Title:	**Chemotherapy Drug Preparation Procedures**
Scope:	**Network**
Manual:	**Pharmacy Services Policies & Procedures**
Origination Date:	**4/1/1995**
Revision Dates:	**9/2003, 5/2014**
Review Dates:	**3/002, 4/2004, 5/2005, 6/2007, 6/2008, 06/2009, 06/2010, 06/2011, 06/2012, 06/2013, 06/2014, 06/2015, 06/2016, 08/2016**

I. Purpose:

N/A

II. Definitions:

N/A

III. Procedure

- Proper aseptic technique for patient safety is essential. Additional work techniques that must be followed to protect personnel are as follows:
- Hands must be washed thoroughly before donning gloves and after removing gloves.
- Any liquid remaining in the top of an ampule should be tapped down before the ampule is opened. When breaking the ampule top, a sterile gauze pad or cotton pledget should be wrapped around the ampule neck.
- Vials should be vented as necessary with a hydrophobic filter-needle unit to eliminate any existing or built-up pressure in the vial.
- When dissolving lyophilized powders contained in ampule, the diluent should be introduced slowly down the side of the ampule wall so as to wet the powder and prevent dusting.
- For vials, final solution volume measurement should be performed before removing the syringe needle from the vial stopper and after any pressure differential between the vial and syringe has been equalized.

- The volume of air or diluent or both injected into a vial should be the smallest amount that will dissolve the drug and permit removal of the solution. This will minimize pressure build-up within the vial.
- Used needles and syringes should not be recapped before disposal. They should not be clipped or crushed after use. They should be placed in an appropriate disposal system. Only extra large sharp containers should be used. Use one container per shift or until three quarters full - lightly close between use.
- Syringes used should be large enough so that they are never more than three-fourths full, but are small enough to measure the contents with acceptable accuracy. Pharmacy is allowed to round the dose to the nearest available vial size if ordered dose is within 5%
- The external surface of the final I.V. container should be wiped with alcohol prior to removal from the vertical flow hood.
- Eating, drinking, smoking, application of cosmetics or similar activities are not permitted in or directly outside of the work area.
- The plastic-backed absorbent drape should be exchanged whenever significant spillage occurs, or at the end of each production sequence.
- Access to the compounding area must be limited to only necessary authorized personnel.
- Contaminated waste must be segregated from other waste materials, using the appropriate hazardous waste containers.
- All potentially contaminated garments must not be worn outside the work area.
- The Pharmacy Department shall maintain a centrally located information system concerning chemotherapy drugs, their properties, and side effects.

Joint Commission: MM 05.01.07

IV. Attachments

N/A

V. References

N/A

VI. Policy Responsibility

Allentown	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision

Anderson	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision
Bethlehem	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision
Miners	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision
Monroe	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision
Quakertown	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision
SLWEEC	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision
Warren	Pharmacy and Therapeutics	Development/Review/Revision

VII. Disclaimer Statement

Clinical Practice Guidelines are primarily developed through an evidence-based approach, utilizing recommendations for clinical guideline development. Adherence to these guidelines is considered to be voluntary, unless expressly stated otherwise.

VIII. Approval

Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee annually.