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Authorizing Prescriber(s)

Respirologist(s) who work within the Durham Regional Cancer Centre Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic.

Authorized to Whom

Any Nurse Navigator (Registered Nurse) working in the Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic at Lakeridge Health and the Durham Regional Cancer Centre.

Co-implementers: Medical Radiation Technologists (MRTs) and Laboratory Technologists employed at Lakeridge Health.

Patient Description/Population

Any adult patient referred to the Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic prior to their first consultation or returning for a follow-up appointment at Lakeridge Health.

Order and/or Procedure

The order and or procedures are not presented in sequential order. Any one or combination may be selected.

- Laboratory tests
 - CBC, INR, PTT, LD, total protein
 - BNP (see Order Table Form)
- Diagnostic imaging
 - Chest X-ray: PA & lateral

Indications to the Implementation of the Directive

- Patient is referred to the Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic
- Patient who requires ongoing follow up for a malignant pleural effusion

Contraindications to the Implementation of the Directive

- Patient or their Substitute Decision Maker refuses to consent.
- Patient is pregnant or pregnancy is suspected.

Document Sponsor/Owner Group: (DRCC Quality Council, Date Approved Aug 23, 2024)

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Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic Investigations - Medical Directive

DRCC Quality Council Approved: 23AUG2024

Consent

The Malignant Pleural Effusion Nurse Navigator implementing the Medical Directive will obtain consent and document in the patient health record.

Consent will be obtained by telephone or in person with the patient or their Substitute Decision maker.

Documentation Requirements

In addition to standard documentation practices, including any required requisitions, the Malignant Pleural Effusion Nurse Navigator implementing the Medical Directive must ensure the following is documented in the patient's electronic health record:

- The order will be signed using the order mode of "per medical directive"
- The name of the Malignant Pleural Effusion Nurse Navigator will be the ordering provider
- The name of the MRP will be the authorizing provider
- The full name of this medical directive will be outlined in the comments section of the order (e.g. Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic Investigations - Medical Directive)

Review/Evaluation Process

The Medical Directive will be reviewed by the Malignant Pleural Effusion team every two years.

References

- Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology. (2015, July 29). *Practice standards*.
https://www.cano-acio.ca/page/practice_standards
- College of Nurses of Ontario. (2020). *Practice guideline: Directives*.
https://www.cno.org/globalassets/docs/prac/41019_medicaldirectives.pdf
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. (2021, March). *Delegation of Controlled Acts*.
<https://www.cpso.on.ca/Physicians/Policies-Guidance/Policies/Delegation-of-Controlled-Acts>
- Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, SO 1991, c 18.*



Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic Investigations - Medical Directive

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This table must **not** be used independently apart from the Medical Directive

Order Table Form

Order	Indication	Contraindication	Notes
Laboratory Procedures			
CBC, INR, PTT, LD, total protein	Any adult patient referred to the Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic prior to their first consultation or returning for a follow-up appointment at Lakeridge Health.		
BNP	Adult patients referred for pleural effusion due to Congestive Heart Failure	Adult patients referred for pleural effusion due to a known malignancy	
Chest X-ray: PA & LAT	Any adult patient referred to the Malignant Pleural Effusion Clinic prior to their first consultation or returning for a follow-up appointment at Lakeridge Health.		