



Ordering Specific Diagnostic Tests, Images, Scans and Procedures by Nurse Practitioner(s) in the Hematology Program of the Durham Regional Cancer Centre – Medical Directive

Harmonized

Medical Advisory Committee Approved: 22OCT2019

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Authorizing Prescriber(s)

Hematologists in the Durham Regional Cancer Centre

Authorized to Whom

Hematology Nurse Practitioner (NP) in the Hematology Program within the Durham Regional Cancer Centre who has completed a recognized university approved program and is registered in a specialty extended class with the College of Nurses of Ontario

Co-Implementers: Medical Radiation Technologists, Nurses, Medical Laboratory Assistants

Patient Description/Population

Outpatients and inpatients part of the hematology program in the Durham Regional Cancer Centre

Order and/or Procedure

The NP in the Durham Regional Cancer Centre by means of this medical directive will select and or implement the order for specific diagnostic tests, images, scans and procedures in order to:

- a) diagnose clinical problems
- b) provide surveillance
- c) assess the clinical response to treatment interventions
- d) rule out a potential diagnosis, or
- e) enable intervention of clinical concern

The medical radiation technologists, nurses and medical laboratory assistants providing care to a patient for whom the NP has selected the diagnostic tests, images, scans and procedures may be considered a co-implementer and proceed with the order as selected by the NP.

Please refer to Appendix A for details.

Indications to the Implementation of the Directive

- The NP and Physician partners will have a collaborative relationship and shared care philosophy

Document Sponsor/Owner Group: (Hematology Program, DRCC, Date Approved 06JUN2019)

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- Patients are part of the hematology program
- The NP will have reviewed the patient's record and completed an evaluation of the patient's status (history and physical examination)
- The NP has the knowledge and skill set to select the appropriate order and or perform the procedure
- Relevant clinical information will be provided on requisition upon implementing the directive

Contraindications to the implementation of the Directive

- Consent for diagnostic test or procedure has been declined by patient/substitute decision maker after rationale and potential benefits reviewed
- Intolerance to procedure
- Patient already had prior imaging or procedure for clinical indication

Consent

Prior to implementing the medical directive, the NP must obtain consent if the patient is capable of providing it. In an emergency situation, if the patient is not capable of providing consent, the NP may select the test or and administer treatment without consent if, in his or her opinion, all of the following are true:

- the patient is incapable with respect to the treatment;
- the patient is experiencing severe suffering or will be at risk if the treatment is not administered promptly; and
- it is not reasonably possible to obtain a consent or refusal on the person's behalf or the delay required to do so will prolong the suffering that the patient is experiencing or will put the patient at risk of suffering serious bodily harm

Documentation Requirements

Diagnostic test, intervention or procedure will be documented, including the date of ordering and the signature of the NP. Indication/rationale will also be documented.

Review/Evaluation Process

Medical directives will be reviewed biennially, or as required, by the hematology program.

References

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

Order Table Form

Order	Indication
CT – with or without contrast	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• diagnose or rule out infections in individuals with high risk febrile neutropenia with hematological malignancy if they have acute respiratory symptom(s), including cough, rhinorrhea, congestion or fever of unknown origin• in patients with non-neutropenic fevers of unknown origin or acute respiratory symptom(s), a CT will be ordered if a chest x-ray is non-contributory
Holter Monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• diagnose, investigate, or monitor arrhythmia• investigate unexplained syncope
Point of Care Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• investigate or monitor blood sugar
ECG in acute, urgent circumstances	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• arrhythmias• electrolyte disturbances• unexplained chest pain• increased TROP and CK• diagnose, investigate or monitor cardiac conditions
Multigated Acquisition (MUGA) Scan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• monitor cardiac function post chemotherapy• baseline cardiac measurement pre-chemotherapy