

Disclaimer: This algorithm has been developed for MD Anderson using a multidisciplinary approach considering circumstances particular to MD Anderson's specific patient population, services and structure, and clinical information. This is not intended to replace the independent medical or professional judgment of physicians or other health care providers in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine a patient's care. This algorithm should not be used to treat pregnant women.

**Note:** Consider Clinical Trials as treatment options for eligible patients.

## PATHOLOGIC DIAGNOSIS

### ESSENTIAL:

- Hematopathology review of all slides with at least one paraffin block or 15 unstained slides representative of the tumor. Rebiopsy if consult material is nondiagnostic.
- Adequate morphology and immunophenotyping to establish diagnosis<sup>1</sup>
  - Paraffin panel: CD3 (and/or another pan T-cell marker), CD20 (and/or another pan B-cell marker), CD23, CD30, Ki67
  - Flow cytometry immunophenotypic studies: CD45 (LCA), CD3, CD5, CD10, CD19, CD20, CD22, CD23, CD30, kappa and lambda
- Additional immunohistochemical studies as needed: PD-L1/L2, CD5, CD10, CD15, CD45, CD79a, BCL-2, BCL-6, MUM-1/IRF4

### OF USE IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES:

- EBER *in situ* hybridization, LMP-1, HHV-8, CD138, TdT, ALK1
- FISH studies to detect gene rearrangements involving: *MYC*, *BCL2* and/or *BCL6*
- Molecular studies to detect clonality of the *IGH*

### STRONGLY RECOMMENDED:

- FNA or core biopsy for tissue array/banking by protocol

ECOG = Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group

<sup>1</sup> Typical immunophenotype: diffuse positivity for CD20 or another pan B-cell marker

<sup>2</sup> See [Appendix A: International Prognostic Index \(IPI\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> MUGA scan may be omitted for young patients receiving limited anthracycline

<sup>4</sup> See [Physical Activity](#), [Nutrition](#), and [Tobacco Cessation Treatment](#) algorithms; ongoing reassessment of lifestyle risks should be a part of routine clinical practice

## INITIAL EVALUATION

### ESSENTIAL:

- Physical exam: attention to node-bearing areas, including Waldeyer's ring, and to size of liver and spleen
- ECOG performance status
- B symptoms (unexplained fever > 38°C during the previous month; recurrent drenching night sweats during the previous month; weight loss > 10% of body weight ≤ 6 months of diagnosis)
- CBC with differential, LDH, BUN, creatinine, albumin, AST, ALT, total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, calcium, uric acid
- Beta 2 microglobulin
- Screening for HIV 1 and 2, hepatitis B and C (HBcAb, HBsAg, HCV Ab) (refer to [Hepatitis B Virus \(HBV\) Screening and Management](#) and [Hepatitis C Virus \(HCV\) Screening](#) algorithms)
- PET/CT preferably with contrast
- Calculation of IPI<sup>2</sup>
- MUGA scan<sup>3</sup> or echocardiogram
- Discuss fertility issues and sperm banking for patients of child bearing potential (refer to [Fertility Preservation Prior to Cancer Treatment algorithm](#))
- Lifestyle risk assessment<sup>4</sup>

### OF USE IN SELECTED CASES:

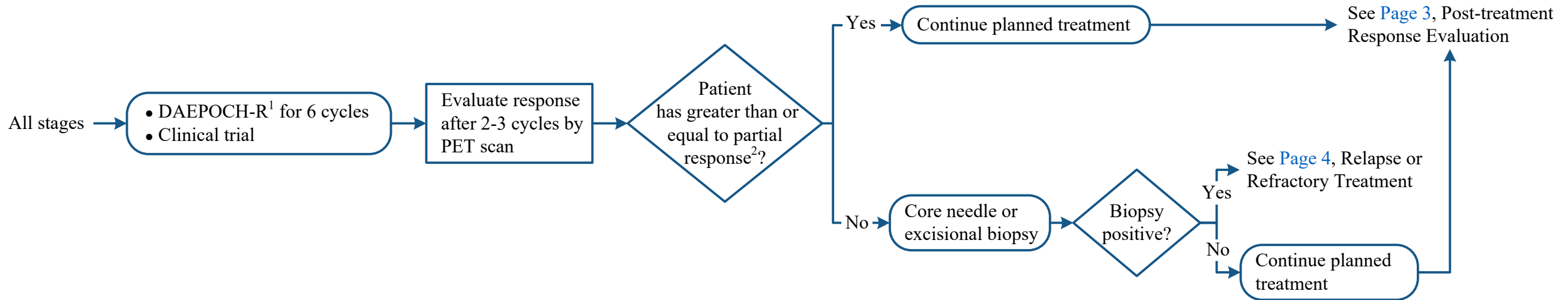
- CT neck, chest, abdomen and pelvis with contrast
- CT or MRI of head, and MRI of the spine (only if clinical suspicion of involvement with lymphoma)
- Unilateral or bilateral bone marrow biopsy with or without aspirate
- Pregnancy test
- Consider lumbar puncture and intrathecal chemotherapy if paranasal sinus, testicular, epidural, ≥ 2 extranodal sites, or if IPI<sup>2</sup> score ≥ 3
- Consider thoracentesis if clinically indicated

