

AN OUTPATIENT PHARMACY APPROACH TO PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY

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Disclosures

- No relationships to disclose

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Pharmacist Objectives

- Discuss considerations relating to pediatric medication dosing and administration
- Identify the most common types of pediatric cancer
- Identify treatment regimens for chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting
- Develop an overall understanding of oral chemotherapy agents
- Discuss the safety of over-the-counter medications in a pediatric oncology patient
- Be able to recognize when to recommend a pediatric oncology patient to the emergency department

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Technician Objectives

- Discuss considerations relating to pediatric medication dosing and administration
- Be able to recognize appropriate oral chemotherapy dosing
- Develop an understanding of handling and dispensing oral chemotherapy agents
- Identify appropriate over-the-counter medications for pediatric oncology patients
- Be able to recognize a pediatric oncology patient who needs emergency care

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Pediatric Dosing and Administration

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Pediatric Dosing Considerations


- Age
- Weight
- BSA
- Indication
- Max dose
- Renal or hepatic adjustments
- Interactions
- Continuously changing



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Routes of Administration

- Oral
 - G-tube, etc.
- IV
- IM
- SQ
- IO
 - Emergency only



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Absorption^{1,2,3}

- Gastric pH neutral then falls to pH 2-3 around 3 year
- Gastric emptying time slower during first week of life
- Gastro-ental transit time reduced an of adults about 3 years of age
- Diet
- Pediatric formulations
- IM absorption
 - Volume of administration based on age and weight
- Topical absorption

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Distribution^{1,2,3}

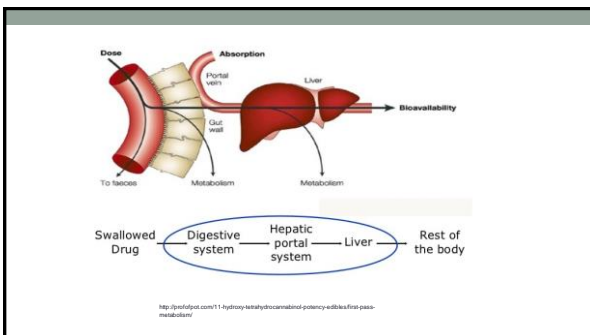
- Based on body composition
 - Water vs. fat
- Composition of medication
- Protein binding
 - Amount of protein
 - Decreased affinity for medications
- Drug transporters

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Pediatric Volume of Distribution^{1,2,3}

Age	Total Body Water (%)	Extracellular Fluid (%)	Adipose Tissue (%)
Premature Neonate	92	50	1 – 5
Term Neonate	75	35	12 – 16
3 mo.	73	35	35
1 yr.	59	25	30
Adult	60	19	20

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Metabolism: CYP Enzymes^{1,2,3}

	CYP1A2	CYP2D6	CYP2C19	CYP3A4	CYP3A7
Effect	Minimal fetal activity; exceeds adults in infancy then tapers down	Polymorph Rapid vs Slow Metabolism	Activity increase in first 2 weeks	Low at birth, Rapid 1month increase, in gut mucosa	High in Fetal and Newborns Lower efficiency than CYP3A4
Targets	Caffeine, Theophylline	Codeine and many others (psych)	AEDs and PPIs	~40% of all drugs	Similar to CYP3A4

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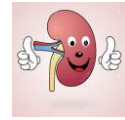
Phase II Metabolism^{1,2,3}

- Inactivates compounds → increases water solubility and excretion
- Phase II enzymes found in mostly in liver but also in kidneys and lungs
- Glucuronidation accomplished by UGT
 - Mostly decreased in infants
 - Potential toxicity of APAP, morphine, zidovudine

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Elimination^{1,2,3}

- Renal blood flow is lower at birth
 - Increases during first year of life
- Bedside Schwartz (1-18yr)
 - $GFR (mL/minute/1.73 m) = 0.413 \times \text{length}/SCr$



https://www.123rf.com/photo/41118632_healthy-cartoon-kidney.html



https://www.123rf.com/photo/41118632_healthy-cartoon-kidney.html

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Pharmacodynamics^{1,2,3}

- How the drug affects the body
- Greater affinity for medications
- May have fewer receptors
- Paradoxical drug effects
- Growth and development
 - Tetracyclines, corticosteroids
- Adverse drug reactions
 - Aspirin, propylene glycol, cough products

