

Safe Handling of Oral Chemotherapy Medicines

Storing your medicine

- Store the medicine in the original container (unless you use a pill box).
- Do not store where it is hot, humid or sunny.
- Keep away from children or pets.

Handling your medicine

- Wash your hands before and after touching the pills.
- No one but you should handle the pills.
- If you need help with the pills, have your helper wear special chemotherapy gloves. They should also wash their hands before and after handling the pills.
- Do not crush, split, chew or dissolve the pills unless your health care team says it's okay.

Handling body waste

While taking this medicine, and for a while afterward, your urine, stool, vomit and sweat may contain the drug.

Each time you use the toilet, close the lid and flush twice. Do this for at least two days after the last time you take the chemotherapy.

If you vomit, empty the basin into the toilet, close the lid and flush twice. Your helper should wear waterproof, disposable (throw-away) gloves. After taking off the gloves, they should wash their hands.

If your clothes, sheets or towels are soiled with urine, stool or vomit, do not wash them with other items. Wash them twice in hot water.

Getting rid of unused medicine

- Do not flush unused pills down the toilet. This will pollute the water.
- Work with your health care team to safely dispose of your medicine.

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, please let us know. We provide many free services including sign language interpreters, oral interpreters, TTYs, telephone amplifiers, note takers and written materials.