See [Page 2](#),  
Induction  
Therapy

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## INDUCTION THERAPY



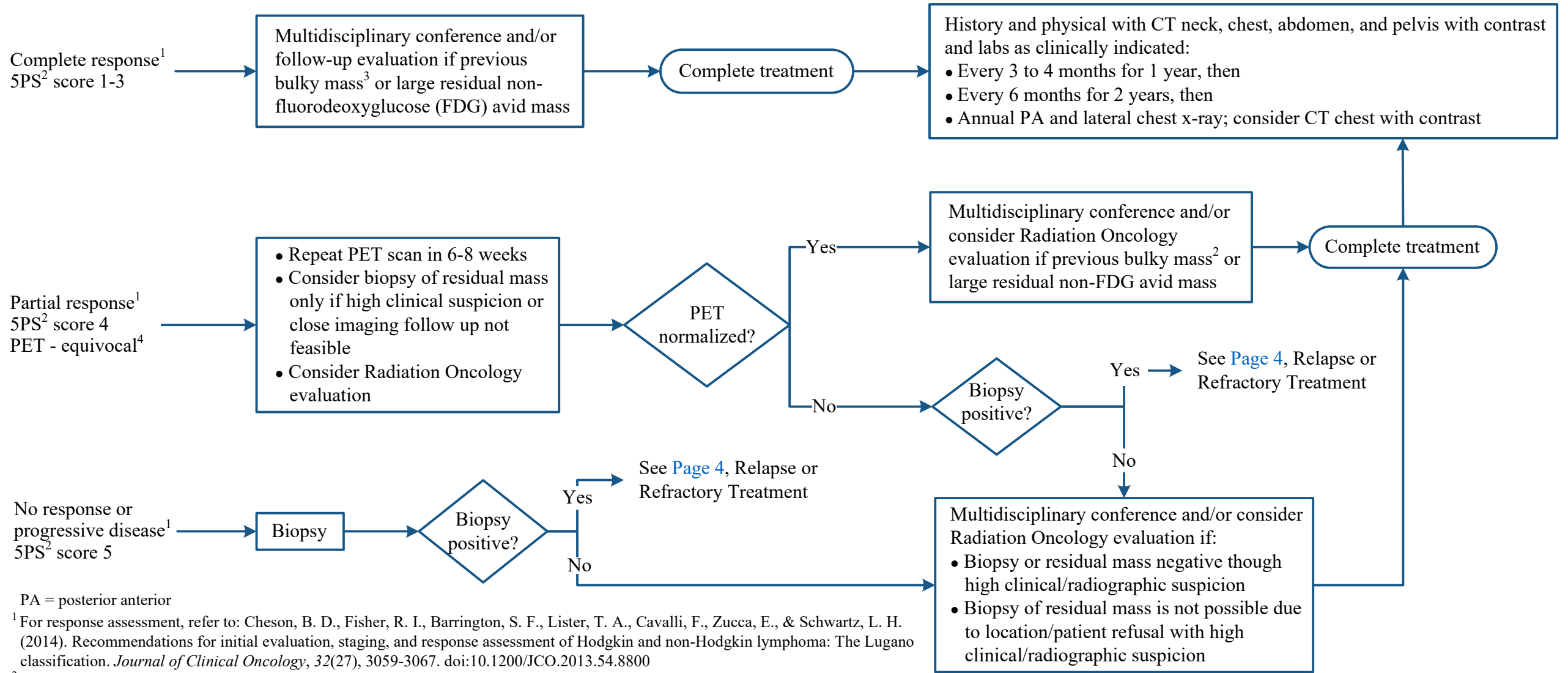
<sup>1</sup> DAEPOCH-R: dose adjusted EPOCH-R: etoposide, prednisone, vincristine, cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and rituximab (see [Appendix B](#)); administration is based on age and performance status of the patient

