

ORAL SYSTEMIC THERAPY PRACTICE GUIDE
Dose Verification for Cancer Medications

Patient Name: _____ Completed By: _____

Some cancer medications are dosed for patients based upon the weight or body surface area (BSA) of the patient. Community pharmacists are responsible to ensure that the dosing is correct as drugs are dispensed. While the height, weight and/or BSA may be recorded on the prescription form, the pharmacist or technician can easily check these measurements. Human errors can be made anywhere, including the cancer clinic, so there is no harm to double-checking (don't ask the patient for their height and weight- measure them yourself).

- You can use a cloth measuring tape to measure height. Measure the height in cm.
- Use a domestic scale to measure the patient's weight. Measure the weight in kg.
- Compare the BSA and dose calculations from your measurements to those on the prescription. If your findings are within 10% of the ordered dose(s), the prescription is alright. If your calculations are 10% or more different, you should contact the prescriber to ensure correct dosing.

Record your measurements below (manual calculations or automated calculations):

Height= _____ cm Weight= _____ kg BSA (if written on the prescription)= _____ m²
If height and weight not given, measure patient during pharmacy visit

Formula for BSA Calculation

$$BSA (m^2) = \sqrt{\frac{ht (cm) \times wt (kg)}{3600}}$$

Calculation: $BSA = \sqrt{\frac{\text{_____ cm} \times \text{_____ kg}}{3600}} = \text{_____ m}^2$

Relative dosing: _____ mg/ m² = _____ mg

Dose ordered on prescription = _____ mg Difference = _____ %