

Large Quantities of Some Chemotherapy Drugs Exiting Chemotherapy Patients as Dangerous Chemicals

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.

Drug	Administered Dose ¹		Est. Amount in Bodily Fluids
	Dose/Weight ²	Amount	
Actinomycin	≤ 50 ug/Kg	≤ 4 mg	≤ 1.2 mg
Bleomycin	≤ 50 units (mg)/Kg	≤ 4000 mg	≤ 2800 mg
Carboplatin	≤ 12 mg/Kg	≤ 960 mg	≤ 682 mg
Cisplatin	≤ 3.3 mg/Kg	≤ 264 mg	≤ 45 mg
Cyclophosphamide	≤ 50 mg/Kg	≤ 4000 mg	≤ 1000 mg
Dacarbazine	≤ 4.5 mg/Kg	≤ 360 mg	≤ 144 mg
Doxorubicin	≤ 2.5 mg/Kg	≤ 200 mg	≤ 110 mg
Epirubicin	≤ 40 mg/Kg	≤ 3200 mg	≤ 1760 mg
Etoposide	≤ 3.3 mg/Kg	≤ 264 mg	≤ 119 mg
Fludarabine	≤ 0.83 mg/Kg	≤ 66.4 mg	≤ 40 mg
Fluorouracil	≤ 12 mg/Kg	≤ 960 mg	≤ 192 mg
Idarubicin	≤ 0.4 mg/Kg	≤ 32 mg	≤ 6.4 mg
Ifosfamide	≤ 40 mg/Kg	≤ 3200 mg	≤ 576 mg
Irinotecan	≤ 11.7 mg/Kg	≤ 936 mg	≤ 68 mg
Mitomycin	≤ 0.67 mg/Kg	≤ 53.6 mg	≤ 5.4 mg
Methotrexate	≤ 15 mg/Kg	≤ 1200 mg	≤ 1080 mg
Mitoxantrone	≤ 0.47 mg/Kg	≤ 37.6 mg	≤ 9.0 mg
Oxaliplatin	≤ 2.8 mg/Kg	≤ 224 mg	≤ 121 mg
Paclitaxel	≤ 5.83 mg/Kg	≤ 466.4 mg	≤ 420 mg
Vinblastine	≤ 0.62 mg/Kg	≤ 49.6 mg	≤ 17.4 mg
Vincristine	≤ 0.5 mg/Kg	≤ 4 mg	≤ 0.8 mg

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

1. Doses will vary depending on disease and doctors' recommendations. See individual Drug Inserts for more details.

2. Where needed, converted from mg/m² to mg/Kg