GUIDE

Chemotherapy Home Infusion Pump Program (CHIPP)
Disclaimer
This is general information developed by The Ottawa Hospital. It is not intended to replace the advice of a qualified healthcare provider. Please consult your own personal physician who will be able to determine the appropriateness of the information for your specific situation.

The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre (TOHCC)
&
Community Care Access Centre (CCAC)
CHIPP is a program that allows you to receive all or part of your chemotherapy in the comfort of your own home, using a continuous infusion pump.

CHIPP is funded through the CCAC and is a collaborative program between the TOHRCC, CCAC, and the home visit nursing agency.

When you come to The Ottawa Hospital Regional Cancer Centre, you will be assessed to determine if you are eligible for this program.

**Eligibility criteria**

_in order to be on the CHIPP Program, you must:_

- Be under the care of an Oncologist.
- Have a Central Venous Access Device (CVAD) inserted (Port or PICC), to allow continuous infusion of chemotherapy.
- Be eligible for CCAC services.
- Have a valid Ontario Health Insurance Number.
- Receive CCAC services within the Ottawa city boundaries. If needed – you may stay with family or friends, or book a room at the Grimes Lodge at no cost.
- Understand the instructions and implications of your treatment.
- Be able to come to the hospital if there are problems with treatment at home.
- Have a thermometer and a telephone at home.
- Speak English or French or have a family member present who speaks one of these languages.
The Roles of the CHIPP Team

**Oncologist:**
- Orders chemotherapy treatment.
- Monitors side effects.
- Monitors your condition and effects of the chemotherapy.

**Patient Designated Nurse (PDN) and the Chemotherapy Nurse at the Cancer Centre:**
- Educates you about CHIPP, along with pain and symptom management.
- Explains the Central Venous Access Device (Port or PICC).
- Explains the pump, the chemotherapy drugs and side effects.
- Coordinates your treatments with the oncologist and acts as a resource to the home visiting nurse and the CCAC Case Manager.
- Gives some of your chemotherapy.

**CCAC Case Manager:**
- Assesses your eligibility for CCAC in-home services.
- Coordinates in-home services.
- Arranges delivery of supplies and medications.
- Coordinates CHIPP treatments with the PDN and community clinic nurse.

**Home Visit Nurse:**
- Reviews your chemotherapy and side effects.
- Teaches you about your infusion pump.
- Trouble shoots any problems with the pump.
- Administers the chemotherapy and monitor any side effects you may encounter.
• Contacts your PDN nurse, doctor or CCAC Case Manager as needed.
• Tells you who to contact if you have problems.

**Pharmacy (the CCAC contracted pharmacy):**
• Delivers chemotherapy cassettes and supplies to your home.
• Picks up the pump, sharps container, and used chemotherapy supplies at the end of each treatment.

**What to expect at the Cancer Centre**

You will meet with the doctor, PDN nurse(s) and the CCAC Case Manager. *This is your opportunity to ask questions.* You will have your first treatment in the Cancer Centre, in the “Chemotherapy Treatment Unit” (CTU).

*Prior to starting your treatment:*  
• You must attend a chemotherapy class.  
• You will receive prescriptions.  
• The CCAC Case Manager will provide you with an Ontario Drug Benefit Card to cover the majority of the prescribed medication.  
• You will have a Central Venous Access Device inserted.

**What is a Central Venous Access Device**

A Central Venous Access Device is a catheter inserted into a major vein in your arm or in your chest. It is used to deliver medication into your blood stream. You may hear the staff calling it a Port or a PICC catheter.
What is the Grimes Lodge

The Grimes Lodge provides accommodations at no charge for the patient when you require the CHIPP Program and live outside the Ottawa city boundary. The lodge is located at 200 Melrose Avenue (beside the Civic Campus). If you wish to stay at the lodge – your PDN will send the Lodge an application for a room. The Lodge will then contact the patient. You may choose to stay with friends or family who live within the city of Ottawa instead.

What about supplies

There will be many supplies delivered to your home at the beginning of the CHIPP Program. The Home Visit Nurse will decide when additional supplies will be required and have them delivered to your home. This will include a spill kit.

What to do with the used supplies

There are special rules about the disposal of cytotoxic materials – i.e. materials and body fluids that have been in contact with chemotherapy. Use the spill kit to clean or collect soiled articles.

While you are receiving chemotherapy and for 48 hours after chemotherapy has stopped:

- Any clothing or linens that are soiled with body fluids (e.g. blood, vomit, urine, or stool) are to be machine washed twice in hot water and separate from other laundry.
- Urine, stool and any body fluids in the toilet must be flushed twice with the toilet seat down.
The pharmacy will pick up the containers for sharps and the used intravenous and chemotherapy supplies. All other waste materials must be placed in 2 sealed plastic bags (e.g. Ziploc) and can be discarded in your regular garbage.

**When will you see the Home Visit Nurse**

- The evening of your first treatment.
- Again the next day.
- To disconnect each treatment.
- Then, as required, by your treatment schedule and symptoms.

**How to wear the pump**

You can carry the pump in a pouch or fanny pack (provided by the Pharmacy). Note that loose outer clothes will easily conceal the pump.

**How to bathe or shower**

- Place the pump on a chair just outside the bathtub or shower.
- Cover it with a strong plastic bag to prevent it from getting wet.
- Tape a plastic cover on top of the PICC or Port dressing.
- Face away from the water flow.
- Do not expose the pump to high humidity levels, (e.g. sauna, steam bath) or extreme cold (e.g. outdoor winter activity).
How to sleep at night

• Place the pump somewhere safe – where the buttons will not be pressed accidentally while you sleep.
• Some patients prefer to leave the pump in the pouch when wearing it at night.
• Others place it on the bedside table or hook it onto the bedpost.

How to store the cassettes

• Store the cassettes in a clean, dry area at room temperature.
• Protect them from sunlight, excessive heat and excessive cold.
• Keep out of reach of children and pets.
• Refrigerate only if indicated on the label.
• Designate a clean area in the refrigerator for “cassettes only”.

Troubleshooting your pump

The Visiting Home Nurse is your first contact if you have problems or if you have questions regarding your chemotherapy pump.

• If you have problems changing the battery, call Visiting Home Nurse.
• Should there be any other problems, please contact the Visiting Home Nurse nurse and she will contact the appropriate person.
About batteries

Extra batteries will be supplied by the CCAC through the pharmacy. Do not carry extra batteries in your pockets. If the battery touches metal, it will become very hot.

Blood tests required

Please do not forget to have your blood drawn by 9:00 a.m. on the day before your chemotherapy treatment at the lab closest to you.

Important appointments

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Important contacts

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<td>CCAC Case Manager</td>
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<td>Visiting Home Nurse</td>
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<td>Grimes Lodge</td>
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<td>613-737-7700, ext. 10355</td>
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<td>Pharmacy</td>
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<td>TOHCC Main Phone Number</td>
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