

## Other help and advice

There are a number of services and programs to assist you along the cancer journey, the chemotherapy team will discuss with you services available to assist with anything from treatment side effects to travel or financial concern; please ask them if you would like further information on the following:

Cancer Helpline- 131120

Breast care nurse- 50339202

Cancer Care Coordinator / Resource Centre-50339201  
To assist patients and families through the complex and difficult journey of a cancer diagnosis. Providing the latest up to date resources on any questions you may have.

Look Good Feel Better - 50339202  
The Look Good Feel Better Program offers support and practical help with make-up, hair design etc, to help minimise some of the side effects of the chemotherapy treatment.

Oncology Rehabilitation—50339390  
Is an exercise program designed to reduce many common cancer treatment side effects, such as fatigue and improve quality of life.

Social Workers are available to help clients and there families solve and cope with problems in there everyday lives.

Palliative Care is specialised care for someone living with a life threatening or life limiting illness, there goal is to improve quality of life for patient and families by assessing care needs.

Please do not hesitate to ask staff any questions about the treatment you are receiving or any services that maybe available to assist.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

#### Chemotherapy Department

Swan Hill District Health

**Address:** 48 Splatt Street

Swan Hill

**Phone:** (03)50339480

**Web:** [www.shdh.org.au](http://www.shdh.org.au)

#### After Hours

In case of an emergency please contact the emergency department or phone 000



## Chemotherapy

Open Tuesday-Friday

7.30am-4.00pm

## About the unit

The Chemotherapy Unit is located immediately behind the Dialysis Unit. Access to the Unit from the Splatt Street entrance can be made simply by progressing down the main corridor of the Hospital and following the signs.

### STAFFING OF THE UNIT

The Unit is staffed by Nurses, who have undergone *specialised training* in the administration of chemotherapy. They are a group of dedicated and caring professionals committed to providing the best possible care for our patients. They will assist you with your treatments.

### CONTACTING THE SERVICE

Clients can contact the Chemotherapy Service during our normal opening hours, Tuesday—Friday, 7:30 am - 4.00 p.m.

Our Phone number is (03) 5033 9480.

### AFTER HOURS CONTACT

Should you need to seek advice after hours, please contact the Emergency Department on 5033 9231. Staff of the Emergency Department will provide you with any necessary medical advice.

If you require urgent care: Call an Ambulance or attend Swan Hill District Health Emergency Department.

## What to expect

### Chemotherapy Treatment

On the day of your treatment, you can have your usual breakfast and any medication that you usually take unless advised by the Oncologist.

Your chemotherapy will usually be given in the morning, the length of time to administer will depend on your treatment plan as ordered by your oncologist.

You will have a blood test before each course of treatment commences, to check your blood levels. Treatments are usually given by intravenous drip into your vein or you may have had a port or PICC line inserted prior to treatment.

The nurses will explain any possible side effects and how to manage them. The Doctor will provide you with any prescriptions you may need for medication to reduce side effects from your treatment. Please tell us about all tablets including vitamins and natural therapies you maybe taking.

You must be careful with your hygiene and protect yourself from any infections. Please avoid people that are unwell.

If you have a temperature above **38 DEGREES** celsius or feel unwell contact the emergency department immediately for advice.

### PARKING

Parking is available in High Street. On Street parking is available around the Hospital, however, time limits do apply.

### Oncologist Visits

Visiting oncologist operate out of 28 High Street once per month along with Telehealth being provided at 60 McRae street, for clients each week.

## Before you leave the Chemotherapy unit

**Before you leave the Chemotherapy Unit you need to arrange with the Nurse;**

- **Your next appointment date and time**
- **When any tests are due**

**Some tests may need to be completed between your visits to the Chemotherapy Service.**