<sup>2</sup> For response assessment, refer to: Cheson, B. D., Fisher, R. I., Barrington, S. F., Lister, T. A., Cavalli, F., Zucca, E., & Schwartz, L. H. (2014). Recommendations for initial evaluation, staging, and response assessment of Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma: The Lugano classification. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 32(27), 3059-3067. doi:10.1200/JCO.2013.54.8800

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## RESPONSE EVALUATION



PA = posterior anterior

<sup>1</sup> For response assessment, refer to: Cheson, B. D., Fisher, R. I., Barrington, S. F., Lister, T. A., Cavalli, F., Zucca, E., & Schwartz, L. H. (2014). Recommendations for initial evaluation, staging, and response assessment of Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma: The Lugano classification. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 32(27), 3059-3067. doi:10.1200/JCO.2013.54.8800

<sup>2</sup> See [Appendix C: 5-Point Scale \(5PS\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> Bulky disease: mass ≥ 7.5 cm on CT imaging

<sup>4</sup> PET equivocal: maximum standardized uptake value (SUV) greater than mediastinal blood pool in the residual mediastinal mass

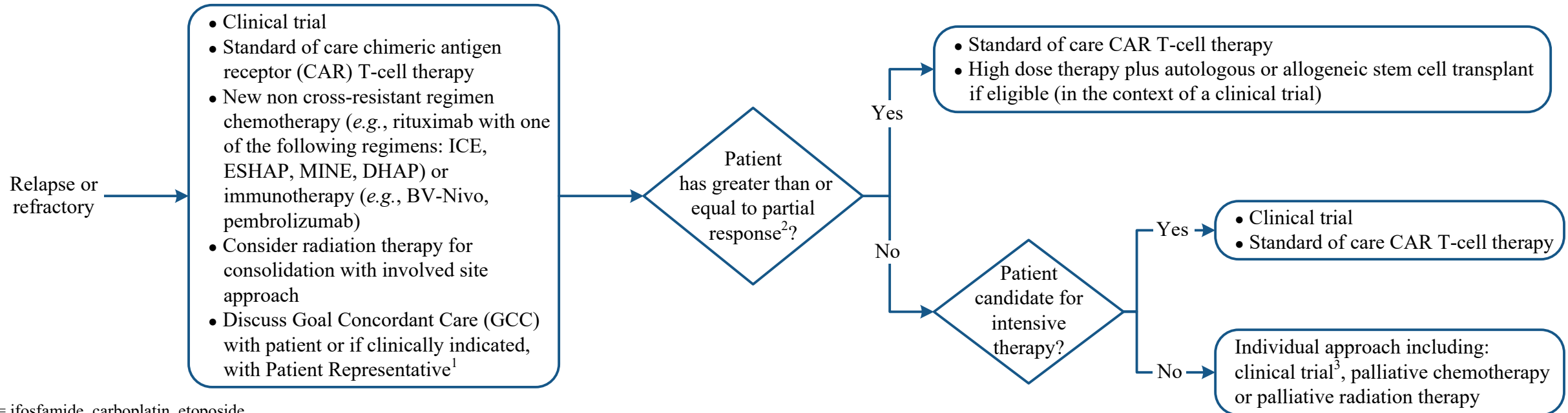
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## RELAPSE or REFRACTORY #1

## ADDITIONAL THERAPY

## CONSOLIDATION / ADDITIONAL THERAPY



ICE = ifosfamide, carboplatin, etoposide

ESHAP = etoposide, methylprednisolone, high-dose cytarabine, cisplatin

MINE = mesna, ifosfamide, mitoxantrone, etoposide

DHAP = dexamethasone, cytarabine, cisplatin

BV-Nivo = brentuximab vedotin, nivolumab

<sup>1</sup> GCC should be initiated by the Primary Oncologist. If Primary Oncologist is unavailable, Primary Team/Attending Physician to initiate GCC discussion and notify Primary Oncologist. Patients, or if clinically indicated, the Patient Representative should be informed of therapeutic and/or palliative options. GCC discussion should be consistent, timely, and re-evaluated as clinically indicated. The Advance Care Planning (ACP) note should be used to document GCC discussion. Refer to [GCC home page](#) (for internal use only).

