

OPHTHALMIC MITOMYCIN C:

TOP TIPS FOR SAFE HANDLING, USE, AND DISPOSAL

Mitomycin C (MMC) is an antimetabolite used in ophthalmic procedures for its antifibrotic effect. MMC is a toxic and potentially hazardous chemotherapeutic drug that must be handled with care to protect healthcare providers and patients. The following steps are recommended to prevent injury and document appropriate use:

STORING OF MITOMYCIN C

Store MMC according to the manufacturer's directions.

PREPARING FOR MITOMYCIN C USE

Document the planned use of MMC on the operative consent.

Include the planned use of MMC in the preoperative time out.

Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment including gloves, mask, face shield and impervious gown. MMC should not be handled by anyone breastfeeding, pregnant or trying to conceive.

Check the expiration date.

Prepare the MMC according to the manufacturer's directions.

DOCUMENTING THE USE OF MITOMYCIN C

Document the following information on the O.R. record:

- Strength of MMC administered
- Amount of time MMC was administered
- Number of MMC saturated sponges placed in and removed from the patient's eye.
- Lot number from MMC package

DISPOSING OF MITOMYCIN C

Dispose of MMC container, soaked sponges, and surgical waste materials that have come in contact with MMC (gowns, gloves, patient drapes) in an appropriate chemotherapy disposal container.

HANDLING INSTRUMENTS USED WITH MITOMYCIN C

Restrict the instruments used to handle MMC sponges from use in other parts of the surgical procedure.

Rinse and clean instruments used to handle MMC prior to sterilizing them for use on a subsequent case. Consider using disposable instruments to handle MMC sponges.

ADMINISTERING MITOMYCIN C

Follow the steps for safe drug administration:

- Correct patient
- Correct drug
- Correct dose/strength
- Correct route/site
- Correct application time

Avoid exposure to unintended tissue.

Irrigate MMC copiously from the eye following administration.

MANAGING ACCIDENTAL RELEASE (SPILL) / HUMAN EXPOSURE

Prevent exposure with personal protective equipment including gloves and safety glasses.

Absorb the spill with paper or cloth.

Dispose of contaminated items in an appropriate chemotherapy disposal container.

Refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for specific first aid measures if human exposure occurs.

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