



Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy and immunotherapy for triple negative breast cancer (TNBC)

This leaflet explains your neo-adjuvant breast cancer chemotherapy treatment schedule. Please use it alongside your Macmillan information leaflet.

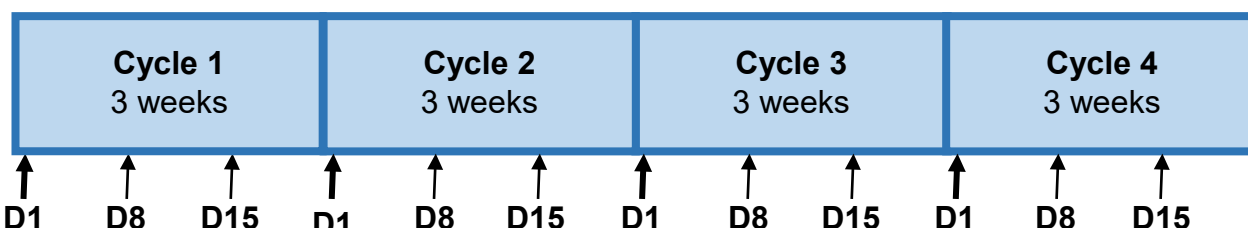
What is triple negative breast cancer?

Some breast cancer cells have receptors for hormones and proteins that encourage the cancer cells to grow. Triple negative breast cancer is a less common type of breast cancer, affecting around 1 in 5 people. It has NO receptors for hormones or for the HER2 protein, which means that some of the usual breast cancer treatments such as hormonal therapy or HER2 targeted therapy are not suitable. Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy is a standard treatment for early-stage TNBC.

What is neo-adjuvant chemotherapy?

Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy refers to using chemotherapy before other treatments, to shrink the tumour. The drugs used in your individual schedule are Carboplatin, Paclitaxel, Pembrolizumab, Epirubicin and Cyclophosphamide. You will also get Filgrastim injections to treat neutropenia (low white blood cells) caused by cancer medicines. For details on all treatments and possible side effects, visit www.macmillan.org.uk/cancer-information-and-support/treatments-and-drugs.

Your schedule



Cycles 1-4

- **Day 1:** Carboplatin, Paclitaxel & Pembrolizumab
- **Day 8:** Paclitaxel
- **Day 15:** Paclitaxel

Filgrastim injections given for 3 days after each treatment

Cycles 5-8

- **Day 1:** Epirubicin, Cyclophosphamide & Pembrolizumab
- Filgrastim injections given for 7 days after each treatment

