

CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENTS: EXPOSURE OR SPILL

Section: Nursing

Compliance: ACHC Infusion Pharmacy

ACHC Standards:

Policy ID: NUR206

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Revised:

Approved by, Title and Date Approved: 1/1/21, 5/1/21

I. POLICY

All acute exposures or spills of cytotoxic agents shall be reported to the appropriate clinical manager, (nursing or pharmacy). If major contact or eye exposure occurs, medical advice shall be sought as soon as possible. All employees who handle chemotherapy should be educated on proper management of exposure or spills. The MSDS should be available to healthcare workers who handle chemotherapeutic agents.

II. PROCEDURES

A. Procedure for Active Exposure:

1. Immediately remove and replace visibly contaminated gowns, gloves, masks, or eyewear. Dispose of in sharps container or double bag in white plastic bags labeled "hazardous waste".
2. Wash affected skin area thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible. Refer to MSDS for agent-specific interventions.
3. Flush the affected eye with copious amounts of water as soon as possible for at least 15 minutes. Seek medical treatment.

B. Procedure for Acute Spill:

1. Wash hands.
2. Locate chemo spill kit: Poly-coated gown, mask, eye shield, 2 pair Nitrile gloves, Chemo Bio-Wipe bag, and chemo waste bag.
3. Don gown, mask, goggles, and gloves (two pairs). Cuffs shall be tucked under the gloves.
4. Open the Chemo Bio-Wipe Bag and insert already gloved hand (either right or left) into mitt.

5. Wipe up the spilled substance with absorbent side of Chemo Bio-Wipe Bag.
6. Turn bag and absorbed substance inside out to contain spilled substance.
7. Peel off adhesive strip carefully, and place in the Chemo Bio-Wipe Bag, if desired.
8. Fold top of the Chemo Bio-Wipe Bag over and seal.
9. Place Bio-Wipe Bag in ChemoPlus Waste Bag.
10. Place gown, gloves, goggles, and mask in ChemoPlus Waste Bag and carefully secure with metal tie.
11. Call pharmacy to arrange for pick-up of ChemoPlus Waste Bag. Pharmacy will dispose of bag in properly labeled Chemotherapy waste container as required by OSHA.
12. Reorder Chemo spill kit and other replacement supplies.

C. Documentation should include:

1. Specific description of spill (if patient affected). If patient or employee were actively exposed, document what measures were taken to treat the exposed area.
2. Method used for cleanup.
3. Document who was notified about spill or exposure.

D. Complete Incident Report. Notify supervisor.