

Emergency Tackle Box: A New Approach to Hypersensitivity Reactions

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Background

- Hypersensitivity reactions to medications can manifest at any time during a patient's treatment, and can range from mild to severe.^{1,2}
- Oncology patients are at increased risk for developing hypersensitivity reactions due to increased exposure to antineoplastic medications.¹
- Hypersensitivity management at network locations require special considerations due to the limited access to resources such as RRT/ Dr. Cart, therefore nurse response time to reactions is critical.

Goal

- The purpose of this evidence-based project is to improve response times for hypersensitivity reactions within Orland Park Infusion Therapy (IVTH).

Methods

- To identify ways to improve response times for reactions, a literature search was performed
 - Keywords "Hypersensitivity," "chemotherapy," and "reaction management" in the CINAHL and PubMed databases.
 - Articles were evaluated for relevance and relationship to our purpose.
- Analysis of hypersensitivity reactions resulting in 9-11 calls before and after implementation was completed based on event reporting data.
- Survey of RNs post implementation conducted to evaluate kits effectiveness of the emergency tackle box

Results

Our literature search uncovered 10 articles; major themes include:

- Support for immediate treatment of hypersensitivity reactions
- Reasons for why lack of standardization increases risk of patients experiencing infusion related hypersensitivity reactions
- Consistent treatment recommendations for responding to hypersensitivity reactions
- Evidence for instituting infusion hypersensitivity protocol into nursing practice to improve response time for interventions

Analysis of Event Reports:

- In 2021 and 2022, 22 hypersensitivity events were reported for Orland Park IVTH, 7 of which resulted in 9-11 being called for patient.
- Thus far in 2023, three hypersensitivity reactions have been reported, none of which resulted in 911 being called for patient.

Figure 1: Emergency Kit Post-Implementation Survey Results

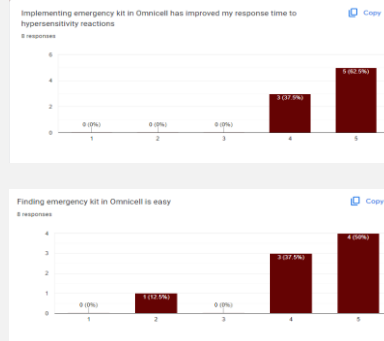
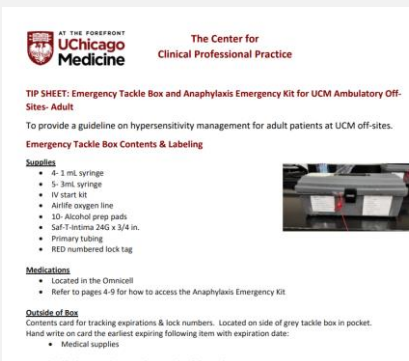


Figure 2: Tip Sheet for Emergency Tackle Box



Implications

- Findings suggest that RNs in IVTH are able to respond quickly emergent hypersensitivity reactions
- Increased RN confidence in hypersensitivity management
- RNs can find the emergency kit in the Omnicell easily
- Patient's able to be re-challenged- without calling 911

Next Steps

- Continue monitoring infusion reactions on a monthly basis within Orland Park IVTH
- Disseminate information to other network infusion sites which may have similar support structures for their own use and implementation if appropriate.
- Create a SIM experience to run through infusion reaction protocols, for new nurse onboarding/education

References

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2. Brant, J. M., Cope, D. G., & Saria, M. G. (2020). *Core Curriculum for Oncology Nursing* (6th ed.). Elsevier.
3. Addt Ref upon request.

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