



College of Pharmacists of Manitoba

200 Tache Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 1A7

Phone (204) 233-1411 | Fax: (204) 237-3468

E-mail: info@cphm.ca | Website: www.cphm.ca

WRHA Safe Handling of Hazardous Medication – Reference Documents

The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) Pharmacy Program and CancerCare MB have developed useful reference documents outlining safe handling protocols for hazardous medications. The [WRHA Hazardous Medication List](#) provides a current listing of both cytotoxic and non-cytotoxic medications. The [Safe Handling of Hazardous Medications poster](#) details the special handling procedures for receiving, preparation and administration used by WRHA and CancerCare staff but also may be helpful in community practice.

If a patient is unable to swallow a hazardous medication, the patient should contact the cancer clinic for advice on alternate dosage forms or if the medication can be safely manipulated to an acceptable form. The [Enteral Dosage Forms of Hazardous Medication chart](#) lists the oral dosage forms available for cytotoxic and non-cytotoxic medications. It also indicates if a medication can be compromised and through which method – *dissolve and dose* or *crush or dissolve and dose*. The WRHA has developed detailed instruction sheets for staff and patients on the proper procedures for each method. Specific procedures must be followed to protect the patient and others from topical or inhalation exposure to toxic powder. Any change in dosage form should be on the recommendation of the cancer clinic pharmacy however the community pharmacy should be made aware of the new directions and the process the patient is using.