

Azacitidine Re-suspension

Purpose

To assist nurses to re-suspend and administer Azacitidine in conjunction with the guidelines for the SC injection using the air sandwich technique on the Cytotoxic and Biotherapy web site

Scope/Audience

Registered nurses who have completed a minimum Level 2B of the CDHB Cytotoxic and Biotherapies credentialing programme.

Associated documents

- [CDHB Cytotoxic and Biotherapies Website](#)
- [Subcutaneous\(SC\) administration of Cytotoxic Medication using the Air Sandwich Technique](#)
- [CDHB Waste management Volume 12](#)
- [CDHB Spill Management Volume 12](#)

Guidance to assist to re-suspension of Azacitidine

- Azacitidine presents as a viscous, lumpy, cloudy suspension in a syringe on its arrival to the treatment area.
- Remove the Azacitidine from the fridge 30 minutes prior to the patient arriving as this will help with the re suspension process.
- Often the dose requires that two syringes are delivered with a 2.5cm space between the injection sites.
- To re-suspend vigorously roll each syringe between the palms of your hands until a uniform cloudy suspension is achieved within the syringe (there should be no large particles or clumping of the drug).
- Re-suspension must occur directly before the drug is administered.
- Prior to the administration of Azacitidine follow procedure for SC injection using the air sandwich technique
- Administer the SC injection using the air sandwich technique
- Ask the patient to remain for 30 minutes after administration (day one only) to observe for infusion related reaction/hypersensitivity.

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References

- 1 [Azacitidine Data Sheet Med safe NZ](#)
- 2 **Efficacy of Azacitidine:** Fenaux P, Lancet Oncology 2009;10:223-32-3
- 3 **Leaders in Pharmaceutical Business:** Kornblith AB, Journal of Clinical Oncology 2006,20:2241-52

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Procedure Authoriser	
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