

## Chemotherapy Suite - Two Stop Treatment

Your oncologist has recommended a course of chemotherapy for you at Mount Vernon Hospital in the Chemotherapy Suite (CHS). We hope this fact sheet will offer a brief explanation of the step by step procedure.

You will receive two appointments. The first is to see your doctor in the outpatient clinic before your treatment and the second to receive your chemotherapy in the CHS.

### First appointment

If you have not had a blood test at your local hospital, go straight to the pathology department for a blood test. If the pathology department is very busy, it is ok for you to go to your clinic appointment first and then go back to pathology. Check in with the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre clinic receptionists. After this, you may see your consultant or one of the doctors on his/her team. They like to see you on a regular basis to monitor your progress and discuss any issues you may have regarding your treatment or condition. If it is not necessary for you to see a doctor, you will be assessed by a specialist nurse.

**Remember to make your next appointment with the outpatient clinic receptionists.**

### Second appointment

This appointment is for your treatment in the CHS. Check in with the CHS receptionists.

Your chemotherapy drugs will have been prepared ready for your appointment, so you will normally wait no more than 15 minutes for your treatment. A cannula (a fine, flexible tube) will be placed in one of the veins in your arm for treatment unless you have a port, picc or Hickman Line.

You will be given some anti-sickness medication, either to take by mouth or as an injection through the cannula, before your treatment starts. The length of time it takes to give your treatment will vary depending on the particular treatment you are having.

When you have finished your treatment, your nurse will take the cannula out of your arm and you can go home. Before you leave, **please make sure you have made another appointment with the Chemotherapy Suite receptionist**, who will give you a date and time to come back for your next visit.

**Remember to get a form for your next blood test before you leave.**

### A few tips:

- Try to arrange any childcare so that you are free from worry if you are delayed.
- If you have to bring children, please talk to the staff before you bring them to the Suite.
- We encourage you to bring another adult with you, particularly on your first treatment. Your companion may sit with you during your treatment if you wish, space permitting.
- Bring something to occupy you, like a book/ magazine as well as a snack and/or a drink.
- There is a vending machine for hot/cold drinks as well as cold water.
- Drop in to the Lynda Jackson Centre next door to the Suite to find out how they can help.
- Food is available on site in the canteen, at Costa Coffee and at the Coffee Bar.

### Where can I get further information?

Any member of the team treating you will be pleased to try and help you.

**CHS Reception:** 01923 844639  
Monday - Friday (8.00am - 5.30pm).

Please note that a more detailed version of this information can be found in our patient information series 42 'An Introduction to the Chemotherapy Suite at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre'.