

# 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 Safety Data Sheet (SDS) formerly known as the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for specific first aid measures if human exposure occurs.

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