HOW TO AVOID MEDICATION ERRORS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS IN CHEMOTHERAPY

PRESCRIPTION 1
- Standardized chemotherapy form
- Use electronic devices
- No handwriting

PATIENT ACCESS 2, 3
- Verify patient ID
- Get consent for drug application from patient
- Use checklists

PREPARATION 4, 5
- Highlight containers of drugs with “look-alike, sound-alike” names
- Check if chemotherapy orders are consistent with protocol
- Review and recalculate chemotherapy doses
- Ensure clear labeling of vials and syringes
- Use barcode system

APPLICATION 5, 6
- Wear personal protective equipment
- Use safety supporting technology (bar coding, smart pumps, port systems)

Sources:
1 Hartel M J et al, BMC Health Serv Res 2011;11:199.
3 LeFebvre KB et al, Clinical journal of oncology nursing; 2016;20(3).