BC Cancer Agency
CARE & RESEARCH

Checklists

MODULE 2

APPENDIX 1

Includes Step-by-Step Procedures and Techniques for the Safe Handling and Checking of Hazardous Drugs

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Using an Inspection Light Box to Check the Final Parenteral Product for Particulate Matter

ACTIVITY/STANDARD
Prepared sterile products are individually inspected for evidence of visible particulates or other foreign matter after compounding, as a condition of release. Refer to BCCA Pharmacy Directive III-50-03: Final Check of Sterile Preparations. ➢ To examine the contents of a drug-filled container (e.g., infusion bag, syringe, INFUSOR™) for particulate matter: o Grip the drug-filled container at the top; hold about four inches below the fluorescent light and gently invert the container or swirl the contents in a circular motion ensuring that air bubbles are not introduced (avoid shaking or vigorous motion) o Hold the drug-filled container in front of the BLACK background first for about 5 seconds while examining the contents for particulate o Repeat the procedure in front of the WHITE background ➢ A magnifying glass may be used for closer inspection ➢ *If particulates or other foreign matter or a visual defect is identified the compounded sterile product will not be dispensed and a new product will be prepared. ***Note:*** ➢ Particulate matter if present usually remains at an even level, or slowly falls ***Exception**: certain drugs may contain a small amount of easily visible, white, amorphous particulates (e.g., cetuximab). Refer to the Chemotherapy Preparation and Stability chart to determine if white particulate may be expected. If small white particulates are identified in these preparations, it may be dispensed and administered to the patient using a low protein binding 0.22 micron in-line filter.