**Purpose:**

To standardize treatment of acute infusion reactions at OHSU Infusion Clinics and on Inpatient Oncology Units ONLY

**Definitions:**

O$_2$sat: Oxygen saturation  
SBP: Systolic Blood Pressure  
IV: Intravenous  
IM: Intramuscular  
NS: Normal Saline (0.9% sodium chloride)  
Q5: every 5

**Guideline:**

See flow chart below
### Treatment Algorithm for Acute Infusion Reaction – Adult

Only for OHSU Infusion Clinics and Inpatient Oncology Units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>Mild</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Severe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Symptoms</td>
<td>- Flushing - Dizziness - Headache - Diaphoresis - Nausea - Fainting - Hypertension - Temperature &lt; 36°C or &lt; 100.4°F</td>
<td>Mild Symptoms plus - Chest discomfort (tightening, pressure) - Shortness of breath - Hypertension (&gt;20 point change in SBP) - Increased temperature (&gt;39°C or &gt;100.4°F) with rigors - Urticaria</td>
<td>Mild &amp; Moderate Symptoms plus - Hypertension (&gt;40 point change in SBP) - Shortness of breath (RR&gt;20, O₂ sat&lt;90%) with wheezing or stridor</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Mild

- **Study Protocol II.2 or sipuleucel-T (Provenge)***
  - **Yes**
    - Refer to Study Protocol and medication specific guidelines
  - **No**
    - Proceed to Grade 2

#### Moderate

- **Study Protocol II.2 or sipuleucel-T (Provenge)***
  - **Yes**
    - Refer to Study Protocol and medication specific guidelines
  - **No**
    - Step 1: Stop Infusion and Contact Provider
    - Step 2: Monitor vital signs and O₂ sat Q5 minutes until resolution of symptoms, second support to bed side (consider Step 3 simultaneously)
    - Resolution of symptoms?
      - **Yes**
        - Consult with provider to determine if infusion can be resumed
      - **No**
        - Proceed to Grade 3

#### Severe

- **Study Protocol II.2 or sipuleucel-T (Provenge)***
  - **Yes**
    - Stop Infusion; Refer to Study Protocol and medication specific guidelines
  - **No**
    - Step 1: Stop Infusion; Contact Provider; Activate Rapid Response Call 911. Second support to bed side. Maintain airway; give oxygen. Inhibit NS pulse per guidelines
    - Step 2: Monitor vital signs continuously
    - Resolution of symptoms?
      - **Yes**
        - Provider evaluation needed to determine next steps
      - **No**
        - Step 3: Administer Epinephrine 0.3 mg IM once
        - Resolution of symptoms?
          - **Yes**
            - Provider evaluation needed to determine next steps
          - **No**
            - Step 4: Administer Diphendyramine 50 mg IV once
            - Resolution of symptoms?
              - **Yes**
                - Provider evaluation needed to determine next steps
              - **No**
                - Step 5: Administer corticosteroid IV once Hydrocortisone 100 mg

**FOOTNOTES:**

sipuleucel-T (Provenge): Policy # HC-NSG-241: Chemotherapy Administration of Provenge (sipuleucel-T)

Interleukin-2: - Refer to treatment guidelines found within the Beacon protocol. - For true hypersensitivity reaction, provider should assess the patient and give nursing the approval to follow the "Treatment algorithm for acute infusion reaction."
RELEVANT REFERENCES:
N/A

RELATED DOCUMENTS/EXTERNAL LINKS:
N/A

TITLE, POLICY OWNER:
Oncology Sub-Committee of Pharmacy and Therapeutics
Pharmacy and Therapeutics

APPROVING COMMITTEE(S):
Oncology Sub-Committee of Pharmacy and Therapeutics
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FINAL APPROVAL:
Pharmacy and Therapeutics