



Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy and HER2 directed therapy for HER2 positive breast cancer

This leaflet explains your neo-adjuvant breast cancer chemotherapy and HER2 directed therapy treatment schedule. Please use it alongside your Macmillan information leaflet.

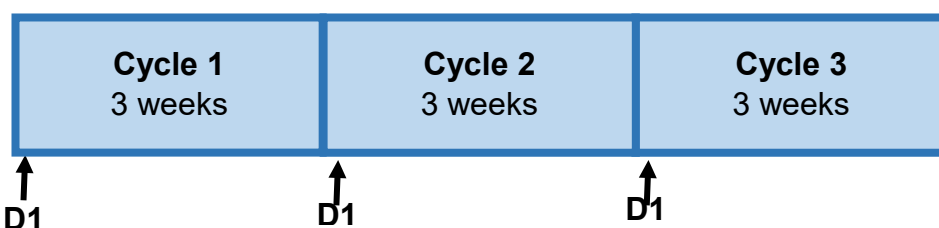
What is HER2 breast cancer?

Some breast cancer cells have receptors for hormones or a protein called HER2 (HER2 positive breast cancer). This protein, involved in cell growth and division, is overproduced in HER2-positive breast cancers, causing them to grow and spread faster. Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy and HER2 directed therapy is a standard treatment for HER2 positive breast cancer.

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 Epirubicin, Cyclophosphamide, Docetaxel, Herceptin and Pertuzumab. 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 1-3

• **Day 1:** Epirubicin and Cyclophosphamide (EC)
Filgrastim injections given for 7 days after each treatment

Cycles 4-7

• **Day 1:** Docetaxel & Phesgo (Herceptin & Pertuzumab)
Filgrastim injections given for 7 days after each treatment

