Information on Extravasation

This provides information for patients whose chemotherapy may have leaked from the vein into which they were having their chemotherapy, this is known as an extravasation.

It will explain what an extravasation is, what complications may occur and how it will be managed.

What is an extravasation?

- Extravasation occurs when chemotherapy leaks from a vein into the skin or surrounding tissues.
- Extravasations can also occur in rare occasions even if you have a PICC line or a central line placed.
- If an extravasation occurs you will usually notice pain, swelling or redness near the site of the drip used for your chemotherapy.
- If you notice any of these signs or symptoms whilst having your chemotherapy **YOU MUST** inform the nurses immediately.

Possible complications

- The complications will vary depending on which chemotherapy drug has caused the problem.
- Most patients will experience few problems following an extravasation however some drugs may damage the skin and surrounding tissues if they leak.
- It can result in swelling, redness, pain or the development of blisters or ulcers.

Treatment

- The treatment will vary depending on what drug has caused the problem.
- You will be given treatment by your nurse immediately if an extravasation happens or is suspected to have happened.
- You will also be given advice about what to do when you go home and any follow up appointments.

You may be given:

- An injection of drugs into the skin around the extravasation area.
- Be given creams/lotions to apply to the area.
- Advised to use heat or cold to the affected area.

These are given to minimise any damage the chemotherapy may cause.

When you have gone home if you notice any of the symptoms mentioned you should contact us IMMEDIATELY on the patient 24hr helpline number 01422 222999.

compassionate care

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Chemotherapy Lead Nurse
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary

Telephone No: 01484 342155

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ,
ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ یا زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو
برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں.

"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم المذكور أعلاه"