

Chemotherapy Spill Instructions

This factsheet has safety information for people who take chemotherapy (chemo) treatments at 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 pump that holds your chemo medicine
- On your clothing
- On surfaces where you and your pump have been

If Chemo Leaks on Your Clothing or Skin

1. If chemo or body fluids get on clothing or bedding, follow these steps:
 - a. Wear gloves when you touch laundry that has chemo or body fluids on it. Afterward, take off the gloves and put them in a sealable plastic bag. Wash your hands with soap and water.
 - 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 in a separate load. Use regular detergent with warm or hot water.
2. Right away, wash skin that chemo has touched. Use lots of water and mild soap. Rinse well.
3. If the chemo splashed in your eyes, nose, or mouth, rinse them with water for 15 minutes or longer.
4. Call your home health nurse if you have redness or irritation on your eyes or skin.
5. Call the Infusion Center at Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI). Tell them you had a chemo spill. They will give instructions for continuing your chemo treatment.

Monday—Friday, 7 a.m.—7 p.m.
HCI Infusion Center: 801-587-4485
After hours, weekends, and holidays
801-587-7000

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.

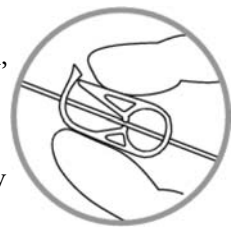
Your treatment team gave you a kit to use if your chemo medicine spills at home. The spill kit contains these items:

- 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.
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 into 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.



Closed Pump Clamp

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 to make sure your central line and chemo pump are working properly.
15. Call the Infusion Center at HCI to report the chemo spill. They will give instructions for continuing your chemo treatment.

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