



Discharge information for patients with a low white blood cell count and infection following chemotherapy

Oncology Department: Information for patients

Discharge Information

You have developed an infection as a result of a low white blood cell count (neutropenia) during your chemotherapy treatment. Your healthcare team is discharging you home with antibiotic tablets to treat your infection. We know this is a safe practice in carefully selected patients and potentially of benefit to you. However, if you experience any of the following problems after discharge, please **phone the Chemotherapy Helpline IMMEDIATELY on 0121 424 2000 / bleep 2877:**

- Feeling more unwell
- Diarrhoea or vomiting (or otherwise unable to take your antibiotics)
- Temperature of 38°C or higher, shivers or rigors
- Rash
- Oral thrush / mouth ulcers
- Dehydration

Following discharge

Please keep a record of your temperature twice daily at home using the table overleaf. Patients do occasionally need to return to hospital to be given antibiotics through a drip. Within 48 hours of discharge, you should receive a telephone call from the Acute Oncology Nurse. **Please DO NOT wait for this call if you have any of the above symptoms: ring the 24-hour helpline IMMEDIATELY on 0121 424 2000 / bleep 2877.** You can also contact us on this number for advice if you have any other concerns or worries. Please make sure that your family members are aware of this information. You can drive and continue normal activities following discharge.

Instructions for antibiotics

You have been prescribed (discharging healthcare professional to tick):

- Co-amoxiclav 625mg tablets to take three times a day for 5 days (including your hospital stay)
- Ciprofloxacin 750mg to take twice a day for 5 days (including your hospital stay)
- Clindamycin 300mg tablets to take four times a day for 5 days (including your hospital stay)

Chemotherapy 24-hour Helpline 0121 424 2000 / bleep 2877

Please record your temperature below from the day you are discharged

Patient temperature diary

Remember if you feel unwell or your temperature is 38°C or higher, please **phone 0121 424 2000 and ask for bleep 2877 IMMEDIATELY.**

| | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| Date: | | | | |
| AM | | | | |
| PM | | | | |

| | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| Date: | | | | |
| AM | | | | |
| PM | | | | |