of carcinoid syndrome (dry flushing, tachycardia, hypotension and wheeze

caused by release of serotonin from tumours) are observed the patient should be given bolus octreotide

100mcgs IV to be repeated as required: this is the mainstay of treatment (continue or start background

infusion 50mcg/hr).

If haemodynamic instability is encountered support from critical care/ICU should be requested urgently.

Drugs to consider using in a carcinoid crisis:

hydrocortisone, ranitidine, chlorpheniramine (reduce histamine release)

Hypotension: IV fluids; consider phenylephrine, noradrenaline or vasopressin

Hypertension: optimise analgesia and anaesthesia (fentanyl/propofol), consider magnesium or GTN infusion in acute setting.

AVOID DRUGS THAT CAUSE HISTAMINE OR SEROTONIN RELEASE: thiopentone, suxamethonium, atracurium, morphine, tramadol, dopamine, isoprenaline

There has been very little good research into peri-operative management of patients with functional neuroendocrine tumours releasing carcinoid hormones. Studies that have been done differ in their definition of what constitutes an Intra-operative carcinoid crisis (mainly through differences in duration of hypo/hypertensive episodes). This has resulted in differences in opinion over benefit of peri-operative octreotide in preventing carcinoid crises.

Anaesthetists should be prepared for carcinoid crisis even in patients on octreotide prophylaxis.

Carcinoid crisis can very rarely occur in patients without prior history of carcinoid syndrome on induction of anaesthesia

References

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