

# Information for patients whose white cell count is low after chemotherapy treatment

Cancer Services

Leaflet No: 770

Version: 3.1

Information for patients

Produced Jun 2024

Review: Jun 2027

## Discharge information

Your recent blood tests show that you have a low white blood cell count due to your chemotherapy treatment. The white cells in your blood help your body to fight infection. Whilst your white blood cell count is low you are more prone to infection and take longer to recover. Your health care team is discharging you home with antibiotic tablets as a precaution.

We know this is safe practice and of benefit to patients.

However, if you experience any of the following symptoms, please phone the chemotherapy helpline immediately on 0808 178 2212.

- vomiting
- rash
- diarrhoea
- temperature above 37.5° C or below 36° C
- if you feel unwell, even though your temperature is between 36° C and 37.5° C

Patients occasionally need to return to hospital to be given antibiotics through a drip.

## After you go home

You will receive a telephone call from the acute oncology nurse or an oncology nurse about 48 hours after you have gone home.

Please do not wait for this if you have any of the above symptoms: ring the 24-hour helpline on **0808 178 2212**. Contact us for advice if you have any other concerns or worries, and make sure that your family members are aware of this information.

You can drive and continue normal activities following discharge from hospital.

**Health information and support is available at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)  
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit [www.uhleicester.nhs.uk](http://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](mailto:uhl-tr.Informationforpatientsmailbox@nhs.net)



## Instructions for taking antibiotics

You have been prescribed:

- Co-amoxiclav 625mg tablets three times a day for seven days (including your hospital stay)
- Ciprofloxacin 750mg twice a day for seven days (including your hospital stay)
- Co-trimoxazole 960mg twice a day for seven days (including your hospital stay) - this is used if you cannot take penicillin for any reason

## Patient temperature diary

Please record your temperature below from the day you are discharged.

**Remember if you feel unwell or your temperature is above 38°C please phone 0808 178 2212.**

Date				
AM				
PM				

Date				
AM				
PM				

Date				
AM				
PM				

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 [uhl-tr.equalitymailbox@nhs.net](mailto:uhl-tr.equalitymailbox@nhs.net)