

Cancer treatment alert card

Information for patients

Carry this card with you at all times.

If you are unwell, show it to the receptionist at your GP or A&E and to any healthcare professional you meet, including ambulance staff. **This card will make sure you are seen immediately if needed.**

You have been given this card because your anti-cancer treatment can cause serious, life-threatening side effects.

Side effects that need urgent treatment

Call 999 if you have:

- chest pain
- difficulty breathing.

Call your 24-hour advice line immediately if you have any of these symptoms:

- feeling generally unwell
- shivery episodes or flu-like symptoms

- a temperature above 37.5°C
- a temperature below 36°C
- being sick (vomiting)
- diarrhoea (4 or more loose bowel movements in 24 hours)
- bleeding or unusual bruising
- swollen or painful legs
- a sore mouth that stops you eating or drinking.

For more information about important side effects and what to do, see:

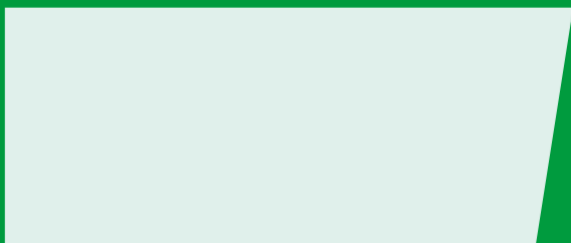
- the leaflet that comes with this card
- the Cancer Research UK booklet **Your cancer treatment record**
- any information you have been given by your healthcare team.



If you are on anti-cancer treatment and you feel unwell, always seek medical advice. Do this even if the symptoms are not mentioned here or in the leaflet.

The side effects section above is taken from the Cancer Research UK booklet **Your cancer treatment record** and is reused with permission.

24-hour advice line:



Information for healthcare professionals

This patient is on

- chemotherapy
- immunotherapy
- both

and is at risk of serious and life-threatening side effects. Please contact the treating / acute oncology team for more information – details below.

Chemotherapy (within the last 6 weeks)

If the patient is unwell and / or febrile (37.5° C or above) or has a low temperature (36° C or below) they are at **risk of neutropenic sepsis**. Follow the hospital's neutropenic sepsis protocol. **This is a medical emergency**. If neutropenic sepsis is suspected, **intravenous antibiotics must be given within 1 hour. Do not wait for blood results**. Consider risk of colitis, chemotherapy-related diarrhoea, or both.

Immunotherapy

(up to a year after administration)

Immune-related side effects may affect any organ and can vary in onset and severity. Any autoimmune toxicity can occur, including (but not limited to): colitis, dermatitis, skin rashes, renal toxicity, pneumonitis, endocrinopathies, hepatitis and uveitis. Side effects can occur up to a year after treatment. **Urgent assessment and intervention is required.**

Seek advice and consider steroids according to guidelines. Please contact the numbers below for management advice.



Health professional please call:

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