

TVCN Principal Treatment Centre, Children's Hospital

Important information for parents, carers and patients about all your medication



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. If you need to put the medication in a dosette box, please discuss this first with your ward pharmacist.
- When the tablets or capsules are supplied as strips, **do not** cut strips of tablets or capsules.
- Always wear gloves when handling your chemotherapy medication.
- Use Mercaptopurine, Methotrexate and Thioguanine liquids within 28days of opening unless advised differently.
- **Please bring all your 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 / unused medication and packaging **even if empty** to Kamran's Ward 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.

- 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 to 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 after 30 minutes, 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**

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