

Cytotoxic and Cytostatic Medicines

Cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines are medicines that are either toxic, carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction. They include:

- most hormonal preparations
- some anti-viral drugs
- many antineoplastic agents
- immuno suppressants
- some antibiotics



A list of recognised cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines is provided in our guidance which pulls extracts from Safe Management of Healthcare Waste and the Environment Agency. The lists are not comprehensive so you should refer to the medicine safety data sheet to check if any of the properties above are present.

Source: Safe Management of Healthcare Waste

List of non-chemotherapy cytotoxic/cytostatic drugs

Product approved name

Anastrozole

Azathioprine

Bicalutamide

Chloramphenicol – classified as a category 2A carcinogen
and as such will include eye drops with a concentration of
0.1% (the legal threshold in waste legislation)

Ciclosporin

Cidofovir

Coal tar containing products

Colchicine

Danazol

Diethylstilbestrol

Dinoprostone

Dithranol containing products

Dutasteride

Estradiol

Exemestane
Finasteride
Flutamide
Ganciclovir
Gonadotrophin, chorionic
Goserelin
Interferon containing products (including peginterferon)
Leflunomide
Letrozole
Leuprorelin acetate
Medroxyprogesterone
Megestrol
Menotropins
Mifepristone
Mycophenolate mofetil
Nafarelin
Oestrogen containing products
Oxytocin (including syntocinon and syntometrine)
Podophyllyn
Progesterone containing products
Raloxifene
Ribavarin
Sirolimus
Streptozocin
Tacrolimus
Tamoxifen
Testosterone
Thalidomide
Toremifene
Trifluridine
Triptorelin

Valganciclovir

Zidovudine

Cancer chemotherapy drugs

Product approved name

Aldesleukin

Alemtuzumab

Amsacrine

Arsenic trioxide

Asparaginase

Bleomycin

Bortezomib

Busulphan

Capecitabine

Carboplatin

Carmustine

Cetuximab

Chlorambucil

Cisplatin

Cladribine

Cyclophosphamide

Cytarabine

Dacarbazine

Dactinomycin

Daunorubicin

Dasatinib

Docetaxel

Doxorubicin

Epirubicin

Estramustine

Etoposide

Fludarabine

Fluorouracil
Gemcitabine
Gemtuzumab
Hydroxycarbamide
Idarubicin
Ifosfamide
Imatinib mesylate
Irinotecan
Lomustine
Melphalan
Mercaptopurine
Methotrexate
Mitomycin
Mitotane
Mitoxantrone
Oxaliplatin
Paclitaxel
Pentamidine
Pentostatin
Procarbazine
Raltitrexed
Rituximab
Temozolomide
Thiotepa
Topotecan
Trastuzumab
Vidaradine
Vinblastine
Vincristine

Other Resources: BNF <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/treatment-summaries/cytotoxic-drugs/>