SOLUTION GUIDE

intuvie™

Combating a health crisis together

Empowering cancer patients by expanding their treatment options and settings

Overview

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), cancer is the second leading cause of death globally, accounting for an estimated 9.6 million deaths in 2018.[1] It is a disease that can affect any part of the body and can be life-threatening. For these reasons among others, cancer is considered a healthcare crisis.

Cancer has a significant economic impact on healthcare systems, individuals, and society as a whole. The cost of cancer treatment can be very high, and it can lead to financial difficulties for patients and their families. Moreover, cancer can have a significant impact on the quality of life of patients, and their loved ones, as well as their productivity, and overall well-being.

As a result of this crisis, cancer is commanding significant attention—namely investments, research, and ongoing efforts to prevent, diagnose, and treat the disease effectively. While progress has been made, there is still much left to do.

Exploring treatment availability

Cancer treatment requires a comprehensive and individualized approach that may involve surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, or other conventional treatments. These treatments have been extensively studied and have been proven to be effective in treating cancer.

Cancer can be treated in various ways depending on the type and stage of the cancer, as well as the patient's overall health and preferences.

Over 1.9 million

New cancer cases in the United States in 2021, according to the American Cancer Society.[2]

33%

Decrease in cancer death rate from 1991 to 2020, due to advancements in treatment, early disease detection, and smoking reductions.[2]

1. World Health Organization. (n.d.). Cancer Overview. World Health Organization, from https://www.who.int/health-topics/cancer
2. American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2021. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2021.

Additionally, there are complementary or integrative therapies in cancer treatment, such as traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) and Ayurveda. However, there is limited scientific evidence to support the use of these therapies as primary cancer treatments.

Types of chemotherapy treatment

Chemotherapy is a type of cancer treatment that uses drugs to destroy cancer cells. It can be used in several different ways, including:

Adjuvant chemotherapy: this type of chemotherapy is given after surgery to kill any remaining cancer cells and lower the risk of the cancer returning.

Neoadjuvant chemotherapy: this type of chemotherapy is given before surgery to shrink the tumor and make it easier to remove.

Palliative chemotherapy: this type of chemotherapy is given to relieve symptoms and improve quality of life in patients with advanced cancer.

Curative chemotherapy: this type of chemotherapy is given with the goal of curing the cancer.

Chemotherapy drugs work by targeting rapidly dividing cells, which includes cancer cells. However, they can also affect healthy cells that divide quickly, such as hair follicles and cells in the digestive tract, which can lead to side effects.

Chemotherapy drugs can be given in several ways, including:

Intravenous (IV) Injection
The drugs are injected directly into a vein.

Oral
The drugs are taken by mouth.

Topical
The drugs are applied directly to the skin.

Injection into a body cavity
The drugs are injected into a body cavity, such as the abdomen.

Choosing infusion treatments

A common delivery for chemotherapy drugs is intravenous directly into the bloodstream. This allows the drugs to quickly reach the cancer cells throughout the body. The decision to give chemotherapy intravenously depends on several factors, such as the type and stage of cancer being treated, the specific chemotherapy drugs being used, the patient's overall health, and the goals of treatment.

Intravenous chemotherapy is often given in outpatient settings such as oncology clinics or hospital infusion centers. Some infusion therapies like 5-FU (5-fluorouracil) for colorectal, stomach, and pancreatic cancers are best administered using an ambulatory pump over several days or weeks—allowing the

The main treatment options for cancer

Surgery: the surgical removal of cancerous tumors or tissues.
Radiation therapy: the use of high-energy radiation, such as X-rays or proton beams, to kill cancer cells and shrink tumors.
Chemotherapy: the use of drugs that target and kill rapidly dividing cancer cells.
Immunotherapy: boosts the patient's immune system to help fight cancer cells.
Hormone therapy: a treatment used to block the hormones that fuel certain types of cancer, such as breast and prostate cancer.
Targeted therapy: drugs that target specific molecules involved in the growth and spread of cancer cells.
Stem cell transplant: replaces the patient's diseased bone marrow with healthy stem cells.

patient to maintain daily activities.

Quality of life & therapy settings

Chemotherapy infusion treatments can take place in a variety of settings, and will be used depending on many factors - prioritizing the most effective treatment for the patient while balancing that with quality of life impact.

Oncology infusion centers

An oncology infusion center is a specialized medical facility that provides chemotherapy treatments, including intravenous (IV).The infusion center typically consists of several private rooms or open bays, where patients receive their treatments while seated in a comfortable chair or recliner. These centers are focused on chemotherapy only, and are operated with efficiency to make the infusion services highly cost effective. Products distributed by Intuvie—namely the Z-800 series—are commonplace in these centers. These centers provide a comfortable and convenient alternative to hospital-based infusion therapy.

Ambulatory infusion centers

The Z-800 series can also be found at ambulatory infusion centers (AIC). These medical facilities provide outpatient infusion therapies outside of the traditional hospital setting, typically done over a short period (1-3 hours) instead of during a lengthy or overnight hospital stay. While AICs typically deliver many infusion therapies, chemotherapy is among them. The centers may look and feel exactly the same as oncology infusion centers.

Home infusion

Home infusion for chemotherapy typically used for patients who require ongoing infusion therapy, such as 5-FU, delivered over several days. The advantages of home infusion are increased comfort and convenience for the patient, reduced risk of exposure to hospital-acquired infections, and potentially lower healthcare costs. Products distributed by Intuvie—namely Nimbus II—are suited for home infusion because of their lightweight and battery-powered design.

Combating cancer moving forward

Advances in chemotherapy and other cancer treatments will continue at a rapid pace. So too will advances in therapy delivery techniques like infusion. As these innovations take place, Intuvie is committed in providing products that foster the necessary therapy advancements and facilitate making the patient experience more convenient through the capabilities of ambulatory infusion pumps.

Intuvie is a leading provider in infusion systems and accessories in alternate care settings. We provide products that are designed with a single objective in mind—to simplify the infusion experience for both patients and clinicians. Our product portfolio addresses many facets of infusion therapy delivered at clinics and at home.

Intuvie products are used in many therapy settings, including oncology infusion centers, ambulatory infusion centers, and patients' home.

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