CLAIMS

1. Use of an effective amount of gemcitabine in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer, wherein the medicament is to be provided as a maintenance therapy for an individual, wherein the maintenance therapy follows at least one previous therapy, wherein the maintenance therapy comprises

gemcitabine to be continuously to the individual two or more times during two or more delivery periods

wherein the gemcitabine is to be delivered locally to the bladder of the individual,

wherein each delivery period is at least one week,

wherein there is a rest period between each delivery period of at least one month, and

wherein the individual has a urothelial carcinoma of the lower tract.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the gemcitabine is to be delivered into the bladder by an intravesicular device.

3. The use of claim 2, wherein the intravesicular device contains about 225 mg gemcitabine.

4. The use of any of claims 1-3, wherein the delivery periods are each 3 weeks.

5. The use of any of claims 1-4, wherein the rest period is about 3 months.

6. The use of any of claims 1-5, wherein the gemcitabine is to be delivered at a dose from about 1 mg/day to about 300 mg/day during delivery periods.

7. The use any one of claims 1-6, wherein the concentration of gemcitabine in the urine is from about 1 μg/mL to about 10 μg/mL during the first and second delivery period.

8. The use of claim 7, wherein the concentration of gemcitabine in the urine is about 10 μg/mL during the delivery periods.

9. The use of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the individual is ineligible for or has refused cisplatin-based chemotherapy.

10. The use of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the individual is unfit for, ineligible for, or has refused a radical cystectomy.

11. The use of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the individual has muscle invasive bladder cancer.

12. The use of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the individual has non-muscle invasive bladder cancer.

13. The use of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the rest period between the delivery periods is about 3 months.

14. The use of any one of claims 1-13 comprising 4 delivery periods, wherein the rest period between each delivery period is about 3 months.

15. The use of any one of claims 1-13, wherein the rest period between each delivery period is about 3 months, and wherein the gemcitabine is delivered about every 3 months for the lifetime of the individual.

16. Use of an effective amount of gemcitabine in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a urothelial carcinoma of the lower tract in an individual comprising

a) an effective amount of gemcitabine to be administered to the individual continuously during an induction phase; and

b) an effective amount of gemcitabine to be administered to the individual continuously during a maintenance phase,

wherein the gemcitabine is to be delivered locally to the bladder of the individual,

wherein the induction phase and maintenance phases are separated by a rest period, and

wherein the induction phase is about 12 weeks.

17. Use of an effective amount of gemcitabine in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer, wherein the medicament is for bladder preservation in an individual comprising

a) an effective amount of gemcitabine to be administered to the individual continuously during an induction phase; and

b) an effective amount of gemcitabine to be administered to the individual continuously during a maintenance phase,

wherein the gemcitabine is to be delivered locally to the bladder of the individual,

wherein the induction phase and maintenance phases are separated by a rest period,

wherein the induction phase is about 12 weeks, and

wherein the individual has a urothelial carcinoma of the lower tract.

18. The use of any one of claims 16-17, wherein the gemcitabine is delivered by an intravesicular device.

19. The use of claim 18, wherein the intravesicular device contains about 225 mg gemcitabine.

20. The use of any one of claims 16-19 wherein the rest period between the induction phase and the maintenance phase is about 3 months.

21. The use of any one of claims 15-19, wherein the maintenance phase comprises two or more gemcitabine delivery periods.

22. The use of claim 21, wherein the maintenance phase gemcitabine delivery periods are each separated by a rest period of about 3 months.

23. The use of any of claims 16-22, wherein the maintenance phase gemcitabine delivery periods are each 3 weeks.

24. The use of any of claims 21-23, wherein the gemcitabine is to be delivered at a dose from about 1 mg/day to about 300 mg/day during the induction phase or the maintenance phase delivery periods.

25. The use any one of claims 21-24, wherein the concentration of gemcitabine in the urine is from about 1 μg/mL to about 10 μg/mL during the induction phase or the maintenance phase delivery periods.

26. The use of any one of claims 16-25, wherein the individual is ineligible for or has refused cisplatin-based chemotherapy.

27. The use of any one of claims 16-26, wherein the individual is unfit for, ineligible for or has refused a radical cystectomy.

28. The use of any one of claims 16-27, wherein the individual has muscle invasive bladder cancer.

29. The use of any one of claims 16-27, wherein the individual has non-muscle invasive bladder cancer.