

Oncology Caregiver Education Tool

The members of your care team will help to personalize this tool, and will help you complete it.

Special notes (learning style, family needs, best times for education):

Recommended pages in COG Family Handbook to review: 1-2, 44-47, 50-61, 75-81	Date	Family Member	Family Member
Blood Counts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Basic understanding of Hgb, WBC, ANC, Plts: why counts decrease, importance of keeping accurate record <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Review:</u> Updated blood count sheet & place count sheet in Oncology Family Handbook at discharge 			
Anemia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signs of anemia <input type="checkbox"/> Blood transfusions <input type="checkbox"/> Refer family to view the “<i>Blood Transfusion Information</i>” video located on the Patient/Family Resources web page <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Review:</u> PFEM: Blood Transfusion: Care at Home PFEM: Blood Transfusion Information 			
Neutropenia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signs of infection <input type="checkbox"/> When to avoid crowds, wear your mask, immunizations <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken-pox exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Wash hands frequently, bathe daily, good oral cares, good peri-anal cares, avoid constipation (especially if receiving Vincristine), remove/change band-aids daily <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Give & Review Use:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Masks <input type="checkbox"/> Thermometer <input type="checkbox"/> Soft toothbrush 			
Thrombocytopenia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signs of Thrombocytopenia <input type="checkbox"/> Precautions for low platelets <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid aspirin, ibuprofen and combination medications <input type="checkbox"/> Nose bleeds (pressure at soft area of nose, head bent forward, when to call) <input type="checkbox"/> Head 'Bumps' and Falls (what to look for and when to call providers) <input type="checkbox"/> Platelet transfusions 			
Chemotherapy & Side Effects, Roadmap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Expected nadir <input type="checkbox"/> Using gloves at home for 48 hours after chemo - if changing diapers, body fluid contact (vomit, urine/stool) <input type="checkbox"/> Managing nausea, hair loss, pain, avoid sun, use sun block <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Review:</u> PFEM: Safe Handling of Hazardous Drugs <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Review:</u> PFEMs for patient specific chemo meds and rescue meds <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Review:</u> ROADMAP with each visit. If expected <u>methotrexate</u> admission, be sure to avoid medications that interact prior to admission. 			



<p>When/How to Call the Provider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency: CALL 9-1-1 <input type="checkbox"/> Change in your child's condition (see home magnet, d/c instructions, etc.): Call clinic/provider on-call. Expect a call back within 20 min., or call again. DO NOT WAIT. <input type="checkbox"/> General information: group questions, call within office hours <input type="checkbox"/> How to contact interpreter if needed: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Review ED letter in Family Handbook (if going to an ED other than Children's) 			
<p>Home Medications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Be able to list & have a basic understanding of home meds, effects & side-effects <input type="checkbox"/> Bring home medications to each clinic or hospital visit <input type="checkbox"/> Tylenol- use sparingly at home, don't want to mask fevers, have other options for pain control. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Give & Review:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medications ordered for home, calendars or chart if appropriate ▪ PEG reaction kit if needed ▪ Medication box, pill cutter, weekly box if needed ▪ PFEMs as needed: (Anesthetic Cream, Medication Safety, etc) 			
<p>Central Line Cares</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tunneled catheters: Dressing changes, cap changes, flushing, what to do if line breaks, s/s of infection, solving problems <input type="checkbox"/> Implanted PORTs: Use of EMLA/LMX cream, s/s of infection <input type="checkbox"/> Home Care vs. Inpatient – supplies and techniques may look different and it's OK! <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Give & Review:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PFEM: Central Venous Catheter: Care at Home ▪ PFEM: Implanted PORT and/or Implanted PORT: Care at Home (if family will be accessing PORT, giving meds or de-accessing at home) ▪ PFEM: Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter: Care at Home ▪ Home Supplies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ PORT: LMX cream, foam tape ❖ PICC & Tunneled catheters: are home supplies being delivered to hospital or home? ❖ PICC & Tunneled: Emergency Kit 			
<p>Subcutaneous Medications (G-CSF, Leuprolide, Enoxaparin)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Consult with Care Manager; will medication be unit dose or will medication need to be drawn from a vial? <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Give & Review:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PFEM: Injections (subcutaneous) ▪ PFEM: Insuflon (indwelling subcutaneous catheter) at home 			
<p>Enteral feedings: NG tube, G-tube, NJ tube</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Give & Review:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PFEM: Gastrostomy Care: G-J tube (obtain from family resource center) ▪ PFEM: Gastrostomy Care: G-tube (obtain from family resource center) ▪ PFEM: Naso-gastric tube feeding 			
<p>Age/developmental concerns:</p>			

