



Frequently Asked Questions

Should I eat before treatment?

Please eat according to your normal schedule. Do not skip any meals and take your medications as scheduled. You might find it best to eat a light meal the day of chemotherapy. For oral chemotherapy medications, be sure to check with your doctor or pharmacist for instructions on taking these medications with regard to meals.

Can I drive myself to and from treatment?

Certain treatment protocols call for medications to be given that may make you tired and unsafe to drive. Until you know how chemotherapy will affect you, plan for a driver to accompany you. If they are unable to stay with you for the length of your infusion treatment, they should be accessible and flexible about your pick-up time. We will be happy to call your driver 30 minutes before you are finished to notify them that your treatment is nearing completion.

Is food available?

A Nutrition Station is available free of charge in the infusion area. We provide juices, sodas, and water along with chips and crackers. Depending on which location you are visiting, there may be access to vending machines or on-site cafeterias with additional food and beverage choices. It is acceptable to bring snacks and outside food or beverages with you to the infusion clinic.

Will my health insurance cover chemotherapy treatment costs?

It is important to become familiar with the specific provisions of your health insurance policy with regard to copayments, co-insurance, and patient responsibilities for non covered or partially covered services. Southern Cancer Center has an onsite billing department that will perform benefits investigation and determine any patient responsibility *before* your treatment begins. We will always discuss this information with you prior to proceeding. Our patient support representatives and financial counselors will advocate on your behalf for copayment assistance or financial assistance through cancer foundations to help you obtain treatment when needed.

Is it safe to take my other medications while on chemo?

Your doctor will review your current medications prior to starting your chemotherapy. If any medications should be discontinued, you will be notified. Otherwise, continue to take all medications as prescribed until instructed otherwise. Please be sure to notify your physician or nurse when you have any changes to your current medication, including any new medications you are prescribed.