

TVCN Principal Treatment Centre,
Children's Hospital

Important information for parents, carers and patients when using medication as part of a Clinical Trial



Please read carefully

It is extremely important that you follow this advice. If you have any questions about your medication, please do not hesitate to ask your ward pharmacist. The nurses on the ward can arrange a meeting with a member of the paediatric pharmacy team. We are happy to help.

- Keep all medication in the **original containers** – do not put medication in other containers. Do not transfer medication from one box to another or one bottle to another or make any other changes to the packaging. Keep it exactly the way pharmacy dispensed it. This is very important.
- When the tablets or capsules are supplied as strips, you will see each strip has a little sticker on the back with very important information for the clinical trial team. Therefore **do not** cut strips of tablets or capsules and **do not** remove the sticker.
- Always wear gloves when handling your chemotherapy medication.
- Use Mercaptopurine, Methotrexate and Thioguanine liquids within 28 days of opening, unless you are advised differently.
- **Please bring all your clinical trial medication with you at the beginning of each new cycle of chemotherapy. This is very important. This helps the team to assess your medication needs.**
- Return all expired or unused medication and packaging **even if empty** to Kamran's Ward or the shared care clinic after each course is completed. This is very important. Remind the nurses that all your returns are for the ward pharmacist. They will store it safely until the pharmacist collects it. Pharmacy needs to document everything in a special folder for each clinical trial.

- A fresh supply of trial medication will be given to you at each visit, unless you are advised differently. We understand you may be concerned about wastage but we must do this to comply with clinical trial legislation.
- Please store your medication correctly. Room temperature medication should be stored in a cool dark place, below 25°C. Store away from children.
- Fridge items should be stored between 2-8°C. Store away from children. Be careful not to let items freeze.
- When your child is struggling to take medication, discuss this with us and we can try and help you. Do not mix your medication with anything without checking with the ward pharmacist first. Do not crush tablets or open capsules unless advised to do so by the nurses or ward pharmacist. Chemotherapy tablets should never be crushed.
- If a dose of chemotherapy is missed, give it as soon as you remember that day. Never give a double dose.
- If your child vomits within 30 minutes of receiving a dose, give it again. If your child vomits more than 30 minutes after giving a dose, do not repeat the dose. Immediately call Kamran's ward if more than one dose is missed or vomited.
- If you were given a dosing chart with your medication, please make sure you sign the dosing chart when you give the medication to your child. The dosing chart must be returned to the ward at the end of your chemotherapy cycle or at the beginning of the new cycle. We advise you to keep the dosing chart in your red shared care diary.

Questions or Concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, all the contact numbers you need are in your shared care diary.

If you need an interpreter or need a document in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221473** or email **PALSJR@orh.nhs.uk**

K. Parfitt, Pharmacy Technician
Approved by C. Angelopoulos
Specialist Paediatric Oncology / Haematology Pharmacist
Version 1, December 2010
Review, December 2013
Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust
Oxford OX3 9DU
www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk/patientinformation

OMI 2576