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Pediatric Cancers

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Acute Lymphoblastic Lymphoma (ALL)⁴

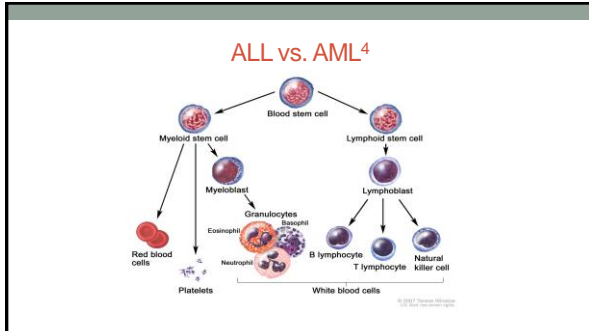
- Most common malignancy in children between birth and 14 years
- Abnormal proliferation of precursor B cell or T cell lymphocytes
- Diagnosis based on evaluation of blood and bone marrow
- Genetic component
- Nonspecific signs/symptoms
 - Fever, bleeding, bone pain, lymphadenopathy, hepatosplenomegaly
- Corticosteroids important part of therapy among many other chemotherapy agents
- Depending on factors 5 year Overall Survival (OS) > 90%

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Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)⁵

- Less common than ALL
- Proliferation of abnormal myeloid, erythroid, monocytic, megakaryocytic cell precursors
- Fever, malaise, bone pain, cytopenia, coagulopathies
- Diagnosis on pathology of blood and bone marrow
- Event free survival and overall survival
 - 50% and 60-70%, respectively

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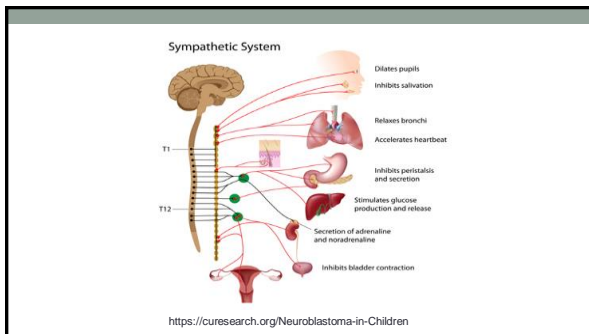


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Neuroblastoma⁶

- Most common extracranial solid tumor of childhood
- Peaks <4 years and median age of 19 months
- Begins in nerve tissue of adrenal glands (most common), neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis
- Genetic component
- Signs and symptoms
 - Fever, SOB, petechiae, high blood pressure, uncontrolled muscle and eye movements, droopy eyelids
- Increase in catecholamine release

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Oral Chemotherapeutic Agents

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Chemotherapy Dosing

- Dose by BSA (m²) or weight (kg)
 - Less than 1 year old is weight
 - Greater than 1 year can be weight or BSA
- Should wear appropriate gear when manipulating medication
- Handle with caution if pregnant
- Standard doses may not be available
- Liquids are better in many cases due to dose variation

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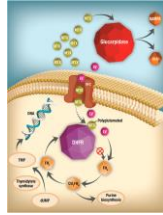
NIOSH List of Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings

- <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2016-161/pdfs/2016-161.pdf?id=10.26616/NIOSH-PUB2016161>
- Reduction in occupational hazards and safe-handling precautions
- Medications that pose reproductive and developmental toxicity
- Take caution with medication preparation
 - Crushing
 - Splitting tablets
- Use already prepared liquid, if available
- Appropriate PPE and manipulated in appropriate engineering controls
- Check literature if a medication is not on this list

