

## Chemotherapy Drugs that Can Injure Others After Exiting Chemotherapy Patients

Although chemotherapy drugs save lives, some can also cause great damage to the patient's loved ones. These problem drugs exit the patient intact (in urine, feces, vomit, sweat and saliva). If loved ones contact the drugs in bodily waste or water contaminated with the chemicals, they can suffer cancer, birth defects and miscarriages. Luckily, the active drugs exit the body quickly, usually within 1-2 days although a few leave more slowly (up to 8 days). If careful precautions are used during the danger period, everyone can remain safe.

The chemotherapy drugs that exit the patients' bodies in large quantities as active dangerous chemicals can be broken into 3

	Can cause Cancer, Birth Defects and Miscarriages
	Can cause Birth Defects, Miscarriages and may cause Cancer
	Can cause Birth Defects and Miscarriages

This table lists the problem chemotherapy drugs by both generic and trade names. In addition, the table lists the amount of each drug that exits the patient's body as active, dangerous chemicals and the number of days needed for the exit (the Danger Period). The information in this table is summarized from the Drug Package Inserts (links provided). Drug Package Inserts contained the detailed information required by the FDA from pharmaceutical companies before each drug is approved for use in humans.

	Generic Name ( <a href="#">Drug Package Inserts</a> )	Other Names	Excretion	
			Percent	Danger Period
Cause Miscarriages, Birth Defects and Cancer	<a href="#">Actinomycin D</a>	Dactinomycin, Cosmenogen	30%	7 Days
	<a href="#">Bleomycin</a>	Blenoxane	60-70%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Carboplatin</a>	Paraplatin	65-75%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Cisplatin</a>	Platin	13-17%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Cyclophosphamide</a>	Endoxan, Cytoxan, Neosar, Procytox, Revimmune	5-25%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Doxorubicin</a>	Adriamycin, Rubex, Doxil, Caelyx, Myocet	45-55%	5 Days
	<a href="#">Epirubicin</a>	Ellence, Pharmorubicin	55%	4 Days
	<a href="#">Etoposide</a>	Eposin, Etopophos, Vepesid, VP-16	45%	5 Days
	<a href="#">Idarubicin</a>	Zavedos, Idamycin	20%	8 Days
	<a href="#">Ifosfamide</a>	Mitoxana, Ifex	12-18%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Mitomycin</a>	Mitosol	10%	1 Day
Cause Miscarriages and Birth Defects; Possible Cancer Risk	<a href="#">Mitoxantrone</a>		24%	5 Days
	<a href="#">Oxaliplatin</a>	Eloxatin	35%	1 Day
Cause Miscarriages and Birth Defects	<a href="#">Fluorouracil</a>	5-FU, Adrucil, Carac, Efudix, Efudex, Fluoroplex	7-20%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Irinotecan</a>	Camptosar, Campto	25-50%	2 Days
	<a href="#">Dacarbazine</a>	DTIC, DTIC-Dome	40%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Fludarabine</a>	Fludara	40-60%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Methotrexate</a>	Trexall, MTX, Amethopterin	80-90%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Paclitaxel</a>	Abraxane, Taxol	18-75%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Vinblastine</a>		5-35%	1 Day
	<a href="#">Vincristine</a>	Oncovin, Leurocristine, Vincasar	10-20%	1 Day