

# DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR SAFE HANDLING OF ONCOLYTIC VIRUSES

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## What was done?

Development of a standardized working procedure for the safe handling considerations, storage requirements, and modes of administration of oncolytic viruses (OV) in patients with cancer.

## Why was it done?



- The increasing number of clinical trials with OV implies **coordination** between the different departments involved
- Prescription and preparation. Dose and volume of OV can depend on the **tumor size**
- Special **storage** conditions
- Special **safety measures** to prevent cross-contamination and technician exposure
- Special **transport** conditions
- Safe **administration** in special conditions, for example, intralesional infusion by the radiologist

## How was it done?

- ✓ Multidisciplinary team to **standardize procedures**, in order to avoid errors
- ✓ Pharmacist **validates the prescription volume** reflected on the certified sheet according to the tumor size
- ✓ Pharmacy technician removes the OV vials from the **freezer at -80°C**
- ✓ **Schedule OV preparation**. Avoid cross-contamination with the chemotherapy. OV preparation at 7 a.m. in Biological safety cabinet class II (BSC), which must be cleaned and ventilated one hour before starting again to work
- ✓ OV preparation is packaged in a special **hermetic box**
- ✓ **Safety administration** to avoid the radiology room contamination

## What has been achieved?

By using these procedures, it is possible to work with a single BSC, avoiding delays in the administration of other therapies while reducing the risk of mistakes.

## What next?

- Pharmacists play an important role in the development of new procedures for preparation, administration and management of the OV. This protocol can be useful for other centers due to lack of experience and standardized guidelines for working with this type of therapy.

