

ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY EDUCATION



ORAL ONCOLOGY TREATMENT TERMS

Chemotherapy treatment cycle

A course of treatment that is repeated on a regular schedule with periods of rest between. For example, treatment for 2 weeks followed by 2 weeks of rest may be considered one treatment cycle.

Hormone therapy

This treatment affects hormone production. Hormones can cause certain cancers to grow (e.g., prostate and breast cancer). Hormones or other medicines may be given to block the body's natural hormones, helping to slow or stop the growth of cancer. It is also called endocrine therapy, hormonal therapy, and hormone treatment.

Medication adherence

The extent to which patients take medicines as ordered by healthcare providers

Oral chemotherapy

Treatment with medicines given by mouth to kill cancer cells or stop them from growing

Targeted therapy

This type of treatment uses medicine to identify and attack specific types of cancer cells. It may cause less harm to healthy cells.

There are many types of targeted therapies. Some block the action of certain enzymes, proteins, or molecules involved in the growth and spread of cancer cells. Other types help the immune system kill cancer cells or deliver toxic substances directly to cancer cells and kill them.

Targeted therapies may have fewer side effects than other types of cancer treatment.

Bibliography

National Cancer Institute. (n.d.). National Cancer Institute dictionary of cancer terms. Retrieved from <https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms>

Osterberg, L., & Blaschke, T. (2005). Adherence to medication. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 353, 487–497. <https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMr050100>