

Pharmacy & Therapeutics Update

From the September meeting of the SHC Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

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Added to the formulary:

- **Vincristine Liposomal (Marqibo®)** is a sphingomyelin/cholesterol liposome-encapsulated formulation of vincristine. Vincristine is a cell cycle specific agent, which binds to tubulin, leading to microtubule depolymerization and cellular apoptosis. The liposomal formulation increases the half-life, allowing for enhanced cytotoxic activity in tumor cells, which may allow for delivery of increased doses of vincristine without increasing toxicities. It is FDA approved for the treatment of adult patients with Philadelphia chromosome-negative (Ph-) acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) in second or greater relapse or whose disease has progressed following two or more anti-leukemia therapies. The most common (>30%) adverse reactions in clinical studies include constipation, nausea, pyrexia, fatigue, peripheral neuropathy, febrile neutropenia, diarrhea, anemia, decreased appetite, and insomnia. No formal drug interaction studies have been conducted with VSLI. VSLI is expected to interact with drugs known to interact with non-liposomal vincristine sulfate. VSLI is a substrate of CYP3A4 (major), P-glycoprotein, and an inhibitor of CYP3A4 (weak).

Removed from the formulary:

- None