

Administering oral antineoplastic drugs

Domain: Legislation, policies, procedures and guidelines

1. Complies with all Commonwealth, National and State legislation, policies, procedures and guidelines for the:
 - a. safe administration of oral antineoplastic drugs and
 - b. verification of a patient's identity using three appropriate patient identifiers.
2. Complies with all organisational policies, procedures and guidelines for:
 - a. handling, packaging, storage and transport of oral antineoplastic drugs,
 - b. health surveillance of employees,
 - c. administration of oral antineoplastic drugs,
 - d. waste management including: hazardous drug spill management, handling patients' body waste and waste associated with administration of oral antineoplastic drugs,
 - e. reporting of incidents and medication errors and
 - f. documentation of patient care.

Domain: Communication

1. Communicates effectively with patients, carers, family members and the treating team.
2. Demonstrates via accurate documentation in a patient's medical record:
 - a. provision of patient and carer / family member education,
 - b. patient assessment and associated care,
 - c. administration of oral antineoplastic drugs and
 - d. incidents and medication errors.

Domain: General knowledge

1. Demonstrates self-awareness of limitations of clinical practice and seeks advice when necessary.
2. Understands the cell cycle including the different stages.
3. Identifies:
 - a. common causes of exposure to antineoplastic drugs and related waste,
 - b. correct use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when:
 - handling oral antineoplastic drugs and related waste,
 - administering oral antineoplastic drugs,
 - c. the effects of antineoplastic drugs on the cell cycle,
 - d. different drug classifications and their mechanism of action on the cell,
 - e. nursing implications for patients' receiving treatment as part of a clinical trial,
 - f. the nurse's responsibilities relating to informed consent and assent for adult, young adult and paediatric patients receiving antineoplastic drug treatment,
 - g. antineoplastic drugs that have a potential to cause hypersensitivity (allergic) reactions and
 - h. appropriate patient information resources to support patient care and education.
4. Describes:
 - a. the risks involved in the handling of oral antineoplastic drugs and the precautions required for health professionals, patients and carers / family members,
 - b. steps to minimise occupational exposure to oral antineoplastic drugs and related waste,
 - c. procedures for dealing with accidental contamination and occupational exposure of health professionals to oral antineoplastic drugs and related waste,
 - d. health surveillance of employees handling antineoplastic drugs and related waste,
 - e. implications for clinical practice with administration of oral antineoplastic drugs,
 - f. side effects, drug specific side effects and toxicities associated with the administration of oral antineoplastic drugs and
 - g. signs and symptoms of hypersensitivity (allergic) reactions and their management.

Domain: Clinical skills

1. Practices within professional boundaries and organisational role descriptions.
2. Accesses information sources on:
 - a. guidelines for safe handling of oral antineoplastic drugs and related waste,
 - b. antineoplastic drug information and
 - c. antineoplastic drug treatment protocols.
3. Accesses and provides appropriate resources to patients and carer / family member for:
 - a. provision of patient and carer / family member education and
 - b. self management of side effects.
4. Demonstrates clinical skill in:
 - a. use of correct PPE when administering oral antineoplastic drugs and handling related waste,
 - b. reviewing and interpreting the prescribed antineoplastic drug treatment protocol to determine the:
 - potential risk of a hypersensitivity (allergic) reaction,
 - supportive care requirements,
 - c. drug calculation of all prescribed drugs including supportive therapy for doses based on:
 - weight, BSA, AUC, aged based and dose modifications (e.g. paediatric or geriatric patients),
 - d. comparing the patients' prescription chart(s) against the prescribed antineoplastic drug treatment protocol to confirm the prescription chart and all drug doses including timing of drugs is correct and
 - e. administering oral antineoplastic drugs and supportive therapy as prescribed ensuring the correct technique is used.
5. Responds appropriately to a deviation from the antineoplastic drug treatment protocol and identifies situations where dose reduction, dose delay or cessation may be necessary.

Domain: Patient and carer / family members education

1. Describes key elements of education to include in patient and carer / family member education.
2. Assesses the patients and carers / family members' knowledge about oral antineoplastic drug treatment before commencing education and following completion of education.
3. Discusses the patients and carers / family member's goals for education sessions.
4. Plans education sessions and accesses appropriate resources based on diagnosis, planned treatment, health literacy and need for information.
5. Reinforces patients and carers / family members learning by repeating information in multiple sessions as opportunities arise e.g. upon return for subsequent cycles / treatment.
6. Provides appropriate education to patients and carers / family members on:
 - a. the prescribed treatment protocol including:
 - antineoplastic drugs to be administered,
 - route of administration including timing of drug(s),
 - doses of each drug,
 - number and frequency of cycles,
 - b. managing side effects and toxicities of treatment,
 - c. rationale for dose modifications for side effects and toxicities and
 - d. safe handling of oral antineoplastic drugs and related waste e.g. vomit, soiled clothing, storage.

Domain: Patient assessment

1. Completes a comprehensive patient assessment including clinical, physical and psychosocial assessment before administration of oral antineoplastic drugs.
2. Identifies specific clinical or physical assessment as outlined in the prescribed treatment protocol.
3. Accurately interprets assessment results and responds appropriately to findings from the comprehensive patient assessment.
4. Reports any abnormal findings to the treating team.
5. Discusses with the patient and carer / family member their response to previous treatments, e.g. side effects and their management.
6. Completes a patient review at the conclusion of treatment ensuring the effective discharge of the patient.