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Methotrexate^{7,10}

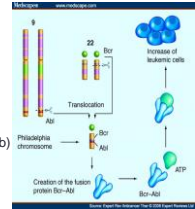
- Essential treatment for leukemia, lymphoma, osteosarcomas
 - Maintenance in ALL protocols
- Adverse effects
 - Acute Kidney injury
 - Nausea/Vomiting
 - Myelosuppression
 - Mucositis
- Avoid drugs that will increase levels
- Requires hydration and rescue therapy
 - Mainly IV and large doses
- Liquid and tablet formulations



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Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors^{8,10}

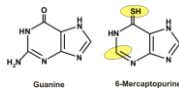
- Imatinib and Dasatinib
- BCR-ABL inhibitor
 - Ph+ ALL, CML
- Adverse effects
 - Myelosuppression
 - Elevated LFTs
 - Nausea, rash, edema, muscle cramps
- Drug interactions
 - Avoid PPI or H2 blockers (dasatinib)
 - Take with food and water for GI irritation (imatinib)
- Tablets
- Extemporaneous preparation(imatinib)
- Dissolve in apple juice



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6-Mercaptopurine^{9,10}

- Purine analog that incorporates itself into DNA and inhibits synthesis
- ALL
- Adverse effects
 - Myelosuppression
 - Mucositis
 - Rash, photosensitivity
 - Hepatotoxicity
- Drug interactions
 - Allopurinol
- Dose adjust for TPMT-deficiency
 - Homozygous deficiency
- Tablet, suspension, or extemporaneous preparation
- Take on empty stomach
- Ok to crush



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Isotretinoin¹⁰

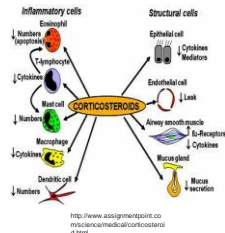
- Decreases cell proliferation and induces differentiation
- Recurrent neuroblastoma
- Adverse effects
 - Skin reactions
 - Growth effects
 - Neutropenia
 - LFT elevation
 - Pancreatitis
 - Photosensitivity
- REMS Program – teratogenic defects
- Capsules
- Extemporaneous preparation
- Swallow whole with a meal



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Corticosteroids¹⁰

- Dexamethasone and prednisone
- Inhibition of inflammatory mediators and suppression of immune system
- Used in ALL
 - Dexamethasone has better CNS penetration and is more potent
 - Dexamethasone in < 10 y/o and prednisone in > 10 y/o
- Adverse effects
 - Cardiovascular
 - CNS
 - Endocrine
 - Osteoporosis
 - Adrenal suppression
 - Infection



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Corticosteroids¹⁰

- Tablets, liquid, injections
- Taper down
- Be aware with concomitant administration of live vaccinations and high doses
- Dexamethasone is longer acting
- Can be a problem if given to a new diagnosis of ALL prior to diagnosis

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Etoposide¹⁰

- Topoisomerase II inhibitor
- Cause DNA strand breaks
- Oral used for comfort care
- Adverse effects
 - Myelosuppression
 - Nausea and vomiting
- Oral capsules and extemporaneous preparation
- Counsel on comfort care measures

A. Topoisomerase II poisons
 • Inhibit enzyme complex
 • Interacting with non-replicating DNA
 • Avoids topological strand breaks in DNA

 B. Topoisomerase catalytic inhibitors
 • Do not block activity of topoisomerase II
 • Competitive inhibitors for dATPase site
 • Allow strand passage

https://www.springer.com/ch/author/102707978-3-319-12253-3_20

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Chemotherapy Induced Nausea Vomiting (CINV)

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CINV Guidelines

- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN): Clinical practice guidelines in oncology for antiemesis (2017)
- Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO): Guideline for the Prevention of Acute Nausea and Vomiting due to Antineoplastic Medication in Pediatric Cancer Patients
- Children's Oncology Group (COG): Guidelines on Chemotherapy-induced Nausea and Vomiting in Pediatric Cancer Patients

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<https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Pathophysiology-of-chemotherapy-induced-nausea-and-vomiting>

