‘Can you spell that?’: CRC Chemo Cheat Sheet

For most Standard of Care (SOC) Chemo
For COLONTOWN members to make sense of the long drug names, long alternative names, and combination abbreviations

Common 1st Line/2nd Line Drugs

**FOLinic Acid**
AKA: Leucovorin
Purpose: enhances 5FU

**Fluorouracil**
AKA: 5FU
‘The 46 hr pump’

**IRInotecan**
AKA: Camptosar
Noted side effect: diarrhea
AND/OR
**OXaliplatin**
AKA: Eloxatin
Noted side effect: neuropathy

**XElooda**
AKA: Capecitabine
‘pills’ or ‘oral 5FU’
Noted side effect: hand foot syndrome (HFS)

These two can be combined for regimen called **OXIRI**

Common 3rd Line Drugs

**Avastin**
AKA: bevacizumab
Biologics added to increase chemo efficacy typically for Stage IV active disease; Also used on their own for maintenance

**Erbitux**
AKA: cetuximab
Type of agent: Anti-VEGF
Noted side effect: bleeding/ clotting

**Vectibix**
AKA: panitumumab
Type of agent: Anti-EGFR
Noted side effect: Rash

**Lonsurf**
AKA: TAS-102, FTD/TPI
Combo of trifluridine & tipiracil

**Stivarga**
AKA: regorafenib

‘Boosts’ to chemo

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Chemo Regimens

Combinations of abbreviations of the drugs

**FOLFIRI**
**FOLFOX**
**FOLFOXIRI/FOLFIRINOX**
**XELOX/CAPOX**
**XELIRI**

Chemo Related Terms as related to CRC:

- **Standard of Care (SOC)** - Consensus of best approved treatments based on scientific evidence
- **Line of Treatment** - a specific regimen used, 1st line (1L) would be the first line of therapy, 2nd (2L) the next and so forth
- **Neoadjuvant** - Treatment before curative intent surgery
- **Adjuvant** - Treatment after curative intent surgery
- **Infusion** - drugs given intravenously usually via port
- **Oral** - drugs taken in pill form
- **‘Pump’** - in this context the ‘pump’ usually means a pump which administers 5FU for 46 hours; it is attached via ones port and when it is removed it is referred to as ‘disconnect’
- **‘Bolus’** - also called a ‘push’ is a dose of a drug given quickly (usually via a syringe into one’s IV line). Sometimes 5FU is given via bolus or the ‘pump’ and some premeds or Leucovorin may be given by bolus too
- **Port or PICC** - these are semi-permanent access to your vein so that chemo can be given this way or blood drawn versus new needle access every time; a port is placed under the skin on the chest and PICC is in the arm with access point outside the skin