

## IREDELL HEALTH SYSTEM

<b>Policy for Administration of <i>Injectable</i> Chemotherapy</b>	
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P&T Committee	Date: 10/2022

**Purpose:**

The patient shall receive prescribed chemotherapy medications safely and with minimal complications. Prior to discharge the patient and/or significant other shall verbalize understanding of potential side effects and the management of possible side effects including when to notify their physician. This policy shall outline appropriate procedures for the administration of injectable chemotherapy (IVPB, continuous infusions, SQ and IM).

**Policy:**

All patients receiving chemotherapy are correctly identified, assessed as to pertinent aspects of their medical history, assured of quality care during administration and informed of any information needed to assist them after discharge.

All patients receiving *injectable* chemotherapy shall be admitted to 1 North. If higher level of care is needed, the patient shall receive in the Critical Care Unit by a trained chemotherapy nurse.

Refer to *Proper Administration of Hazardous Drugs* policy.

**Procedure:**

1. An Informed Consent shall be obtained before a regimen of chemotherapy is administered.
2. All chemotherapy products shall be prepared by pharmacy as detailed in *Compounding Intravenous Hazardous Drugs* policy and *Labeling, Packaging, Dispensing and Transporting Hazardous Drugs* policy.
3. Only a provider or a registered nurse who has completed an educational program for chemotherapy drugs and is approved by IHS, may administer the initial chemotherapy agents. Subsequent doses may be administered to patient by staff RN after receiving education.
4. Two RNs must independently verify the medication record and provider order sheet against the labeled product prior to administration as well as the programmed infusion rate. Both licensed personnel shall document verification in the electronic medical record (EMR).
5. The chemotherapy nurse shall:
  - a. Be familiar with the chemotherapy agent being administered and the known side effects
  - b. Verify the patency of the present IV site before administering any intravenous chemotherapy agents and/or when to establish a new IV site. The IV site should

be check frequently per shift. The patient should be educated to report any signs of IV infiltration to their nurse immediately.

- c. Observe the patient closely during the administration of the agent, noting any sign of infiltration or inflammation at the IV site and any side effects which occur, being particularly responsive to patient's complaints.
- d. No other fluids/medications shall be infused in a chemotherapy line unless specifically ordered by the provider.
- e. Report appropriate information to the provider.
- f. Document within the EMR the patient teaching, assessments performed, medication administered and the patient's response.

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/2022

DATES REVISIONS EFFECTIVE:

DATES REVIEWED (no changes):