

**VALLEYCARE**  
**OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER/HEALTH CENTERS**  
**POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**NUMBER: 20**  
**VERSION: 3**

**SUBJECT/TITLE:** **MANAGING CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT SPILLS AND ACUTE EXPOSURES**

**POLICY:** Specific processes must be followed in the management of spills and acute exposure to chemotherapeutic agents.

**PURPOSE:** To outline guidelines to protect healthcare workers, patients, and the environment from unnecessary exposure to potentially hazardous substances.

**DEPARTMENTS:** All

**DEFINITIONS:**

**PROCEDURE:** **I. EQUIPMENT LIST**

Chemotherapeutic Agent Spill Kits (ChemoBloc Spill Kits) are located in all areas of the hospital in which chemotherapy is administered and contain the following: safety glasses, chemotherapy gloves, dust/mist respirator mask, chemotherapy gown, absorbent pad, chemotherapy waste bags, shoe coverings, scoop with brush, tie wrap and hazardous spill sign.

Standard hospital detergent solution also must be used.

**II. MANAGING SPILLS AND EXPOSURES**

**A. Chemotherapeutic Agent Spill Procedure**

A chemotherapy drug spill requires immediate attention to prevent unnecessary contamination of the environment. In the event of a small spill (less than 5ml.) Nursing/Pharmacy staff shall:

1. Clear the spill area of unauthorized person(s).
2. Use a ChemoBloc Spill Kit to barricade and contain the spill. These kits are available in all areas where chemotherapeutic drugs are administered.
3. Notify on duty supervisor of the spill.
4. Initiate immediate cleanup of spill; follow the spill control procedures located on the reverse side of the ChemoBloc Spill

**SUBJECT/TITLE: MANAGING CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT SPILLS AND ACUTE EXPOSURES**

**Policy Number: 20**

**Page Number: 2**

- Kit.
5. Don personal protective equipment supplied in the spill kit:
    - a) Gown: disposable gown, lint free, low permeability fabric with closed front, long sleeves and elastic or knit closed cuffs and cuffs tucked under the gloves.
    - b) Safety glasses.
    - c) Disposable dust and mist respirator.
    - d) Double chemo gloves or surgical latex gloves, non-powdered.
  6. Clean up the spill using the spill procedure and spill supplies provided in the ChemoBloc Spill Kit.
  7. Sweep glass fragments into scoop with brush, and place into puncture-proof chemotherapy waste container.
  8. When the spill has been thoroughly cleaned up, notify Environmental Services at x4110 to terminally clean the affected area. The area shall be cleaned 3 times using 2% "Precyde" detergent or detergent solution, followed by clean water.
  9. Place all disposable contaminated materials and contaminated linens into (yellow) chemotherapy waste container.
  10. Remove and dispose of contaminated clothing, gloves, mask, into chemotherapy waste container and wash hands.
  11. Environmental Services shall remove all chemotherapeutic waste containers to the Biohazard Waste Storage Room for pickup.
  12. Fill-out the Hazardous Drug Exposure Report form provided in the ChemoBloc Spill Kit, and mail it to the Safety Office located in Cottage I.
  13. Document incident in the PSN.

**Large Spills (greater than 5ml.)**

1. Contain large spills with absorbent pads.
2. Barricade the spill area and post cautions signs.
3. Notify Safety Office at x3405. After hours, notify the Hospital Operator by dialing x111.

**B. Eye Exposure to Chemotherapy Agents**

1. Holding the eyelid open, flood the affected eye with water or isotonic eyewash (normal saline or Dacriose eye wash) for at least 15 minutes.
2. For patient management, refer to Nursing Policy "Chemotherapy Adult Management of Extravasation," notify Nurse Manager or designee and the Hematology/Oncology team, and document the

**SUBJECT/TITLE: MANAGING CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT SPILLS AND ACUTE EXPOSURES**

**Policy Number: 20**

**Page Number: 3**

- incident in the PSN.
3. For employee management, notify the Nurse Manager or designee, receive and complete Injury Reporting Form Packet, and proceed to Treatment Center or Medical Emergency Room as directed by the Nurse Manager or designee. Refer to Infection Control Policy “Blood/Body Fluid Exposure Protocol”, as needed.
  4. For visitor management, proceed to the Medical Emergency Room, inform area Nurse Manager or designee, and document incident in the PSN.

