

DEPARTMENT: Pharmacy

POLICY & PROCEDURE: PS-180

SUBJECT: Chemotherapy Preparation

PURPOSE: To delineate proper handling of antineoplastic agents while admixing in the pharmacy.

RESPONSIBILITY: Pharmacy

POLICY:

Antineoplastic agents will be handled in a manner that is consistent with good aseptic technique that provides adequate protection for the pharmacy personnel handling these materials.

PROCEDURE:

1) WORK AREA

- a. Cytotoxic agents will be prepared in the Containment Isolator (CI). To ensure an aseptic preparation area, the CI will continually run in order to provide an aseptic area.
- b. Cleaning of the CI is outlined in the owner's manual.
- c. The CI will be certified semi-annually or anytime the cabinet is moved.
- d. If the CI is unavailable or inoperative, drug preparations will be performed in the CI (WITH THE BLOWER OFF) or other appropriate work area using appropriate precautions and techniques

2) COMPOUNDING AND PREPARATION TECHNIQUE

- a. Assemble all necessary equipment and materials; plan ahead.
- b. Clean work surface area with approved antiseptic solution.
- c. Put on required PPE:
 - i. Inspect the sleeves and gloves for any holes or weaknesses.
 - ii. Check the pressure of the hood to ensure that the system is negatively pressurized and properly sealed.
- d. Cover work surface with a plastic-backed absorbent paper. Be sure that mat does not block perforated areas or restrict airflow in front of or behind compounding area.
- e. Place all necessary equipment and materials on the work surface.
- f. Drugs will be compounded using approved aseptic technique. Care should be taken that pressure is not allowed to build up in vials when reconstituting, which may increase the risk of drug aerosolization.
- g. If the drug is compounded in a syringe, a luer-lock cap is applied prior to delivery to nursing unit.
- h. Compounded product will be properly labeled and placed in a ziplock bag clearly marked as "CHEMOTHERAPY MATERIAL" for transport to the nursing unit.
- i. Final drug measurement shall be performed before removing the needle/syringe from the vial or ampoule.

- j. Excess drug solutions shall be discarded into the manufacturer's original container or a special collection container properly labeled for disposal.
 - k. Antineoplastic drugs for IV push will be sent to the floors in a properly labeled pre-filled syringe with a syringe cap.
 - l. Remove preparation(s) from the hood for proper labeling.
 - m. Properly discard all waste material as indicated below.
- 3) Labeling
- a. All antineoplastic admixtures are to be labeled using accepted professional standards.
- 4) Delivery to Nursing Units
- a. Standard pharmacy methods for delivery of medications to the Nursing Units will be used.
 - b. Antineoplastic drugs will be sent to the Nursing Units in an appropriately labeled plastic bag.
- 5) Trace or Contact Waste
- a. The trace or contact chemotherapy waste will be placed in receptacles labeled with the words 'BIOHAZARD' and 'INCINERATION'.
 - b. The trace or contact chemotherapy will be disposed of by incineration as stated by the Medical Waste Management Act with a receipt of transportation and destruction of biohazardous material.
- 6) Accidental Spills
- a. In case of contact with an antineoplastic drug, thoroughly wash the affected area with soap and water. If the drug came in contact with eyes, flush the affected eye(s) for at least 15 minutes with copious amounts of water while holding the eyelid open.
 - b. File a "Supervisor's Report of Injury" and seek evaluation by a Physician.
 - c. File an incident report.
 - d. Any spill of cytotoxic material outside the CI or large spill within the CI will be cleaned up using an approved chemotherapy spill kit. These kits will be kept readily accessible in the chemotherapy compounding area.
 - e. Clean-up will be performed per instructions on outside of kit:
 - i. The person responsible for the spill is responsible for the cleanup.
 - ii. Contain the area. No one is permitted to walk past or through the area of the spill.
 - iii. Allow 4 to 5 minutes for aerosols to settle. Avoid movement in the area.
 - iv. Double gloves, mask, shoe covers and gown must be worn.
 - v. Spilled liquids or powders are to be carefully covered with dry or damp paper or cloth towels to absorb the material and to prevent spreading.
 - vi. Carefully wipe up spilled materials and place waste in an appropriately labeled bag, place in appropriate rigid container.
 - vii. Wash down the area thoroughly with water. Call Housekeeping to give the area a final wash.
 - viii. Dispose of gloves, mask, shoe covers and all spilled materials and materials used to clean the spill.

- ix. Wash hands and any exposed skin area that may have been contaminated with soap and water.
- x. If clothing has been contaminated with absorbed liquids, remove immediately and have cleaned.