

# Home Safety After Receiving Treatment



Chemotherapy and Immunotherapy are removed from your body through urine, stool, vomit, and blood for 48 hours after your treatment has finished. You and your caregivers should use precautions to protect yourselves while receiving these medications and for 48 hours after receiving them.

## Safety for your Family and Caregivers

- It is safe for you to hug and kiss your partner, family and friends. This includes the children in your life.
- It is safe to be around pregnant women, although they should not clean up any of your body fluids after you have received chemotherapy or immunotherapy.

## Handling Body Waste

- Wear gloves when cleaning the toilet or cleaning up any urine, stool or vomit.
- Keep Clorox™ wipes in your bathroom to clean up any splashes of body fluids.
- Wash hands well with soap and water after using the toilet or cleaning up body fluids.
- If using a bedpan, urinal, or basin; wear gloves, cover the container, and dump contents into the toilet close to the water to limit splashing.
- Wear gloves when changing incontinence briefs. Put used briefs, wipes, and gloves in a trash bag.
- Put the lid down on the toilet before flushing to avoid any splashing.

## Handling Trash or Laundry

- Wear gloves to handle soiled trash or laundry. Wash hands well with soap and water.
- Wash the patient's clothing and linens separately with warm soapy water; if heavily contaminated, wash twice.

## Sexual Contact

Chemotherapy and immunotherapy medications may also be excreted in body fluids such as semen and vaginal fluid. To prevent exposure:

- Use condoms for oral sex and intercourse while receiving chemotherapy or immunotherapy. Chemotherapy and immunotherapy may have harmful effects on sperm cells. If you have additional questions, speak with your care team.
- Effective birth control should be used during treatment to prevent pregnancy and for 6 months after therapy. Chemotherapy and immunotherapy drugs can be harmful to the fetus, especially in the first trimester. Discuss effective methods of birth control with your provider.