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Emesis Definition¹²

- Acute emesis
 - Occurs within first 24 hours after chemotherapy
 - In absence of effective prophylaxis it can occur within a few hours of chemotherapy initiation
- Delayed emesis
 - Greater than 24 hours after chemotherapy delivery
 - Cisplatin, cyclophosphamide are offenders
- Anticipatory emesis
 - Conditioned response to previous administration of chemotherapy
 - Association between chemotherapy and nausea

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Table 1: Classification of the Acute Emetogenic Potential of Antineoplastic Medication in Pediatric Cancer Patients (class A to high agents)

High Level of Emesis Risk	Class A	Class B	Class C
High Level of Emesis Risk	Class A	Class B	Class C
Carboplatin Cisplatin Etoposide Irinotecan Oxaliplatin	Dactinomycin Doxorubicin Etoposide Methotrexate Mitomycin	Fluorouracil Ifosfamide Methotrexate Naveloxin Vincristine	Topotecan Vincristine Vincore
Medium Level of Emesis Risk	Class D	Class E	Class F
Asparaginase Azacitidine Bleomycin Boromycin Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine	Asparaginase Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine	Asparaginase Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine	Asparaginase Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine
Low Level of Emesis Risk	Class G	Class H	Class I
Asparaginase Azacitidine Bleomycin Boromycin Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine	Asparaginase Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine	Asparaginase Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine	Asparaginase Etoposide Fluorouracil Gemtuzumab Ifosfamide Methotrexate Mitomycin Naveloxin Nifedipine Oxaliplatin Pemetrexed Teniposide Vinorelbine

Patient's emesis potential may vary from agent to agent. Note: The agents given in parentheses are considered intermediate.

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Table 2: Classification of the Acute Emetogenic Potential of Specific Antineoplastic Medication in Pediatric Cancer Patients Given in Combination

High Level of Emetic Risk (≥ 90% frequency of emesis in absence of prophylaxis)	
Cyclophosphamide + anthracycline	*Cytarabine 300 mg/m ² + etoposide
*Cyclophosphamide + doxorubicin	*Cytarabine 300 mg/m ² + teniposide
*Cyclophosphamide + epirubicin	*Doxorubicin + ifosfamide
*Cyclophosphamide + etoposide	Doxorubicin + methotrexate 5 g/m ²
*Cytarabine 150-200 mg/m ² + daunorubicin	*Etoposide + ifosfamide
* Pediatric evidence available	Note: All agents given intravenously (IV) unless stated otherwise.

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Non-pharmacological¹¹

- Eat small, more frequent meals
- Odor control
- Avoid spicy, fatty, high salty foods
- Use measures that have helped in past

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Highly Emetogenic Chemotherapy¹¹

- Aprepitant used in patients > 6 months old
 - NK1-receptor antagonist
 - Monitor drug interactions
- 5-HT₃ antagonist + dexamethasone
- Ondansetron, granisetron, palonosetron
- Do not use dexamethasone for CINV in ALL
- Anti-emetic drip (inpatient)
 - Dexamethasone, diphenhydramine, metoclopramide, lorazepam if anticipatory

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Moderate-Low Emetogenic Chemotherapy¹¹

- Moderate
 - 5-HT₃-receptor antagonist + dexamethasone
 - Ondansetron, granisetron, palonosetron
 - If > 6 months and cannot receive dexamethasone then ok to use aprepitant
- Low
 - 5-HT₃ antagonist
 - Ondansetron, granisetron, palonosetron

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Anticipatory CINV¹¹

- Hypnosis, acupuncture?
- Use same agents as listed above
- Lorazepam



Breakthrough CINV

- Metoclopramide (> 1 y/o)
 - Extrapyramidal reactions
- **Olanzapine**
- Diphenhydramine
- Promethazine
- Lorazepam
- Scopolamine patches
- Dronabinol

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Olanzapine¹⁰

- Second generation antipsychotic
 - Antagonism of serotonin, dopamine, histamine, and alpha1-adrenergic receptors
- Drug interactions
- Adverse effects
 - Hyperprolactinemia
 - Gynecomastia
 - Hyperlipidemia
 - Hyperglycemia
 - Restlessness
 - Somnolence
 - Q-T prolongation

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Olanzapine for Prevention of CINV¹⁴

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Olanzapine for the Prevention of
Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting

Rudolph H. Novak, M.D., Richard P. D. O'Keefe, M.D., Andrew J. Duffy, M.D.,
Michael G. Hill, M.D., Steven F. Powell, M.D., Nathan Hogg, M.D.,
Linda S. Gerson, M.D., David Hogg, M.D., Jacqueline M. Laska, M.D.,
and Charles L. Loprinzi, M.D.