**C. Skin Exposure to Chemotherapy Agents**

1. Wash the affected area thoroughly with SOAP (not germicidal agent) and water.
2. For patient management, refer to Nursing Policy, “Chemotherapy Adult Management of Extravasation,” notify Nurse Manager or designee and the Hematology/Oncology team, on the day of incident or in emergency cases if questions arise.
3. Document the incident in the PSN.
4. For employee management, notify the Nurse Manager or designee, receive/complete Injury Reporting Form Package, and proceed to Treatment Center or Medical Emergency Room as directed by Nurse Manager or designee. Refer to Infection Control Policy “Blood/Body Fluid Exposure Protocol”, as needed.
5. For visitor management, proceed to the Medical Emergency Room, inform area Nurse Manager or designee, and document incident in the PSN.

**D. Tissue Exposure to Chemotherapy Agents**

1. If the skin is pierced by a needle:
  - a. Needle INJECTION: If the drug has been injected into the tissue. Draw back on the syringe removing any of the drug, then remove the needle from the tissue.
    - i. For patient management, refer to Chemotherapy Adult Management of Extravasation, notify Nurse Manager or designee and the Hematology/Oncology team, and document the incident in the PSN.
    - ii. For employee management, notify the Nurse Manager or designee, receive/complete Injury Reporting Form Package, and proceed to Treatment Center or Medical

**SUBJECT/TITLE: MANAGING CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT SPILLS AND ACUTE EXPOSURES**

**Policy Number: 20**

**Page Number: 4**

- Emergency Room as directed by Nurse Manager or designee. Refer to Infection Control Policy “Blood/Body Fluid Exposure Protocol”, as needed.
- iii. For visitor management, proceed to the Medical Emergency Room, inform area Nurse Manager or designee, and document incident in the PSN.
- b. Glass CUT: Rinse the area with large amounts of warm water. Wash the area with SOAP and rinse again with warm water.
- i. For patient management, refer to Chemotherapy Adult Management of Extravasation, notify Nurse Manager or designee and the Hematology/Oncology team, and document the incident in the PSN.
  - ii. For employee management, notify the Nurse Manager or designee, receive/complete Injury Reporting Form Package, and proceed to Treatment Center or Medical Emergency Room as directed by Nurse Manager or designee. Refer to Infection Control Policy “Blood/Body Fluid Exposure Protocol”, as needed.
  - iii. For visitor management, proceed to the Medical Emergency Room, inform area Nurse Manager or designee, and document incident in the PSN.

**III. DOCUMENTATION:**

Document the incident in the PSN or Employee Industrial Accident Report.

**SUBJECT/TITLE: MANAGING CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENT SPILLS AND ACUTE EXPOSURES**

**Policy Number: 20**

**Page Number: 5**

References: Fischer, D., Knobf, T., & Durivage, J. (1993). <u>The Cancer Chemotherapy Handbook</u> . St. Louis: Mosby. Groenwald, S., et al., (1990). <u>Cancer Nursing Principles and Practice</u> . Boston: Jones and Bartlett. Oncology Nursing Society (1992). <u>Core Curriculum for Oncology Nursing</u> . W.B. Saunders Company. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (n.d.). <u>Controlling Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Drugs</u> . Retrieved Sept. 17, 2007, from <a href="http://www.osha.gov">www.osha.gov</a> .	
Approved by: VEC-2011Jan	Date: 07/22/2011
Review Date: <b>08/10/2014</b> , 9/90, 2/93, 2/96, 12/02, 3/04 ,12/04, 11/06	Revision Date: 9/90, 2/93, 2/96, 3/04, 12/07
Distribution: Olive View Hospital-Wide Policies	
Original Date: 3/90	