

Information about your extravasation injury (chemotherapy drugs that have leaked out of your vein)

Cancer Services

Leaflet No: 756

Version: 4

Information for Patients

Produced: June 2024

Review: June 2027

Introduction

You have received your chemotherapy, and a rare complication, known as extravasation, has occurred. This means that some of the chemotherapy drug has leaked out of your vein and into the surrounding tissue. Occasionally, the skin can break or, in rare cases, deeper tissue injury may occur.

Please follow the instructions below (**ticked boxes only**), to help prevent any further effects or problems. Your nurse will tick the boxes relevant to you, and explain which procedures to follow.

Tick box as appropriate	Procedure	Reason
	Apply a cold pack to the affected area for 30 minutes every four hours for 24	This may help to reduce any swelling and tissue irritation
	Apply a warm pack to the affected area for 30 minutes, four times a day for two	This may help to reduce any swelling and tissue irritation
	Elevate your arm on a pillow whenever possible	Helps to reduce swelling
	Apply DMSO liquid, then three hours later apply a thin layer of hydrocortisone 1% cream. Repeat every six hours for seven days	This may help to reduce damage to the skin
	Apply a thin layer of hydrocortisone 1% cream every six hours for seven days, or as long as pain and redness persist	This will help to reduce redness and inflammation

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

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

Extravasation

Your chemotherapy nurse will have already administered the recommended treatment for the extravasation. Although this will help to minimise the chance of developing further problems, you will need to keep checking the area every day.

The name of the drug which may have extravasated is called:

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What else do I need to do?

- Gently exercise the affected arm or hand.
- Take mild painkillers if required.
- Do not apply any other lotions, creams or ointments unless you have been instructed to do so by your chemotherapy nurse or doctor.
- Do not expose the area to sunlight.
- Avoid wearing tight clothing around the affected area.
- Protect the affected area when bathing or showering, so that it does not get wet.
- Check the area daily and contact the hospital, using the numbers over the page, if you have any of the following:
 - redness or change of colour
 - blistering, peeling or flaking
 - increasing pain
 - a fever, with a temperature of 38°C or above,

or if you have any questions or concerns. Your appointment to attend for review is on

.....at.....

on the Osborne Assessment Unit on Level 1 of the Osborne Building.

If you notice that the site of the extravasation is getting worse please contact the 24-hour emergency helpline:

Telephone: 0808 178 2212

Contact Numbers

Useful telephone numbers for oncology patients

8.30am-6.00pm Monday-Friday (except bank holidays):

Chemotherapy Suite (general enquiries) 0116 258 6107

Chemotherapy Suite (emergencies) 0808 178 2212

For help and advice if you are unwell outside the above hours:

Ward 40 0116 258 6339

Ward 39 0116 258 6309

Useful telephone numbers for haematology patients:

8am– 4pm Monday– Friday

Osborne Treatment Centre 0116 258 5263

Outside these hours- Ward 41 0116 258 6832

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

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk