

DPD Deficiency Testing

Cancer Services

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Information for Patients

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Introduction

If you are due to begin treatment with a fluoropyrimidine based chemotherapy drug such as 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) or capecitabine you will need to have a blood test before we can start your treatment. This is to check your body is able to break down and process the drug safely.

What is DPD (dihydropyrimidine dehydrogenase) deficiency?

DPD is an enzyme made in the liver that helps break down and process the chemotherapy. Without enough DPD the chemotherapy drugs build up quickly in the body making side effects more severe and possibly life threatening. Please note not all severe side effects are due to DPD deficiency and specific information about your treatment will be provided.

DPYD gene testing

The DPYD gene is found in a small section of your DNA and is what tells your body to produce DPD enzymes. A small sample of blood is sent to the laboratory to be examined and if a particular version (mutation) of the gene is present within your DNA the liver will make less DPD. By testing for the most common mutations within the DPYD gene we can reduce the risk of serious side effects during your treatment.

The blood sample you provide will only be tested for mutations in the DPYD gene and will not provide information of any other genetic conditions. The results are usually available within 2 weeks.

What happens next?

Your consultant will discuss the results with you. If the test finds you have low levels of DPD it may be necessary to lower the dose of chemotherapy or be offered an alternative treatment. If the results show that your DPD levels are normal you will continue with the planned dose of chemotherapy.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.uhleicester.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact uhl-tr.informationforpatientsmailbox@nhs.net

Useful contacts

Macmillan Information and Support Centre

Osborne Building, Leicester Royal Infirmary, LE1 5WW

Telephone: 0116 258 6189

Email: uhl-tr.cancerinformationcentre@nhs.net

Macmillan Cancer Support

Freephone: 0808 808 00 00

Website: www.macmillan.org.uk

Cancer Research UK

Freephone: 0808 800 4040

Website: www.cancerresearchuk.org

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل

જો તમને અસ્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

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