

CARE IN PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY



Care in Pediatric Oncology

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2024 Patricia Medeiros-Souza

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Presentation

Cancer treatment is long. The support of the professionals and family is very important in a moment like this. This booklet on care in pediatric oncology has been made in language which is accessible to the population, especially the child's or the adolescent's caretaker. Besides, all the relevant care which need to be fixed has been illustrated to call attention to important aspects such as vaccines the patient can and cannot take, the importance of keeping the vaccination card up to date, Transportation of antineoplastics, care in splitting, hand hygiene, how to take a shower. As for nutrition, we highlight how the shopping must be done, if the caretaker can buy food in bulk, ingestion of honey and recipes that can be made at home in a fun way to the child.

Terms such as caretaker as a detective have been used to incorporate the caretaker as na actor in the care of the child when reading the labels in boxes, paying attention to the temperature in which the food is conserved, the Transportation home, the integrity of the wrappings, observing adverse effects in children, practical orientations for the home including showering, dish washing, flushing, and other daily cares.

The chapter about adverse effects of the excipients, although in an accessible language, is dedicated to professionals. The excipients must be inert in the medications, but they can also be toxic. There has been a description of these excipients according to their route of administration and pharmaceutical form, so the professional can read which excipients in each medication he/she is going to prescribe and take precautions as for events such as allergies, activation of sexual hormones in children, and so toxicities by incapacity of metabolizing medications do not occur.

Nursing care was divided into the professional and patient aspects. The professional aspect includes additional relevant information from explanatory leaflets that can be used at nursing stations. Home nursing care focuses mainly on administering medications through feeding tubes.

Another highlighted chapter is about tablet splitting, which includes tables that guide the correct splitting of antineoplastic drugs to prevent home contamination.

The mother and child become active participants in cancer treatment, rather than mere spectators. They can identify and promptly report adverse events, helping to prevent complications arising from chemotherapy. The aim of the care is to provide guidance and prevent these events from occurring by communicating in a simple and cheerful way to encourage family cooperation. Combined with the efforts of the healthcare team, this collaboration works towards a happy outcome. This guide, by providing knowledge, enhances family safety, empowering them with the means to optimize their fight and, consequently, achieve victory. Everything was done with great care, with the help of a multidisciplinary team

composed of nutritionists, pharmacists, doctors, dentists, and nurses who work in the treatment of children with cancer.

The guide supports cancer treatment in children and takes the reader on a journey through various chapters. The care guidelines include nutrition, dentistry, nursing, tablet splitting, excipients, medication storage, hand hygiene, medication disposal, and vaccines. We made the technical terms as accessible as possible, with playful illustrations, to make this journey as interesting as possible. We hope you enjoy it.

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