


Managing a Hazardous Drugs Spill

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Objectives

By the end of this presentation, the participant should be able to:

- Describe the steps necessary to clean up a chemo spill
- Propose a potential plan to address a chemo spill in your program



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Chemotherapy/Hazardous Drug Spills

- Chemotherapy/hazardous drug spills can occur during unpacking, storage, transport, preparation, or administration
- Chemo spill kits should always be available for use in areas where hazardous drugs are handled
- Spill management and disposal should comply with local rules and regulations




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Chemo Spill Management Procedure

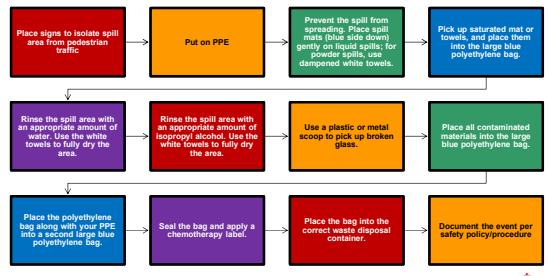
- When a spill occurs, the pharmacist in-charge should be notified immediately
 - If the spill occurs outside of pharmacy hours, the nurse or consultant in charge should be notified, and the pharmacist must be notified as soon as possible
- The pharmacist in-charge should assign someone to handle the spill (i.e., a pharmacist or pharmacy technician)
- Responding personnel will obtain one or more chemo spill kit(s), a disposable chemotherapy gown, sterile water for irrigation, and isopropyl alcohol
 - Each spill kit is designed to clean up to 250 mL of liquid



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Chemo Spill Management Procedure



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      A[Place signs to isolate spill area from pedestrian traffic] --> B[Put on PPE]
      B --> C[Prevent the spill from spreading. Place spill mats (blue side down) gently on liquid spills; for powder spills use dampened white towels.]
      C --> D[Pick up saturated mat or towels, and place them into the large blue polyethylene bag.]
      D --> E[Rinse the spill area with an appropriate amount of water. Use the white towels to fully dry the area.]
      E --> F[Rinse the spill area with an appropriate amount of isopropyl alcohol. Use the white towels to fully dry the area.]
      F --> G[Use a plastic or metal scoop to pick up broken glass.]
      G --> H[Place all contaminated materials into the large blue polyethylene bag.]
      H --> I[Place the polyethylene bag along with your PPE into a second large blue polyethylene bag.]
      I --> J[Seal the bag and apply a chemotherapy label.]
      J --> K[Place the bag into the correct waste disposal container.]
      K --> L[Document the event per safety policy/procedure.]
  
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What's Next?

- Prepare for discussion:
 - What rules and regulations exist in your setting?
 - What challenges or issues do you need to address to ensure timely and adequate spill management in your pharmacy?
- Complete the practice questions



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