<sup>2</sup> For response assessment, refer to: Cheson, B. D., Fisher, R. I., Barrington, S. F., Lister, T. A., Cavalli, F., Zucca, E., & Schwartz, L. H. (2014). Recommendations for initial evaluation, staging, and response assessment of Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin lymphoma: The Lugano classification. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 32(27), 3059-3067. doi:10.1200/JCO.2013.54.8800

<sup>3</sup> Clinical trials or individual regimens: except for patients with disease-free interval, those who progress after three successive regimens are unlikely to derive additional benefit from currently utilized combination chemotherapy regimens

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## APPENDIX A: International Prognostic Index (IPI)

## Age-Adjusted IPI

### Pre-Treatment Characteristics, ALL PATIENTS:

- Age > 60 years old
- LDH greater than upper limit of normal
- ECOG performance status 2-4
- Stage III or IV
- Extranodal involvement > 1 site

### International Index, ALL PATIENTS:

	Number of characteristics
• Low	0 or 1
• Low intermediate	2
• High intermediate	3
• High	4 or 5

### Pre-Treatment Characteristics, ALL PATIENTS ≤ 60 YEARS:

- LDH greater than one times upper limit of normal
- ECOG performance status 2-4
- Extranodal involvement > 1 site

### International Index, ALL PATIENTS ≤ 60 YEARS:

	Number of characteristics
• Low	0
• Low intermediate	1
• High intermediate	2
• High	3

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## APPENDIX B: Dose Adjusted EPOCH-R

Table 1. EPOCH-R starting dose level	
Drug	Dose, route, treatment days
Rituximab	375 mg/m <sup>2</sup> IV Day 1
Etoposide	50 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day continuous IV Days 1-4
Doxorubicin	10 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day continuous IV Days 1-4
Vincristine	0.4 mg/day continuous IV Days 1-4*
Cyclophosphamide	750 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day IV Day 5
Prednisone	60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> PO twice daily Days 1-5
Filgrastim product	5 mcg/kg subcutaneously daily starting on Day 6 until ANC > 5 K/microliter
Next Cycle**	Day 21

\* The original protocol/study dose of vincristine was 0.4 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day with no dose cap on vincristine

\*\* Begin on Day 21 if the ANC ≥ 1 K/microliter and the platelet count ≥ 100 K/microliter

Table 2. EPOCH dose-adjustment paradigm	
Nadir measurements***	Dose-adjustment
If nadir ANC ≥ 0.5 K/microliter	20% increase in etoposide, doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide above last cycle
If nadir ANC < 0.5 K/microliter on 1 or 2 measurements	Same doses as last cycle
If nadir ANC < 0.5 K/microliter on at least 3 measurements <b>or</b> If nadir platelet count < 25 K/microliter on 1 measurement	20% decrease in etoposide, doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide below last cycle

**Note:** Dose adjustments above starting dose level apply to etoposide, doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide. Dose adjustments below starting dose level apply to cyclophosphamide only.

\*\*\* Measurements of ANC and platelet nadir are based on twice weekly CBC only

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## APPENDIX C: 5-Point Scale (5PS)

- Score 1: no uptake
- Score 2: uptake less than or equal to mediastinum
- Score 3: uptake greater than mediastinum but less than or equal to liver
- Score 4: uptake moderately greater than liver
- Score 5: uptake markedly greater than liver and new sites of disease
- Score X: new areas of uptake unlikely to be related to lymphoma

A score of 1-3 is regarded as negative and 4 or 5 as positive



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## DEVELOPMENT CREDITS

This practice algorithm is based on majority expert opinion of the Lymphoma Center providers at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. It was developed using a multidisciplinary approach that included input from the following:

### Core Development Team Leads

Dai Chihara, MD, PhD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)  
Chelsea C. Pinnix, MD, PhD (Radiation Oncology)  
Jason R. Westin, MD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)

### Workgroup Members

Tharakeswara K. Bathala, MBBS, MD (Abdominal Imaging)	Sattva S. Neelapu, MD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)
Hubert H. Chuang, MD, PhD (Nuclear Medicine)	Chijioke Nze, MD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)
Bouthaina S. Dabaja, MD (Radiation Oncology)	Robert Orłowski, MD, PhD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)
Luis E. Fayad, MD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)	Felipe Samaniego, MD, MPH (Lymphoma/Myeloma)
Olga N. Fleckenstein, BS <sup>♦</sup>	Nicolaus Wagner-Bartak, MD (Abdominal Imaging)
Fredrick B. Hagemeister, MD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)	Michael Wang, MD (Lymphoma/Myeloma)
Benjamin Lee, PharmD, BCPS, BCOP (Pharmacy Clinical Programs)	Mary Lou Warren, DNP, APRN, CNS-CC <sup>♦</sup>
L. Jeffrey Medeiros, MD (Hematopathology Admin)	Sireesha Yedururi, MBBS (Abdominal Imaging)

<sup>♦</sup>Clinical Effectiveness Development Team