

After Chemotherapy

Once your infusion is complete, you will be sent home. You may find it helpful to refer back to the information provided to you during the time after chemotherapy. The <u>Chemotherapy and You</u> booklet is a good resource for your reference. Refer to it and then contact our office if you don't find answers to your questions.

It is normal to be worried about the side effects of chemotherapy. Discuss your side effects and concerns with your Physician at each office visit. Remember, not all patients experience side effects. Likewise, each patient tolerates and responds to medications differently.

You will receive prescriptions for nausea medications from your physician. These medications should be taken as needed according to the directions listed on the bottle. Most people require anti-nausea medications for 3-5 days following chemotherapy.

The way chemotherapy affects cells in your body can sometimes result in muscle and joint aches. It is ok to take Tylenol® or Advil® after chemotherapy.

You may also find it useful to refer to <u>Eating Hints from the National Cancer Institute</u> for helpful tips to manage side effects.

You should contact your physician if any of the following occur:

- Shaking chills or fever greater that 100.4°F.
 **Notify your doctor immediately if you develop a temperature, do not delay.
- Unusual cough, sore throat, lung congestion or shortness of breath
- Burning discomfort when you urinate
- Redness, pain or sores in your mouth
- Nausea, vomiting or inability to eat or drink for more than 24 hours
- Diarrhea (loose, watery stools) for more than 24 hours
- Constipation (no bowel movement in 2-3 days)
- Bleeding or unusual bruising
- Pain not controlled by your current medications
- Any new or unusual symptom that concerns you

^{**} We can be reached directly at 251-625-6896 or toll free at 1-888-625-6896. Your physician's nurse will return your call by the close of business that day. We have a dedicated after hours and weekend physician/nurse team available for emergencies should you require assistance after normal business hours.