



Care of an Extravasation (Anthracycline and dexrazoxone)

There is a chance that some of the chemotherapy you received today has leaked out of your vein and under your skin. This is known as extravasation and is a rare but known complication of chemotherapy.

Your consultant has decided to prescribe you another medication called dexrazoxane (Savene™). This is an antidote to the chemotherapy that leaked out of the vein into the surrounding tissue and will prevent any tissue damage. It is given into a vein every day for three days. Each infusion will last over 1 - 2 hours. The nurse will give you an appointment for days 2 & 3. You will also be given a patient information leaflet written by the company who manufacture dexrazoxane.

It is important that you follow these instructions to minimise any discomfort or irritation this may cause.

A member of the chemotherapy nursing team will keep in touch with you on a regular basis to monitor your condition.

Call 01722 341930 if you:

- notice any changes at the site including increasing redness, pain, blisters, streaking down the arm, any signs of skin breakdown or swelling
- develop a temperature of more than 37.5°C
- have any questions, problems or concerns.

Special points:

- Do not apply any other lotion, cream or ointments unless instructed to do so by a doctor/nurse
- Do not expose the area to direct sunlight
- Avoid close fitting clothing that constricts the affected area
- Protect the area if it is to be immersed in water
- After showering dry the site gently. If you do take a bath avoid immersing the site in the water; a waterproof dressing may be required.
- Elevate the arm on a pillow whenever possible for a day.
- Take mild painkillers if necessary.

If you need your information in another language or medium (audio, large print, etc) please contact Customer Care on 0800 374 208 or send an email to: customercare@salisbury.nhs.uk

You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

Please complete The Friends & Family Test to tell us about your experience at: www.salisbury.nhs.uk/FriendsFamily or download our App from the Apple App store or Google Play Store.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk if you would like a reference list.

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Appointment day 2:

day 3: