

# Reduction of Patient's Waiting Time for Preparation of Anticancer Agents at an Ambulatory Chemotherapy Room

Sumiyoshi HATANO, Hisamitsu TAKASE, Ai KUBOTA,  
Masanobu UCHIYAMA , Akiko YOSHIKUMI , Kentaro OGATA,  
Atsushi WASHIYAMA, Shuji HARA and Koujiro FUTAGAMI

*Department of Pharmacy , Fukuoka University Hospital*

**Abstract :** Recently, the use of anticancer regimens that require time for aseptic preparation, such as the FOLFOX regimen for colon cancer has increased. Usually, such regimens are dispensed in the order that they have been requested, however, this may increase the waiting time of patients who are at the end of the waiting list, and measures to shorten this waiting time are needed. However, as changes in the preparation procedures of anticancer agents may increase the risk of dispensation errors, a careful evaluation is necessary before any procedural changes are made. In this study, we evaluated a method in which a special container is prepared for the mixing of each drug, and the drug that is administered first to a patient is prepared first to safely and flexibly dispense any duplicate requests by adjusting the order of requests. The preparation procedure was also revised to transfer drugs into a safety cabinet for the mixing of each preparation. By implementing these changes in the preparation method and procedures, the waiting time of the patients at the end of the waiting list could therefore be significantly reduced without affecting the treatment for any patients already at the top of the waiting list. This also contributed to the more efficient use of the beds which are available in the Ambulatory Chemotherapy Room.

**Key words :** Anticancer Agents, Waiting Time, Preparation Method, Flexibly Dispensing Regimens