

INFORMATION ABOUT HANDLING CHEMOTHERAPY MEDICATIONS



- Information regarding oral medications will be given to you by your hospital's oncology pharmacist.
- All chemotherapy taken by mouth can pose a health hazard to both patients and caregivers. Take care when handling oral chemotherapy medicine and try to prevent it from touching the skin.
- It is suggested the caregiver wears gloves whilst handling chemotherapy medication. If your skin does come into contact with the medicine, wash the area of contact immediately.
- Prepare a clean area where the medication can be handled safely (away from food preparation areas and air vents/fans).
- Chemotherapy medication shouldn't be crushed. Contact your pharmacist for advice if your child cannot swallow medication whole.

STORAGE OF MEDICATIONS

- Keep all medications out of the reach of children.
- A locked cupboard is a good place to store medicines.
- Do not store medicines in the bathroom, on a windowsill or in the car as heat and dampness can destroy some medicines.
- If you would like further information please ask your pharmacist for the consumer medicine information (CMI).

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FORGET A DOSE, OR IF YOUR CHILD VOMITS IMMEDIATELY AFTER A DOSE OF CHEMOTHERAPY.

Contact your child's treating centre:

The Royal Children's Hospital Children's Cancer Centre (Oncology Pharmacy)

During business hours contact your oncology pharmacist on (03) 9345 6290

After hours ring the ward Associate Unit Manager (AUM) on (03) 9345 5645

Monash Children's Hospital Cancer Centre (Paediatric Oncology pharmacist)

During business hours contact your oncology pharmacist on (03) 8572 3464 or the Children's Cancer Centre on (03) 8572 3456

After hours ring the switchboard on (03) 9597 6666 and page the on-call paediatric registrar.

Disclaimer: This information has been prepared by the Paediatric Integrated Cancer Service, with input from the Children's Cancer Centre Pharmacy Departments at The Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Children's Hospital. This information is for educational purposes only and should not be seen as a substitute for advice from your doctor or other professional healthcare provider. If you have specific questions about the content of this information, or any other medical matter, it is recommended that you consult your doctor, pharmacist or other professional healthcare provider. This information is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication, however changes in circumstances after the time of publication may impact on the accuracy of this information.

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