

Targeted Therapy

Targeted therapy works by blocking and interfere the signal transmission of cells in order to control the growth of cancer cells to further spread out. This is more targeted therapy than chemotherapy. Besides, it can minimize the damage to normal cells during the treatment.

They are classified in three categories:

1. Anti-angiogenesis Therapy. E.g., Colon Carcinoma (Ca); Multiple Myeloma, etc.
2. Signal Transduction Therapy. E.g., Non-small Cell Lung Carcinoma; Breast Ca; Chronic-Myeloid Leukemia; Gastro-intestinal Tract Ca., etc.
3. Targeted to Cells' Surface Antigen Therapy. E.g., Malignant Lymphoma.

Follow up: Post Chemotherapy

Patient will be arranged to have regular follow-up and examination after chemotherapy to facilitate doctor's decision for the arrangement of next dose of treatment.

If a patient does not feel comfortable to attend a scheduled appointment, he/she should contact our centre to arrange another appointment.

(This leaflet is for reference only. For any enquiries please call our centre nurses.)



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- We provide "Octopus hourly parking services"
- Green Line Public Light Bus: 2, 2A, 17M, 25M, 70
- Red Line Minicab: Mongkok to San Po Kong / Mongkok to Wong Tai Sin
- Public bus: 1, 1A, 2A, 6D, 7B, 9, 12A, 13D, 16, 24, 27, 40, 42, 95, 98C, 113, 203E, 296C
- MTR Lok Fu Station: 5 minutes by taxi
- MTR Mongkok Station: by red line minicab, get off at Lomond Road
- Rehabus (Dial-a Ride): 2817 8154

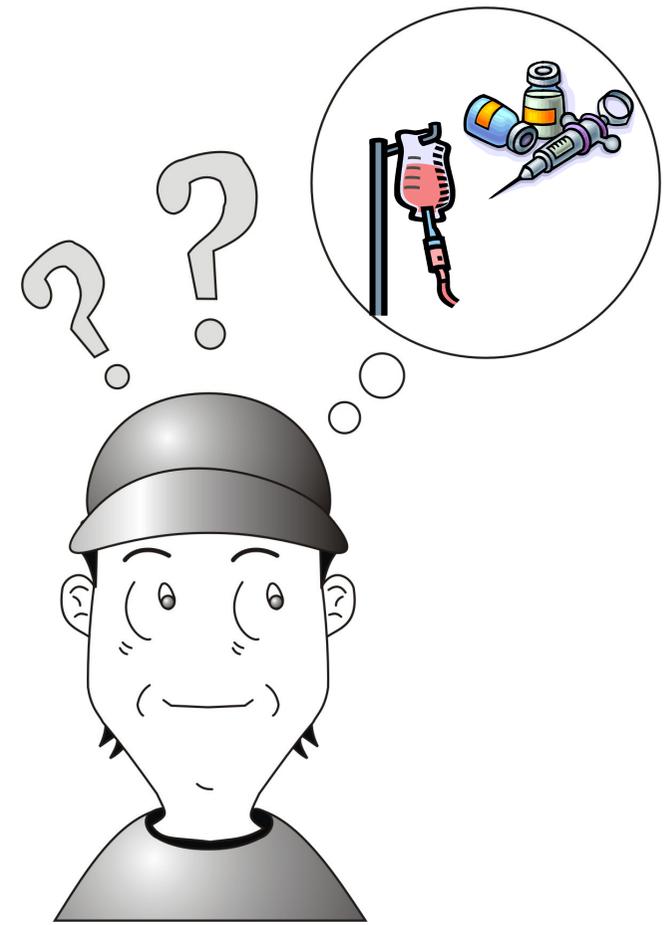
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St. Teresa's Hospital
聖德肋撒醫院

Oncology Centre

Chemotherapy



What is Chemotherapy?

Chemotherapy refers to drugs used to kill cancer cells or prevent their growth.



How Do Chemotherapy Drugs Work?

The way in which chemotherapy is used depends on the histology of cancer cells and the choice of drugs used. Chemotherapeutic drugs are commonly administered into vein (intravenous, IV) or orally. Most patients come to our Cancer Centre will be administered the drug by using IV route. No matter which route is used to administer drug, the drug can enter the bloodstream and attack cancerous cells throughout the body.



Method of Intravenous injection

Most drugs are given through a continuous intravenous infusion over a period of time as prescribed by doctor. It is administered from few hours to few days depends on the infusion schedule. The drug will be diluted and administered through a small canula (angiocath) into bloodstream.



Procedures of Chemotherapy

1. Patient will be arranged to consult doctor before chemotherapy. Doctor explains the effect, side effect and the scheme of the drug.
2. Patient's significant others and relatives are encouraged to accompany the patient through out each consultation and chemotherapy.
3. Doctor will arrange blood and urine test as base line before chemotherapy.
4. Patient/ Significant others will be asked to sign consent form for chemotherapy.
5. The choice and the strength of medicine will be prescribed by doctor according to individual patient's condition.
6. Patient/ relatives need to go to the Pharmacy to pay for the medicine fee. They will get general oral medicine by themselves after payment. The menial staff of Cancer Centre will collect the chemo drug from pharmacy.
7. Nurses will measure the patient's blood pressure, pulse and SpO₂ each time before and after chemotherapy to assess the patient's condition.
8. When the drug is prepared, chemotherapy will be started.

Side Effects of Chemotherapy

The unwanted, or "side" effects may occur on different patients during and after treatment. The severity of the side effects differs individually.

Chemotherapy drugs often lead to dropping of blood cells, such as red blood cell count, white blood cell count or platelet count. Patient has the potential to get infection and feel tired.

During the course of treatment chemotherapy, regular blood test will be done to check the patient's blood counts. If the blood count becomes lower than safety level, the chemotherapy will be delayed until the blood count return to normal.

The most common side effects include nausea, vomiting, alopecia, constipation, diarrhea, sore mouth, muscle pain, tingling sensation in hands or foot and infertility. It is important to drink nutrition product to keep the body weight and nutrition to optimal level. During treatment period, doctor will prescribe oral medicine for the patient to minimize the side effects.

