

Title: GPC, Chemotherapy Administration/Extravasation	Guideline
Patient Age Group: <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Ages <input type="checkbox"/> Newborns <input type="checkbox"/> Pediatric <input type="checkbox"/> Adult	

DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW

This document provides the procedure for safe administration of chemotherapeutic agents. Only Registered Nurses (RN) that have demonstrated competency in chemotherapy administration may administer chemotherapy.

REFERENCES

Oncology Nursing Society – “Chemotherapy and Biotherapy, Guidelines and Recommendations for Practice.

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. Registered Nurses who have demonstrated chemotherapy competence.
2. Attending Oncology Physician.

PROCEDURE

1. No orders for chemotherapy will be accepted unless generic drug names are used and the regimen is written in its entirety as one order. Orders will not be accepted if they are written daily as separate orders.
2. All chemotherapy orders need to be checked by two chemotherapy competent registered nurses with verification of body surface area (BSA) calculation and accurate medication dosage. Co-signature is required on the chemotherapy order sheet to document this verification. Investigate and clarify any information that is incorrect prior to administration. No more than a 10 % variation in BSA or dosage calculation will be accepted without a clarification order.
3. Chemotherapy is considered a “High Alert” medication and requires double verification in front of the client by two RNs along with co-signature on the Medication Administration Record (MAR).
4. Telephone orders and verbal orders for chemotherapy will not be accepted. Clarification orders may be taken on the phone to ‘Hold’ chemotherapy only. No changes to chemotherapy orders will be accepted on the original orders. Changes will be accepted if written as a new order by the attending Oncology physician.
5. Administer chemotherapy according to procedures as outlined in reference book.
6. Chemotherapy competent RNs may be floated to another unit to administer chemotherapy provided appropriate notice has been given to the Oncology unit charge nurse and the workload and staffing is adequate.
7. Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for chemotherapy administration will be provided by the clinical areas in which chemotherapy is routinely given.
8. All soiled PPE and chemotherapy administration supplies will be disposed of in a chemotherapy waste receptacle per Oncology Nursing Society guidelines.

9. Linen soiled by body fluids from anyone receiving chemotherapy within the past 48 hours must be separately bagged and tagged for pre-washing before being added to the regular laundry.
10. In the event of a chemotherapy extravasation, follow procedures as outlined in reference book and contact the attending Oncology physician for the appropriate intervention.
Complete Patient Safety Net .

DEFINITIONS

Extravasation – Infiltration or leakage of an intravenous antineoplastic agent into the local tissues.

Chemotherapy – a broad term that encompasses all medications used to treat cancer due to their antineoplastic properties.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This guideline replaces: Chemotherapy Administration, 11/03 and Chemotherapy Extravasation-Prevention and Treatment, 11/03

KEY WORDS

Chemotherapy, Extravasation

RESOURCES/TRAINING

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