- Randomized, double-blind, phase 3 trial
- Patient 18 + with malignant disease who had not received chemotherapy
- 5-HT3-receptor antagonist, dexamethasone, NK1-receptor antagonist + olanzapine (10mg x 4 days) or placebo
- Stratified by sex, chemotherapy regimen (cisplating vs. anthracycline + cyclophosphamide containing), and 5-HT3-receptor antagonist
- Primary outcome – no nausea during assessment period of 120 hour

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Table 2. Primary End Point According to Study Group.

Variable	Olanzapine (N=192)	Placebo (N=188)	Total (N=380)	P Value*	Adjusted P Value†
<i>number/total number (percent)</i>					
0-24 hr after chemotherapy					
No nausea	135/183 (73.8)	82/181 (45.3)	217/364 (59.6)	<0.001	0.002
Nausea	48/183 (26.2)	99/181 (54.7)	147/364 (40.4)		
25-120 hr after chemotherapy					
No nausea	75/177 (42.4)	45/177 (25.4)	120/354 (33.9)	0.001	0.002
Nausea	102/177 (57.6)	132/177 (74.6)	234/354 (66.1)		
0-120 hr after chemotherapy					
No nausea	66/177 (37.3)	39/178 (21.9)	105/355 (29.6)	0.002	0.002
Nausea	111/177 (62.7)	139/178 (78.1)	250/355 (70.4)		

* P values were calculated with the use of the chi-square test.
† P values were calculated according to the Simon gatekeeping procedure.

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Olanzapine in Adults¹³

- Meta-analysis (Cochrane Review)
 - Highly and moderate emetogenic
 - Olanzapine vs. placebo
 - Likelihood of being free from nausea or vomiting during chemotherapy (RR 1.98, 95% CI 1.59 to 2.47; participants = 561; studies = 3; I² = 0%)
 - About 5 days of treatment
 - Probably reduces delayed nausea with acute nausea and vomiting being uncertain

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Olanzapine in Pediatrics: Multi-center, prospective, open-label, feasibility¹⁵

- Flank, J., Schechter, T., et al.
 - English speaking; 4-18 y/o; ≥ 14kg
 - Olanzapine 0.14 mg/kg/dose (max 10 mg/dose; 2.5 mg increments) x 4 doses (max) + standard of care
 - Dose decreased if patient experienced undesirable sedation
 - Feasibility of recruitment, compliance, and adverse effects for endpoints
 - Endpoints were met
 - Free of vomiting and retching on 86 ± 21% of acute phase days
 - All but 1 patient experienced nausea
 - free of vomiting and retching on 75 ± 32% and free of nausea on 50 ± 33% of delayed phase days
 - Mild sedation was main adverse effect

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Olanzapine in Pediatrics: Retrospective, Multi-Center Review¹⁶

- Flank, J., Thackray, J., et al.
 - Patients < 18 y/o who received olanzapine for CINV in acute phase of chemotherapy block
 - Primary outcome - # times vomited in acute phase

TABLE 1. Description of 158 Chemotherapy Blocks During Which Olanzapine Was Given for CINV Control

Characteristic	Number
Chemotherapy	
Median duration of chemotherapy block	4 (1-40)*
Median range	128 (88)
Chemotherapy emetogenicity number of blocks (%)	28 (18)
High	2 (1)
Moderate	2 (1)
Low	2 (1)
Median	2 (1)
Number of chemotherapy blocks containing olanzapine (%)	102 (65)
Number of blocks in which olanzapine was given on an as-needed basis (number of blocks)	102 (65)
Admission at presentation	134 (87)
Discontinuation	96 (61)
Apoptosis	26 (16)
Relapsed or discontinued	21 (13)
Leucopenia	15 (9)
Thrombocytopenia	2 (1)
Neutropenia	2 (1)
Diaphanous drainage	2 (1)
Admission to acute care on an as-needed basis (number of blocks)	11
Leucopenia	105 (67)
Diaphanous drainage	65 (41)
Discontinuation	14 (9)
Relapsed or discontinued	15 (9)
Thrombocytopenia	8 (5)
Diaphanous drainage	6 (4)
Neutropenia	6 (4)

* Nine patients received daily oral and intravenous for 42 days.

