

## **Lomustine (CCNU)**

### **(Lomustine\*) POM**

- **Formulations**

Oral: readily available 40 mg capsules. Available through specialist pharmacies as 5 mg, 10 mg and 20 mg capsules. **VSP**

- **Action**

Interferes with the synthesis and function of DNA, RNA and proteins. Antitumour activity correlates best with formation of interstrand cross-linking of DNA. Exact mechanism of action is not fully understood, it is cell cycle-phase nonspecific. Lomustine is highly lipid-soluble, allowing rapid transport across the blood-brain barrier.

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- **Use**

- Reported to have some efficacy in the treatment of brain tumours, mast cell tumours, refractory lymphoma, histiocytic sarcoma, transmissible venereal tumour (TVT), and epitheliotrophic lymphoma.
- Component of the modified CHOP protocol for treatment of T-cell lymphoma.
- Used in the treatment of primary and metastatic brain tumours in humans.

S-Adenosylmethionine and silybin may be used to prevent or treat lomustine hepatotoxicity.

- **DOSES**

**See Appendix for chemotherapy protocols and conversion of bodyweight to body surface area.**

- **Dogs: All uses:** 50–80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> p.o. q3–4wk.
- **Cats: All uses:** A dose of 30–60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> p.o. q4–6wk has been suggested but is not well established. If using this drug in the cat, specialist advice should be sought, as dosing intervals may need to be increased.