

HYDROXYUREA TREATMENT FLOW CHART



Contraindication

1. Pregnancy

Precaution

2. Breastfeeding – breastmilk should be discarded for first 3 hours of taking hydroxyurea.
3. Stop at least 3 months before conception (stop in both male and female)

Start Hydroxyurea – See dosing chart

< 12 years – 20 mg/kg/day
> 12 years - 15 mg/kg/day
(In CKD – 5 – 10 mg/kg/day)

Monitor CBC every month for first 3 months. Then once in 2 – 3 months

Monitor SGPT, Sr. Creatinine (every 6 - 12 months)

Absolute Neutrophil counts	> 1500	< 1500
Hemoglobin	> 4.5 gm%	< 4.5 gm%
Platelets	> 80,000	< 80,000

SGPT	> 2 times normal value
Sr Creatinine	> 1.5 times previous values

Continue Hydroxyurea as per the dose chart.

If any one of three values is reduced **Stop Hydroxyurea for 2 - 3 weeks** and do repeat CBC after 1 week. Check this weekly. Once improved

Repeat SGPT and Sr Creatinine after 2 - 3 weeks. **If it's normal**

Increasing dose
- After 8 – 12 weeks of starting Hydroxyurea, if clinical response is **sub-optimal***, dose is increased by 5 mg/kg/day.
- Dose can be increased after every 8 – 12 weeks until there is evidence of clinical benefit.
- Dose can be raised maximum up to 35 mg/kg/day

Restart at lower dose: reduce by either.
- 2.5-5mg/kg/day in children
- 1500 mg/week in adults (3 cap of 500 mg)

* **Sub-optimal response**
Persistent
1. Pain episodes
2. Need of blood transfusion
3. Other crises or hospitalisation