

3.1.1 Personal Protective Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provides protection to reduce workers’ exposure to hazardous drug (HD) aerosols and residues. Additional PPE may be required to handle the HDs, such as treating a patient or cleaning a spill. Types of PPE used in handling hazardous drugs:

- Disposable PPE must not be re-used.
- Reusable PPE must be decontaminated and cleaned after use.
- Two pairs of chemotherapy gloves are required for administering antineoplastic HDs.
- Gowns shown to resist permeability by HDs are required when administering injectable antineoplastic HDs.

Appropriate PPE to be worn should be based on your institution’s safety plan and assessment of risk. For its PPE (gowns, gloves, goggles, masks, face shields), your institution should ensure the manufacturer has provided documented evidence of impermeability to HDs.

See the table below as a guide. This table is derived from The Hospital for Sick Children’s policy on Safe Handling of Hazardous Drugs. The administering guides below were made based on the inclusion of a closed system transfer device (CSTD).

Personal Protective Equipment for Hazardous Drug (HD) Administration and Other Tasks

Dose Form	Personal Protective Equipment
For injections (IM/SC)	Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown and Face Shield/Mask combo
For IV	Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown and Face Shield/Mask combo
For oral liquid doses	Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown and Face Shield/Mask combo
For topical administration (creams and ointments)	Double Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown
For intact oral or ready-to-use dosage forms	Chemo Gloves
For aerosolized administration	Follow drug-specific hospital policies
For compromised oral dosage forms (capsule opening/pill crushing when no oral dose exists)	Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown, Face Shield and N95 Respirator on blue pad OR prepare in Biosafety Cabinet
Patient excreta handling (urine hats, urinals, emptying Foley bags, changing diapers, hygiene bag handling and emesis)	Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown and Face Shield/Mask combo
Blood sampling	Chemo Gloves, Face Shield/Mask combo
Urine testing (point of care)	Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown and Face Shield/Mask combo



Spill management	Double Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown, Face Shield/Safety Goggles and N95 Respirator
Room cleaning	Chemo Gloves, Chemo Gown, Face Shield/Safety Goggles and N95 Respirator


See below for examples of a Hazardous Drugs Precautions PPE poster and a Hazardous Drugs Precautions room sign.

1. Hazardous Drugs Precautions PPE Poster

Hazardous Drugs

PRECAUTIONS


Room Set-up



- Red hazardous waste container
- Red hazardous waste sharps container
- Soiled linen hamper with lid
- Hazardous Drugs sign in bathroom
- Appropriate PPE


Patient Excreta Handling

(Urine hats, urinals, emptying Foley bags, changing diapers, hygiene bag handling and emesis etc.)



Chemo gloves, Chemo gown and face shield/mask combo


Labelling



Stickers will appear on all Pharmacy labels. Nursing staff will use the labels to:


- Label IV lines near pump and port
- Label urine bags

Disposal of Patient Excreta




- Place blue pad over toilet seat and double flush for urine, feces and emesis
- If using hygiene bag, place in the red waste container

Drug Preparation



Hazardous drugs will be supplied by pharmacy in ready to use format.
EXCEPTION: Dissolve & dose


Waste Disposal



- Red cytotoxic waste container for non-sharp items - wet waste (IV tubing/bag/syringes, incontinence pads, diapers) and dry waste (used PPE etc.)
- Hazardous waste sharps container for sharps

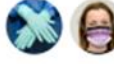
Handling Precautions for Administration

For injections (IM/SC/IT)




Chemo gloves, Chemo gown and face shield/mask combo

Blood Sampling



Chemo gloves, face shield/mask combo

For IV (bag and syringe)




Chemo gloves, Chemo gown and face shield/mask combo

Urine Testing (Point of Care)




Chemo gloves, Chemo gown, face shield/mask combo

For oral liquid doses




Chemo gloves, Chemo gown and face shield/mask combo

Spill Management




Double Chemo gloves, Chemo gown, face shield/goggles, N95 respirator, shoe covers

For compromised oral dosage forms (capsule opening/pill crushing when no oral dose exists)




Work in biosafety cabinet (BSC) or wear Chemo gloves, Chemo gown, face shield and N95 respirator and prepare on blue pad

For topical administration (creams and ointments)




Double Chemo gloves, Chemo gown

Room Cleaning



Chemo gloves, Chemo gown, face shield/safety goggles and N95 respirator


For intact oral or ready to use dosage forms



Chemo gloves

For aerosolized administration

Follow drug specific hospital policies



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2. Hazardous Drugs Precautions Room Sign



For more information on types of PPE that are safe for handling HDs, please visit the [USP Healthcare Quality & Safety Free General Chapter Downloads form](#) and select the box marked as <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings (Informational).

This guidance document was developed by Mr. Kaniska Young Tai, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto and Ms. Sylvie Kozlowskyj, Northeast Cancer Centre, Health Sciences North, Sudbury. Reviewed in consultation with Ms. Janie Lappan, McMaster Children’s Hospital, Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton, Ms. Mary Jo De Courcy, Children’s Hospital, London Health Sciences Centre, London and Ms. Christina McCauley, POGO/The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto based on the sources in [Sub-Section 3.1.7](#).

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Record of Updates

Version Number	Date of Effect	Summary of Revisions
1	6/28/2021	• Original version posted.