

ADJUVANT THERAPY

INTERFERON-ALFA

Interferon alfa-2b 20 x 10⁶ units/m²/day IV Days 1 - 5, 8 - 12; 15 - 19 and
22 - 26*

Followed by

10 x 10⁶ units/m²/dose SQ 3 times a week for 48 weeks

*Administer 5 days of each week for a total of 4 weeks.

NOTE: Monitor patients for signs of depression. Monitor thyroid function tests.

References: [Kirkwood JM, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 1996;14:7 - 17](#); [Kirkwood JM, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2001;19:2370 - 80](#).

INTERFERON-ALFA PEGYLATED

Interferon alfa-2b (pegylated) 6 mcg/kg SQ Weekly for 8 weeks

Followed by

Interferon alfa-2b (pegylated) 3 mcg/kg SQ Weekly for up to 5 years

NOTE: Monitor patients for signs of depression. Monitor thyroid function tests.

Reference: [Eggermont AM, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2007;25 \(18S\). Abstract 8504](#).

MELANOMA ADVANCED METASTATIC DISEASE

ALDESLEUKIN (INTERLEUKIN-2; IL-2)

Aldesleukin (IL-2)†	720, 000 units/kg IV over 15 minutes Q8H*	Days 1 – 5*
---------------------	--	-------------

Followed by a 6 – 9 day rest period, then

Aldesleukin (IL-2)†	720,000 units/kg IV over 15 minutes Q8H*	Days 1 – 5
---------------------	---	------------

†Routine premedication required; *A total of up to 14 consecutive doses were administered with maximum support including pressors. After a 6 – 9 day rest period, an additional 14 doses of aldesleukin is given.

Repeat cycle every 6 to 12 weeks to a maximum of 5 courses.

Reference: [Atkins MB, et al. J Clin Oncol 1999;17:2105 – 16.](#)

DACARBAZINE

Dacarbazine	1000 mg/m ²	IV*	Day 1
-------------	------------------------	-----	-------

*Administer over 30 minutes.

Repeat cycle every 21 days.

Reference: [Chapman PB, et al. J Clin Oncol 1999;17:2745 – 51.](#)

DACARBAZINE

Dacarbazine	250 mg/m ² /day	IV*	Days 1 – 5
-------------	----------------------------	-----	------------

*Administer over 30 minutes.

Repeat cycle every 21 days.

Reference: [Middleton MR, et al. J Clin Oncol 2000;18:158 – 66.](#)

TEMOZOLOMIDE

Temozolomide	150 – 200 mg/m ² /day*	PO	Days 1 – 5
--------------	-----------------------------------	----	------------

*Previously treated patients start at 150 mg/m²/day then increase to 200 mg/m²/day for 5 days assuming no significant toxicity.

Temozolomide is available as 5 mg, 20 mg, 100 mg, 140 mg, 180 mg, and 250 mg capsules.

Repeat cycle every 28 days for a maximum of 1 year.

References: [Middleton MR, et al. J Clin Oncol 2000;18:158 – 66;](#) [Agarwala SS, et al. J Clin Oncol 2004;22:2101 – 7.](#)

TEMOZOLOMIDE – THALIDOMIDE (FOR PATIENTS WITHOUT BRAIN METASTASES)

PATIENTS YOUNGER THAN 70 YEARS

Temozolomide	75 mg/m ² /day	PO	Daily for 6 weeks
Thalidomide	200 mg/day*	PO	Daily

*Dose titrated up to 400 mg PO daily.

Repeat cycle every 8 weeks. Continue until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity.

PATIENTS 70 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER

Temozolomide	75 mg/m ² /day	PO	Daily for 6 weeks
Thalidomide	100 mg/day*	PO	Daily

*Dose titrated up to 250 mg PO daily.

Repeat cycle every 8 weeks. Continue until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity.

NOTE: This regimen was associated with significant thromboembolic events when administered to melanoma patients with brain metastasis, and should therefore not be used in that patient population. Temozolomide is available as 5 mg, 20 mg, 100 mg, 140 mg, 180 mg, and 250 mg capsules. Thalidomide is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

References: [Hwu WJ, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2003;21:3351 – 6;](#) [Krown SE, et al. *Cancer* 2006;107:1883 – 90;](#) [Hwu WJ, et al. *Cancer* 2005;103:2590 – 7.](#)

TEMOZOLOMIDE – RADIATION (FOR PATIENTS WITH BRAIN METASTASES)

Temozolomide	200 mg/m ² /day*	PO	Days 1 – 5
Radiation	Patients with disseminated brain metastasis judged as being unresectable are to receive whole brain radiation. Patients with one to three brain metastases that are unresectable are to receive stereotactic radiation.		

*Maximum dose of temozolomide is 350 mg per day.

Temozolomide available as 5 mg, 20 mg, 100 mg, 140 mg, 180 mg, and 250 mg capsules.

Repeat cycle every 28 days.

Reference: [Hofmann M, et al. *J Neurooncol* 2006;76:59 – 64.](#)