

**Issue date**

4 November 2022

**Distributed to:**

Chief Executives  
 Directors of Clinical Governance  
 Director, Regulation and Compliance Unit

**Action required by:**

Chief Executives  
 Directors of Clinical Governance

**We recommend you also inform:**

Directors, Managers and Staff of:

- Cancer Services
- Pharmacy
- Nursing
- Medical Services

Drugs and Therapeutics Committees

Other relevant staff, committees and departments

**Deadline for completion of action**

- see actions

**Expert Reference Group**

**Content reviewed by:**  
 Cancer Institute NSW

Representatives from:  
 Medication Safety Expert Advisory Committee

**Clinical Excellence Commission**

Tel: 02 9269 5500

[Email](#)[Internet Website](#)[Intranet Website](#)**Review date**

April 2024

**Updated: New recommendations for anticancer drug dosing in kidney dysfunction – ADDIKD guideline****What is updated in this Safety Notice from SN: 019/22**

Two amendments have been made, see highlighted in yellow. **Note – reconfirmation of receipt and distribution is not required.**

**Situation**

The International Consensus [Guideline for Anticancer Drug Dosing in Kidney Dysfunction](#) (known as ADDIKD) is published and available on the eviQ website ([eviQ.org.au](http://eviQ.org.au)).

There will be an interim phase where the kidney dose modification section in over 700 treatment protocols on the eviQ website will not align with this guideline's recommendations. This interim phase will continue for 12-18 months until eviQ protocols are updated progressively. The update will occur sequentially by cancer type, commencing 2023.

**Background**

The Cancer Institute NSW eviQ program have developed an International Consensus Guideline for Anticancer Drug Dosing in Kidney Dysfunction (known as ADDIKD) in collaboration with an international, multidisciplinary working party. Recommendations from the guideline introduce **significant change to clinical practice** with respect to kidney function assessment and dosing recommendations for 59 anticancer drugs in kidney dysfunction.

The guideline is a decision support tool for cancer clinicians. It is not intended to be prescriptive, but to guide clinical decision-making where anticancer drugs will be used in patients with chronic kidney dysfunction.

**Assessment**

Clinicians and governance committees need to be aware of the release of the ADDIKD guideline and its impact on the clinical care of cancer patients with kidney dysfunction. Following the ADDIKD guideline recommendations, which considers the most up-to-date evidence and consensus opinion, may result in a change in a patient's recommended dose of anticancer drug treatment.

The key changes to clinical practice as a result of the ADDIKD guideline are:

- Estimated glomerular filtration rate via the Chronic Kidney Dysfunction-Epidemiology Collaboration 2009 equation (eGFR<sub>CKD-EPI</sub>) **replaces creatinine clearance via the Cockcroft Gault equation** as the preferred method of estimating kidney function in cancer patients. In some clinical situations it may be necessary to use directly measured glomerular filtration rate (mGFR) (e.g., radioisotope measured GFR)
- **eGFR<sub>CKD-EPI</sub> is recommended to guide the dosing of anticancer drugs** whose dose is dependent on kidney function, except in specific clinical situations or specific anticancer drugs, e.g., carboplatin, cisplatin and methotrexate ( $\geq 500 \text{ mg/m}^2$ ), where it may be unreliable.
- **Standardised categories for kidney dysfunction** based on the Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) categories to guide the kidney dose adjustments of anticancer drugs.

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- **When calculating carboplatin doses, if using estimated kidney function,** ADDIKD recommends using Body Surface Area (BSA)-adjusted eGFR via the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration equation (eGFR<sub>CKD-EPI</sub>) in the Calvert formula. This is a significant change to current clinical practice; see [eviQ factsheet](#) for further detail.

To support clinicians in the transition to adopting the ADDIKD guideline recommendations for estimating kidney function and calculating carboplatin doses during this interim period, eviQ have added a direct link to the guideline within every protocol and developed two new online eviQ calculators:

- [eGFR<sub>CKD-EPI</sub> calculator](#) with the option for BSA adjusted eGFR<sub>CKD-EPI</sub>
- [carboplatin dose calculator](#) with options for different AUC and kidney function values.

#### Recommendations for clinicians

- All clinicians involved in the prescribing, preparation and administration of anticancer drugs should be aware of the ADDIKD guideline and consider the implications on their practice.
- Clinicians should review the desired anticancer drug treatment protocol on the eviQ website, in conjunction with the ADDIKD guideline, to ensure the most appropriate dose of each anticancer drug is prescribed, prepared and administered.

#### Recommendations for governance committees (e.g., Drug and Therapeutics Committees)

- Review the ADDIKD guideline and consider endorsing its use in facilities and clinical areas under their jurisdiction.
- Conduct a local risk assessment that considers the impact of the ADDIKD guideline in the context of local cancer services workflows.
- Discuss and decide if and how the ADDIKD guideline recommendations will be implemented at a local level ensuring local Oncology Information Systems (OIS) align with outcome. **For carboplatin dosing,** consider the impact of the recommendations on current OIS functionality and clinical workflow and how they may be implemented at a local level. For more information refer to [eviQ factsheet](#).

#### Required actions for the Local Health Districts/Networks

1. Distribute this Safety Notice to all relevant clinicians, clinical departments and governance committees. Include this Safety Notice in relevant handovers and safety huddles.
2. Based on the release of the International Consensus Guideline for Anticancer Drug Dosing in Kidney Dysfunction (ADDDKD) and the associated recommendations, undertake a local risk assessment and develop strategies to mitigate risks if implemented at a local level.
3. Report any incidents associated with the implementation and use of the guideline into the local incident management system (e.g., [ims+](#)).
4. Regularly refer to the eviQ [ADDDKD webpage](#) for updates on the implementation of the ADDIKD guideline recommendations into eviQ treatment protocols. For further information, contact eviQ at [cinsw-feedback@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cinsw-feedback@health.nsw.gov.au).
5. Confirm receipt and distribution of this Safety Notice within **72 hours** to: [CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au).