

Section: HRMC Division of Nursing

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PROCEDURE

TITLE: ADMINISTRATION OF CHEMOTHERAPY AGENTS TO INPATIENTS AND OUTPATIENTS

PURPOSE: To outline the procedure for the administration of chemotherapy agents

Only RN's qualified to administer IV Chemotherapy will be permitted to give Chemotherapy via a parenteral route.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Consent
2. Information Sheet on the individual medications
3. IV Equipment
4. Chemotherapy Cart
5. Yellow Biohazard Sharps Box
6. Spill Kit (located in cart)
7. Chemotherapy Anaphylaxis Kit (located in pyxis)

LEVEL OF RESPONSIBILITY: Chemotherapy qualified RN's

CONTENT:	PROCEDURE:	KEY POINTS:
	1. Obtain orders from MD.	All orders must be written by MD – no telephone orders are accepted.
	2. Scan orders to pharmacy and with a pharmacist double check the orders for dosage and calculation	
	3. Identify the patient, using two patient identifiers – patient name and patient medical recorder number. Obtain consent for chemotherapy.	Give patient information about specific drugs that are to be given.
	4. Select site for IV following IV Protocol or use patient's portacath.	
	5. Obtain patient's vital signs. Obtain ordered lab work and call results to MD for medical clearance.	Need order for clearance to give chemotherapy. This may be taken as a telephone order.
	6. When medications are brought to the floor from pharmacy, the order and the medication must be checked by two RN's and noted on the MAR that they were checked and verified.	
	7. Bring medications and chemo cart into the patient room. Identify the patient again, using two identifiers.	All equipment is kept in the Chemotherapy cart, located on 3 South.
	8. Don chemo gloves, gowns and protective eye wear.	
	9. Prime the IV tubing with Normal Saline.	All IV tubing is primed with Normal Saline first, not the chemotherapy agent.

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| 10. Administer medication as ordered. | Stay with patient for the first 15 minutes of the infusion, recheck IV site frequently for signs and symptoms of extravasation. |
| 11. If administering a vesicant stay with patient during the entire infusion. | |
| 12. Flush with Normal Saline 10 to 20 cc after each medication. | |
| 13. Chart medication on MAR and any reaction in nurses notes. | Single use MAR for chemotherapy. |
| 14. Dispose of all equipment in yellow biohazard container. | Call Central Supply to pick up container when lid is closed. |
| 15. Charge all chemotherapy on 3 South charges for both inpatient and outpatients. | |

References: American Cancer Society Textbook of Clinical Oncology.
Hackettstown Regional Medical Center Chemotherapy Standards