



*Information for You from Your Health Care Team*

## Safety in Home Chemotherapy

What is “home chemotherapy”?

- “Home chemotherapy” is chemotherapy given to your child in the home setting after discharge.
- After chemotherapy is given to your child, the medicine is passed into all body fluids, such as urine, feces, and vomit.
- Safety precautions are maintained for 48 hours after your child receives the medicine.

How can families ensure safety at home giving chemotherapy?

- Make a special work area for handling chemotherapy agents. Use soap and water to wash areas that come into contact with the medicine.
- Wear gloves when handling body fluids, such as diapers, urinals, urine hats, vomit basins, and soiled sheets. Carry the items away from your body or place the items in a pillowcase for transport.
- Always wash your hands after removing gloves.
- Pre-wash linens before placing the linen in the regular wash.
- Use plastic covers for your child’s pillow and mattress.
- Wash reusable items, such as a bedpan or urinal, with soap and water everyday and with each use.

- Dispose of chemotherapy agents and all items used to mix the medicine in a secure biohazard bin or bag labeled “hazardous waste”. This includes opened capsule parts, gloves, and stirrers.
- Keep people and pets away from all chemotherapy.

What if your or your child has skin contact with the chemotherapy?

- Take off the clothing that is wet.
- Wash skin immediately with soap and water 3 separate times, or use the soap and wash clothes from the kit to wash the skin 3 separate times.

What if the medicine comes into your/ your child’s eyes?

- Find the nearest water source.
- Use the cup from the kit to flush the eye with large amounts of water, or use your hands to flush to flush your eyes with water.
- Call the nurse.

How do I give oral chemotherapy to my child?

- Wear gloves when handling medicine.
- Do not handle chemotherapy if pregnant or breastfeeding, if possible.
- Do not open capsules or crush tablets without teaching from your pharmacist.
- *For capsules:* Capsules that contain a fine powder can get into the air and could be breathed in. Wear gloves, mask and goggles. Find a place that is free of air flow, such away from the window or fan.

Please speak up if you have any concerns about giving your child chemotherapy at home. We strive for chemotherapy safety for your family.

Speak up if you have any questions or concerns