Your care team wants you to have a treatment called extracorporeal photopheresis (ECP). It is used to treat T-cell lymphoma, graft-versus-host disease, and some other conditions. Your care team will let you know how many ECP treatments you need.

Blood contains several types of cells—red cells and white cells are among them. During ECP treatment, your blood will go into a machine that sorts out the white blood cells (WBCs). The red blood cells (RBCs) and the rest of your blood come back into your body right away. The ECP team mixes the WBCs with a substance that makes them sensitive to ultraviolet (UV) light. The treated cells pass under a UV light to kill diseased WBCs, and then they are returned to your body.

At Your ECP Treatment

The ECP team will check your vital signs such as blood pressure and temperature before each treatment. They will also check your blood count (the numbers of red and white cells in your blood) and your blood chemistry. Some patients may need a blood transfusion before the treatment.

These tests make sure it is safe for you to have the treatment. If it is not safe, the team may reschedule your treatment.

The ECP and Blood and Marrow Transplant teams keep close watch on your condition during the treatment. The ECP team will give you instructions to follow during 24–48 hours after the treatment. This will include information about what to eat and drink, as well as being safe in the sun, since the treatment makes you sensitive to UV light. It is important that you follow these instructions to keep yourself safe from complications of the treatment.

Please arrive on time for your ECP treatment.

If you are late, we must reschedule your treatment.

If you must cancel your appointment, please call 801-587-4477 to reschedule.