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Olanzapine in Pediatrics: Retrospective, Multi-Center Review¹⁶

TABLE III. Description of Olanzapine Use During 158 Chemotherapy Blocks

Characteristic	
Reason for olanzapine use (number of blocks, %)	94 (59)
History of uncontrolled CNS in previous chemotherapy block	37 (23)
Uncontrolled CNS in current chemotherapy block	27 (17)
Median number of chemotherapy blocks per patient during which olanzapine was given (range)	2 (1-10)
Olanzapine dose frequency (number of blocks, %)	551 (96)
Once daily	7 (4)
Twice daily	0.10 ± 0.051 (0.026-0.256)
mg/kg/dose	
mg/m ² /dose	3.0 ± 1.45 (0.81-6.42)

TABLE IV. Vomiting Control and Adverse Events Reported in 158 Chemotherapy Blocks During Which Olanzapine Was Given

Characteristic	
Actual CVT control when olanzapine was initiated on the first day of chemotherapy* (number of blocks, %)	72 (45)
Complete CVT control	25 (15)
Partial CVT control	47 (29)
Uncontrolled CVT	86 (53)
Moderately emetogenic chemotherapy (M) chemotherapy blocks	9 (4)
Complete CVT control	4 (1)
Uncontrolled CVT	5 (2)
Low/moderately emetogenic chemotherapy (low chemotherapy blocks)	77 (49)
Complete CVT control	2 (1)
Partial CVT control	75 (48)
Uncontrolled CVT	75 (48)
Reported adverse events (number of blocks, %)	11 (7)
Increased transaminase concentration	2 (1)
Blurred vision	2 (1)
Constipation	1 (0.6)
Diarrhea	1 (0.6)
Fatigue	1 (0.6)
Hypertension	1 (0.6)
Hypoglycemia	1 (0.6)
Increased plasma creatinine	1 (0.6)
Uncontrolled	1 (0.6)
Stomach pain	1 (0.6)
Mean change in weight between chemotherapy blocks, %	0.1 ± 0.14 (-0.18)

Over-The-Counter (OTC) Safety

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OTC Safety Considerations

- Drug-drug interactions!!
- Drug-disease interaction
 - NSAIDs
- Herbals
 - Some families believe that herbals will work better than western medicine
 - Limited data
 - Including homeopathic
- CBD oils

Mucositis

- Inflammation and ulceration of oral mucosa
- Secondary to immunosuppression, chemotherapy, and radiation
- Decreased quality of life
- Increase risk of bacterial and fungal infection
- Decrease nutritional status
- Pain management
 - Narcotics
 - Magic mouthwash
- Oral hygiene

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Honey for Mucositis

Elsass, FT.	Al Jaouni, SK., et al.	Bulut, HK., et al.	Badr, IK., et al.
Case series	Open-label, RCT	Quasi-experimental with experiment and control group	Double blind, RCT Ongoing NCT03399331
Pediatrics: 9 mo - 17 yr; 3 cases	Pediatric oncology: 40 patients	Pediatric oncology: 83 patients	Adults and pediatric
AML, ALL, HLH	Hematological and non-hematological cancers	Leukemia, lymphoma	Leukemia
Leptospermum honey paste	Apply hospital provided honey 4-6x/day or honey + standard of care	Honey group between 7 th and 14 th day of induction compared to routine mouth care	Honey or olive oil compared to standard of care
Oral mucositis improved at 5 days in all cases	Reduction of oral mucositis development, fungal, and bacterial infections	Reduction in oral mucositis incidence in honey group	Outcome is severity of oral mucositis

* All trials outside of US

Probiotics in Pediatric Oncology

- Insufficient data
- Which strains of probiotics are most beneficial?
- Outcome of probiotics?
 - Decrease in diarrhea
 - Improved overall health
 - Preserve gut function
- Infectious in immunocompromised patients?
- Lot's of research and data both supporting and refuting probiotics
- Dosing?

