

Clare Disney (nurse): Hello, my name is Clare and this is a cancer day unit.

So when you arrive and you've reported into with the receptionist one of the nurses will call you through when your treatment is ready, sit you down and go through all the treatment with you.

Morning Iris my name is Clare, I am the nurse who is going to be looking after you today. We're going to start by putting a cannula in the back of your hand and giving you some anti sickness medication. And then I am going to come back to you and talk through the chemotherapy with you and the possible side effects you may experience throughout your treatment, is that ok?

Before you have each treatment you'll need to have a blood test to check your bloods are ok and you'll also be reviewed by one of the doctors to make sure you're fit and well for your treatment. Sometimes you'll have the blood test taken on the day of your treatment other times you'll have it the day before your treatment when you see the doctor.

Each chemotherapy is made up for each individual patient, depending on the type of cancer they have and where it is and depending their height, weight and blood results.

So, depending on where your cancer is some people have their chemotherapy drug, their cancer drug by drip, some will have an injection and other people will have tablets.

So, Iris your chemotherapy is going to be given to you in what we call cycles and the cycles are given every three weeks for a period of six cycles. So you will be coming in for approximately five months for your chemotherapy.

Depending on where your cancer is and what type of cancer you have will be dependent on how often you come in for treatment. An example of a treatment cycle would be for you to come in on Day 1, Day 8 and Day 15 then to have a week's break before you come back again for Day 1 treatment.

Depending on the type of treatment that you are having we will also give you some anti sickness tablets to take alongside your chemotherapy and also some drugs to prevent any reactions if that's appropriate.

All chemotherapy is given over different time periods so it's best to check with your nurse about how long you are likely to be in the unit for. This can range from anything up to an hour to an all day treatment slot so please be prepared to bring along some bits to keep you occupied books and music.

So, before you go home it's important to make sure you have got the tablets you need to go home with your anti sickness medications and any other symptom control tablets that you may require. Also, to make sure that you've got the telephone numbers for the oncology unit to phone if you have a temperature or you are experiencing any other symptoms at home that you need to ask advice about.

So, please make sure when you leave the unit that you've got all the information you require and if you've got any questions at all don't hesitate to ask the nurse who will be able to answer them for you.

Before your next cycle of treatment you will come in and see the doctor in the clinic room, you'll have a blood test and an examination to make sure you are fit and well for treatment you will then come back the following day or later on that week for treatment.