

Extravasation guidelines 2007



# Guidelines

Implementation Toolkit

Medac Exhibit 2028

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## Extravasation guidelines 2007

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We would like to thank the following people for their guidance in helping to develop these documents:

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## Introduction

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With over 100,000 doses of chemotherapy and in excess of 1,000,000 intravenous (IV) infusions given every day around the world, keeping adverse events and complications of these procedures to a minimum is important both for the patients receiving them and the healthcare systems in which they take place.

Extravasation is a serious condition that warrants special attention from the healthcare professionals involved in administering intravenous medications. This educational module summarises and explains the most recent literature and recommendations on extravasation in the clinical setting – from prevention and recognition to possible treatment with antidotes. It also provides an outline of the pivotal role that nurses play in the patient management process.

The scope of this document is to describe and explain the prevention, recognition and management of extravasation in general terms. More detailed descriptions of techniques for proper cannulation or phlebotomy (an important skill for the prevention of extravasation) will not be dealt with in this guideline.

### Overall Goal

### Specific Targets and Aims

### The Nurse's Role

### Overall Goal

The overall goal of these guidelines is to help nurses understand and recognise extravasation, and improve the prevention and overall management of extravasations in cancer patients.

### Specific Targets and Aims

The targets and aims of this module are to:

- Increase nurses' knowledge of specific elements of extravasation:
  - Causes and risk factors for extravasation
  - Features and symptoms of extravasation
  - Differences vs. flare and other reactions
  - Consequences of extravasation
  - Prevention measures
  - The use of antidotes in treating extravasation
- Encourage successful management of extravasation
- Update and inform nurses of the current standards from different guidelines and protocols
- Encourage adoption of procedures for extravasation that fit with the current guidelines

### The Nurse's Role

Nurses are among the best placed professionals to recognise and deal with extravasation in the clinical setting. The nurses who routinely provide cancer therapies intravenously (either peripherally or through central venous access devices (CVADs) are particularly important in the ongoing management of this possibly serious complication of therapy.

Nurses have a key role to play in identification and management of extravasation, and, of course, in preventing it. From maintaining a high standard of care in the delivery of IV drugs to managing the treatment strategy for extravasation, they have many important duties in this area.

Nurses represent an important link for ensuring that extravasation is prevented, diagnosed and managed where possible. Their role in providing information and providing ongoing support for patients relating to cancer therapy (and the need to be vigilant for any symptoms) is critical in cutting the incidence of extravasation.

This module will discuss the role of the nurse in extravasation management and highlight information and issues that will assist nurses to perform these roles more efficiently.

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