

How is chemotherapy prepared in the pharmacy?

How long does it take?

Steps 1 – 5 usually take about 1 hour for each chemotherapy drug. If your treatment includes more than one drug, preparation may take longer. The timing may also vary depending on prescription clarifications and safety checks.

Our priority is to ensure your treatment is prepared safely and accurately.

Pharmacy@NCIS prepares chemotherapy orders for all outpatient and inpatient, adult and paediatric patients with cancer. It is also responsible for cytotoxic drug orders for patients at NUH with non-cancer diagnoses.

1

Review of medication orders

Before your treatment is prepared, two pharmacists review your prescription to ensure the medication and dose are correct. This is an important safety step.



2

Preparing pre-medications

Pre-medications help prevent side effects such as nausea or allergic reactions. These medications are prepared and sent to the treatment area before your chemotherapy session.



Selecting the right medication

Pharmacists select the correct chemotherapy drugs and fluids based on your treatment plan and prescription.

3



4

Chemotherapy preparation

Your chemotherapy is individually prepared according to your prescribed treatment plan.

5

Quality Checks

Before your medications are released, pharmacists perform final safety checks to ensure it has been prepared accurately and safely.

