

## Your Infusor Pump for Chemotherapy

You will be getting your chemotherapy (chemo) through a bottle called an Infusor pump. It is made of very hard plastic and looks like a baby bottle.

Inside the bottle there is a balloon which holds the chemo. The balloon gently pushes the chemo down the tubing into your IV. The small white section on the tubing is called a flow restrictor. It controls how fast your chemo runs. Keep it taped against your skin at all times.



**Bottle empty**



**Bottle ½ full**

The pump is set to run over a specific time while you are at home.

Your chemo will run over:

- 2 days
- 5 days
- 7 days
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **How do I know the pump is working?**

The pump pushes the chemo in very slowly. For the few hours you may not see a lot of change in the size of the balloon. Your nurse will show you how to check to see if the balloon is getting smaller. You should check the balloon 3 times a day – breakfast, lunch and dinner.

## **What do I do when the chemo is done?**

For some chemo, you must return to the Cancer Centre to have the pump removed. Otherwise, your home care nurse will remove the pump once the chemo is done. After you remove the pump, put it in the provided clear ziploc plastic bag and then put into another clear ziploc plastic bag. Bring it with you to the Chemotherapy Suite or Pharmacy at your next appointment.

## **What do I do if the pump leaks or becomes disconnected?**

When the pump was started it was removed out of the clear ziploc plastic bag. Inside the bag there is a blue cap that was removed from the pump before you were hooked up.

If the pump becomes disconnected, put the blue cap on the end of the tubing from the pump. Then put the pump into the clear ziploc plastic bag, and then in another clear ziploc plastic bag. Wash your hands well and clean up any spill area. Then, call the chemo suite for further instructions. On the weekend, you will need to call your home care nurse.

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## **Call the Chemo Suite, and on the weekends call your home care nurse if:**

- you can see blood in your IV tubing
- the balloon has not gotten smaller in 8 hours
- you have concerns and are not sure what to do
- your dressing becomes wet or damp

## **What is the best way to wear the pump?**

Keep the pump at the level of your PICC or Port device, when sitting or lying down. When standing, the pump should not be lower than your waist.

Most people find it comfortable enough to tuck it under a pillow when sleeping.

## **Can I bathe or shower with the pump?**

Yes. The pump can get wet, but do not let it go under water if you are taking a bath. It is water resistant but not waterproof. You can tie a scarf around your neck and pin the carry bag to keep it secure and out of the water.

## Can I travel by air with my pump?

Yes, you can fly on a plane as normal with your pump connected and working.

## How much chemo should be left in the bottle when my treatment is done?

There should be no chemo left in the bottle.

## Caution

Keep your pump out of direct sunlight, heat or cold. Do not get the pump near a heating pad, hot water bottle, or ice packs.



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