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Safety and Feasibility of Probiotics in Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation (HCT)²¹

- *Lactobacillus plantarum* 1×10^8 colony-forming units/kg/day
 - Examined to ensure they were free of bacteria and fungal contamination
- Pilot study for safety and feasibility of RCT
 - Primary objective was safety
- Thirty children and adolescents between 2 and 17 years undergoing HCT
- Started day -8 or -7 through + 14
- Ninety-seven percent received at least 50% of dose
- No episodes of lactobacillus bacteremia

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Lactobacillus acidophilus Sepsis²²

- Case study
- Sixty-nine year old male with stage IIIA mantle cell lymphoma
 - Underwent autologous hematopoietic SCT
- Became septic with *Klebsiella pneumonia* and was treated for 3 days
- Then developed severe mucositis, vomiting, diarrhea on day 10
- Colonoscopy and biopsy showed chronic inflammation
- Repeated blood cultures that grew *Lactobacillus acidophilus*
- Eating 6-8 cups/day of probiotic enriched yogurt
- Improved once yogurt was stopped

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Febrile Neutropenia

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Guidelines

- Guideline for the Management of Fever and Neutropenia in Children With Cancer and Hematopoietic Stem-Cell Transplantation Recipients: 2017 Update
- Clinical Practice Guideline for the Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Neutropenic Patients with Cancer: 2010 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America
- Children's Oncology Group (COG): Guideline for the Management of Fever and Neutropenia in Children with Cancer and/or Undergoing Hematopoietic Stem-Cell Transplantation

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Oncologic Fever

- Fever without neutropenia
- Fever with neutropenia
- Fever
 - Temperature $> 38.3^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - Oral or axillary
 - Avoid rectal – risk of mucosal trauma and bacteremia
- Neutropenia
 - Mild: ANC 1000 to 1500/microL
 - Moderate: ANC 500 to 1000/microL
 - Severe: ANC < 500 /microL

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Over the Counter & Supportive Care

- Fever control
 - Acetaminophen (10-15 mg/kg; 5-6 doses/day)
 - Ibuprofen??
- Avoid vaccines at this time
- Avoid fresh flowers
- Daily inspection of vascular site
- Neutropenic diet
 - Well-cooked foods
- All people perform hand hygiene
- Daily shower
- Avoidance of tampons



Non-Tunneled Central Venous Access Device

https://www.wikiwand.com/wiki/Central_venous_access_device

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Outpatient Pharmacy Evaluation

- Look at the patient
 - Sick vs. non-sick
- Vital signs
- Medical history
- **Refer to ED Immediately!!**



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Inpatient Evaluation

- Vital signs
- Labs
- Cultures
- H&P
- Respiratory virus panel
- C-diff PCR if frequent, watery stools
- Lumbar puncture
- Radiology

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Inpatient Empiric Treatment²⁰

- Administer antibiotics within 1 hour or sooner [®]
- UNM Hospital
 - Ceftriaxone: fever, non-neutropenic
 - Cefepime: fever, neutropenic
- Alternatives
 - Zosyn, meropenem
- Add vancomycin (q6h dosing) for suspected gram + organism
- Add vancomycin + gentamicin + cefepime for hemodynamic instability



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Antibiotic Duration²⁰

- De-escalate and treat accordingly to blood cultures
- High risk:
 - Discontinue empiric treatment in patients with neg. blood cultures for 48 hours + afebrile for at least 24 hours + marrow recovery
- Low risk:
 - Discontinue empiric treatment in patients with neg. blood cultures for 48 hours + afebrile for at least 24 hours
- Fungal management for prolonged febrile neutropenia ≥ 96 hours

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References

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