

Round Table Topic: Update on Outpatient Fever & Neutropenia Protocol: Satellite Perspectives

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Background

Why is this topic important? What is the context around this issue?

Fever and neutropenia is a common and potentially life threatening toxicity of therapy for many pediatric oncology patients. Traditionally, these patients have been managed as inpatients for administration of empiric IV antibiotics and for close monitoring. There is however, substantial data to support risk stratification, as well as treatment with oral antibiotics and care in the outpatient setting. Within Ontario, some tertiary centres have moved to treating a select group of patients meeting low risk criteria with oral antibiotics as outpatients. While this is not an expected service to be offered by satellites, many have voiced interest in developing similar programs. This round table discussion will provide an overview of the steps required to implement outpatient management of fever and neutropenia and discuss the associated challenges and opportunities.

Learning Objectives

What can participants expect to learn from this discussion?

1. Describe factors that help stratify risk in pediatric cancer patients presenting with fever and neutropenia.
2. Understand the oral antibiotic options for treating fever and neutropenia as an outpatient.
3. Review the follow up required for outpatient 'F&N' patients and factors that will lead to readmission.

Key Questions/Cases

What questions will be explored that relate to this topic? Are there relevant cases to be presented/discussed?

- 1) What are the possible benefits and risks of implementation of home based care for children with lower risk of fever and neutropenia?