

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR PRESCRIBING A SYSTEMIC ANTI-CANCER THERAPY REGIMEN THAT DEVIATES FROM THE TREATMENT ALGORITHM IN THE ONCOLOGICAL TREATMENT GUIDELINES

Purpose

To describe the process for prescribing a systemic anti-cancer therapy regimen that deviates from the treatment algorithm in the Oncological Treatment Guidelines and for which no electronic regimen exists.

Scope

Any systemic anticancer therapy for which there is no existing KMCC electronic regimen, which has been approved for use in an individual patient through the processes described in the 'Policy for the Management of Algorithm deviations and the use of unfunded medicines which form part of treatment algorithms as defined in the Oncological Treatment Guidelines'.

Responsibilities

- Consultant Oncologists and Haematologists, SpRs in oncology and haematology who are designated competent to prescribe chemotherapy and other systemic anticancer therapy.
- Oncology/haematology Pharmacists
- Chemo electronic prescribing Pharmacists
- Chemo electronic prescribing system administrator

Documentation

- Policy for the Management of Algorithm deviations and the use of unfunded medicines which form part of treatment algorithms as defined in the Oncological Treatment Guidelines.
- Treatment algorithm deviation request form for oncology/haemato-oncology
- Standard Operating Procedure for permitted alterations to electronic chemotherapy regimens
- Electronic chemotherapy action sheet
- Electronic chemotherapy prescription

Details

It is KMCC policy that all systemic anti-cancer therapy should be prescribed on a validated chemotherapy regimen in the electronic prescribing system. The use of treatment regimens outside of those approved for a specific tumour group is not permitted within the Oncological Treatment Guidelines. However, in exceptional circumstances, an oncologist or haematologist may advise treatment outside of currently agreed network protocols. This must be done in accordance with the KMCC policy for the management of algorithm deviations and the use of unfunded treatments which form part of treatment algorithms as defined in the Oncological Treatment Guidelines. In these circumstances an electronic regimen for the required treatment may not exist.

Following approval of the algorithm deviation request by the Trust at which the treatment is to be delivered:

- The Trust Electronic Prescribing Pharmacist must discuss the required regimen with the Electronic prescribing pharmacist (KMCC) and the Chemotherapy Electronic Prescribing System Administrator (KMCC), specifying the details of the systemic anticancer agents, supportive medication and hydration schedule.
- The Chemotherapy Electronic Prescribing System Administrator (KMCC) must allocate the preparation of an electronic regimen for the required treatment, which should then be validated by the relevant Trust lead oncology/e-prescribing pharmacist, the consultant oncologist/haematologist and Trust lead chemotherapy/e-prescribing nurse

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- On receipt of completed validation documentations, the Chemotherapy electronic prescribing system administrator (KMCC) will approve the validated regimen for use in the e-prescribing system.
- Treatment should then be prescribed using the newly generated electronic regimen. Handwritten prescriptions are not acceptable.

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