

HOW TO AVOID MEDICATION ERRORS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS IN CHEMOTHERAPY



PRESCRIPTION ¹

- Standardized chemotherapy form
- Use electronic devices
- No handwriting

PATIENT ACCESS ^{2, 3}

- Verify patient ID
- Get consent for drug application from patient
- Use checklists

PREPARATION ^{4, 5}

- Highlight containers of drugs with "look-alike, sound-alike" names
- Check if chemotherapy orders are consistent with protocol
- Review and recalculate chemotherapy doses
- Ensure clear labeling of vials and syringes
- Use barcode system

APPLICATION ^{5, 6}

- Wear personal protective equipment
- Use safety supporting technology (bar coding, smart pumps, port systems)

Sources:

- 1 Hartel M J et al, BMC Health Serv Res 2011;11:199.
2 Weingart S N et al, The Lancet Oncology, 2018. 19(4): p. e191-e199.
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4 Shah K et al, Can J Hosp Pharm 2016;69:394-402.
5 Schulmeister L, The Oncologist 2006;11: 463-468.
6 Cohen M R, Medication Errors. American Pharmacists Association, 2007.