

## Chemotherapy Spill Instruction

The medicines you take to treat your cancer are called chemotherapy or chemo. They are strong chemicals that could harm others in your home. Chemo leaks and spills are not common, but these instructions tell you what to do if a leak or spill happens.

### Signs of a spill or leak

Signs include wetness in any of these places:

- Around your catheter or port site
- On the device that holds your chemo medicine
- On your clothing
- On surfaces where you and your device have been

### If chemo leaks on your clothing or skin

1. Right away, wash skin that chemo has touched. Use lots of water and mild soap. Rinse well.
2. If the chemo splashed in your eyes, nose, or mouth, rinse them with water for 15 minutes or longer.
3. If chemo or body fluids get on clothing or bedding, follow these steps:
  - a. When handling body fluids, always wear disposable gloves. Use the gloves only once. When removing gloves, pull them off inside out. Put them in a sealable plastic bag, then the trash. Wash your hands with soap and water after you take off the gloves.
  - b. Wash this laundry right away, if possible. You may put it in a sealable plastic bag if it must wait.
  - c. Wash this laundry twice in a separate load. Use regular detergent with warm or hot water.
4. Call your home health nurse or clinic team if you have redness or irritation on your eyes or skin.

5. Call your Infusion Center. Tell them you had a chemo spill. They will give instructions for continuing your chemo treatment. There is a list of infusion centers and their contact information on page 2 of this factsheet.

### If chemo spills on a hard surface

DO NOT TOUCH the spill with your bare skin.

If the spill happens away from home, make sure no one touches it and call 911. Responders know how to handle these spills.

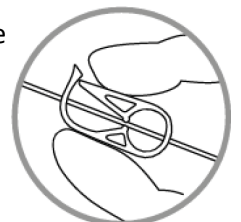
Your treatment team gave you a kit to use if your chemo medicine spills at home. The spill kit contains these items:

- 2 pairs of gloves
- 1 chemo gown
- 1 pair of safety goggles
- 1 face mask
- 1 pair of shoe covers
- 1 yellow chemo waste bag
- 1 absorbent Chux pad
- Surface Safe packet (which has two steps) 1 and 2

You will also need some paper towels, dish soap, and water that are not included in the kit.

### Follow these steps to clean up the spill:

1. Put on both pairs of gloves, one on top of the other.
2. Put on the gown, mask, goggles, and shoe covers.
3. Close the clamp on your chemo pump. You will hear a “snap” when it closes all the way.
4. Place the Chux pad over the liquid, white side down. Be careful not to splash. When the liquid is soaked up, put the Chux pad in the yellow chemo waste bag.



*Closed Pump Clamp*

5. Using wet paper towels and the dish soap, wash the spill area well. Put the paper towels in the yellow chemo waste bag.
6. Open Step 1 of the Surface Safe packet. Wipe the pad on the area where the spill was. Put the pad in the yellow chemo waste bag.
7. Open Step 2 of the Surface Safe packet. Wipe the pad on the area treated with Step 1. Put the pad in the yellow chemo waste bag.
8. Wet more paper towels with water and wipe the treated area, then wipe with a dry paper towel. Put all the paper towels in the yellow chemo waste bag.
9. Take off the gloves, outer pair first, by holding the inner cuff. Pull each glove so it turns inside out as it comes away from your hand.
10. Take off the gown, mask, goggles, and shoe covers.
11. Put the gloves, gown, mask, goggles, and shoe covers in the yellow chemo waste bag.
12. Tie the chemo waste bag closed. Put it in the garbage. Make sure children and animals cannot reach it.
13. Wash your hands very well with soap and water.
14. Call your home health nurse or Infusion Center to make sure your central line and chemo pump are working properly. They will also give instructions for continuing your chemo treatment.

**Infusion Centers:**

- Farmington Health Center Infusion: 801-213-6360
- Huntsman Cancer Institute Chemotherapy and Infusion: 801-587-7000
- South Jordan Health Center Infusion: 801-213-4319
- Sugar House Health Center Infusion: 801-585-2140