

## CHEMOTHERAPEUTIC AGENTS (e.g., Methotrexate, Cyclophosphamide, Cisplatin)

### High-Risk Concerns with Chemotherapeutic Agents:

- High Risk: Severe myelosuppression, organ toxicity, secondary malignancies.

### General Guidance:

- Do not ignore any unusual symptoms.
- Mild symptoms should be reported to your home health agency.
- Severe symptoms require emergency medical attention.

### Call Your Home Health Agency Immediately if You Experience:

- Mild to moderate nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea that is persistent but manageable
- Fatigue and weakness beyond usual levels
- Mouth sores (stomatitis) causing discomfort but not interfering with eating or drinking
- Skin rash or mild allergic reactions (e.g., itching, redness)
- Low-grade fever (below 100.4°F or 38°C)
- Mild swelling or redness at the IV site
- Gradual hair loss (expected but can be distressing)

- Mild neuropathy (tingling or numbness in hands and feet)

Go to the Emergency Room (or Call 911) If You Have:

- Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher (possible neutropenic fever)
- Severe or uncontrollable nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea leading to dehydration
- Signs of severe infection (chills, shaking, rapid heart rate, confusion)
- Uncontrolled bleeding or bruising (indicates bone marrow suppression)
- Severe chest pain or difficulty breathing
- Sudden confusion, dizziness, or fainting
- Severe swelling, redness, or pain at the IV site (possible extravasation or infection)
- Severe allergic reactions (difficulty breathing, swelling of face or throat, hives)
- Blood in vomit, stool, or urine
- Severe neuropathy (loss of movement or sensation)
- Jaundice (yellowing of skin/eyes)

Since these medications can cause life-threatening side effects, it's best to err on the side of caution when unsure.

If symptoms seem severe or worsen quickly, call 911 or go

to the ER immediately. If symptoms are concerning but not urgent, notify the Home Health Agency promptly for assessment and possible intervention.

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