



Photopheresis and Dendritic Cell Therapy

Welcome to photopheresis at CHIPSA Medical Center and Gerson Hospital.

We hope that your stay with us will be a positive and pleasant experience.

The photopheresis program at CHIPSA was introduced in the Autumn of 2005 by its developers. It is an extension of CHIPSA's integrative management for cancer and other chronic and degenerative diseases. Photopheresis is a powerful new tool in the treatment of both cancer and autoimmune diseases.

This publication will introduce you to photopheresis/dendritic cell therapy and the practical aspects of our policies and procedures.

The following is covered:

Treatment Procedure

Drug Information
Medical Apheresis Protocol
Additional Therapy
Prescriptions and Tests
Supportive Services

Precautions
Scheduling

Transportation, Lodging and Directions
Billing Procedures

Contact Information

The Treatment Procedure

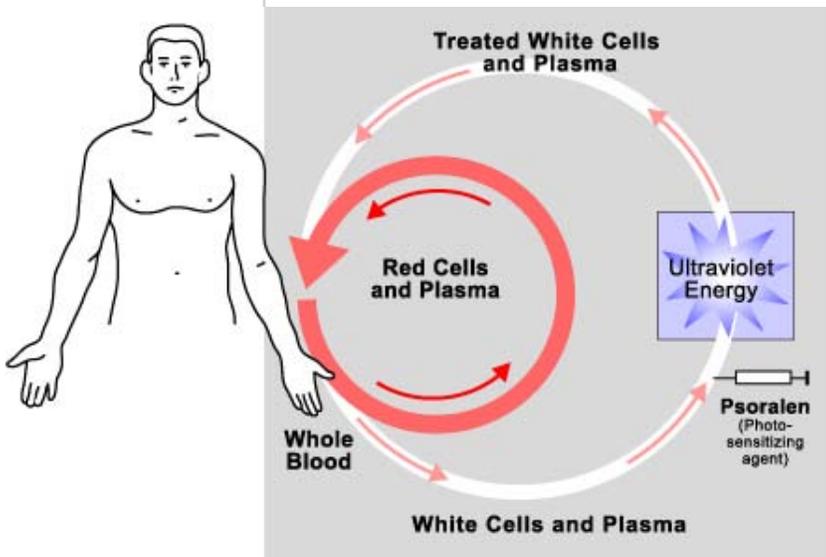
Photopheresis / Dendritic Cell treatment spans 3 consecutive days. The evening of the first day, a priming injection of Coley's mixed bacterial vaccine is given. The morning of the second day, a central line will be placed and you will be given a dose of psoralen, a photo-sensitizing agent, 2 hours prior to photopheresis. On the third day, 24 hours later, you will receive, by intravenous and subcutaneous transfusion, hundreds of millions of your own newly created disease-fighting dendritic cells.

During the treatment you will be resting comfortably. Your vital signs will be monitored. Your central line will be connected to an ultraviolet generator which is, in turn, connected to a Baxter CS 3000 Plus cell separator. This makes it possible to passate several liters

of your blood, to activate the psoralen with UV light, to capture millions upon millions of monocytes for culture into dendritic cells, and to return all but about 1 cup of your blood, undamaged, to your body.

This part of the treatment is remarkably free from side effects, and often improves one's subjective experience.

Your captured mononuclear white cells are cultured overnight with GM-CSF (a growth factor) to speed their conversion into cells that will begin to completely reprogram your immune system, attack pathogens, and trigger your lymphocytes to fight disease.



The physical stresses placed on monocytes during passage through acrylic components of the cell separator cause them to morph into dendritic cells, which are now known to be the body's only professional antigen-presenting cells. Antigens are the protein markers on the surface of the pathogen, i.e., cancer cells, bacteria. The job of dendritic cells is to eat pathogens, dissolve them, travel to the nearest lymph node, call the correct lymphocytes (naive cytotoxic CD-8 T cells), dock with them and push the antigens into them. This, in turn, triggers a clonal expansion of disease-fighting lymphocytes that know the address of the disease. Lymphocytes attack the disease and, while destroying it, create specialized memory cells that make you immune to recurrence of the disease.

You will be constantly attended during your procedure by medical professionals who have received specialized technical training and have logged many years of experience with the Baxter cell separator.

Drug Information

The drug psoralen is taken orally at least 2 hours prior to photopheresis in order to be certain that it is completely absorbed into tissue and pathogens before the treatment begins.

Supportive Services

If needed, you shall have access to social and pastoral services. Also our trained staff can answer your questions regarding your comfort. Ask your nurse for assistance and we will address your needs.

Medical Apheresis Protocol

Before your photopheresis treatments begin, you will be seen by our physicians and nurses, who will conduct a history and physical, laboratories, and an electrocardiogram to be certain that you are able to tolerate insertion of your central line. Your blood chemistries and counts will be repeated as required to monitor them for your safety and in order to optimize treatment for your benefit. Each procedure will be explained to you; however, you are encouraged to ask questions.

It is appropriate for you to maintain contact with your other physicians. Our photopheresis group will focus on your chief complaint. If you have other medical problems, they should continue to be managed by your customary physicians. Should you require other medical specialties,

we will be pleased to make the arrangements. If you need any data communicated to your other physicians, provide us with their name, addresses, telephone and fax numbers.

Additional Therapy

In addition to the photopheresis therapy, your physician may prescribe treatments that work in combination with it and amplify its effectiveness. The most important integrative treatment is nutritional immunotherapy with detoxification. Other disease-specific drugs or treatments may be recommended according to your individual needs.

Prescriptions and Tests

We will provide prescriptions for all medications required for your ongoing treatment. If you are running short of medication, feel free to call CHIPSA for a refill. We will fill and ship your order to you. Some US pharmacies are will cooperate to help you refill prescriptions. If your pharmacy is willing, please supply us with their telephone number and we will call in your prescriptions.

Additional medical tests that your physician may prescribe for you can be performed at our facilities, or at any institution that is more convenient for you. Please let us know and we will help to make the appropriate arrangements.

Precautions

Psoralen greatly increases your sensitivity to ultraviolet (UV) light. It is therefore very important that, during the first 24 hours after a treatment, you protect yourself against sunlight. To prevent sunburns, it is important that you avoid exposure as much as possible. If you must go outside during strong sunlight, cover your skin as much as possible and use a strong sun-blocking agent (a sunscreen) with a SPF of 15 or higher. Appropriate sunscreens can be purchased in your local supermarket or pharmacy without a prescription. You are also encouraged to wear sunglasses when exposed to bright sunlight.

After the treatment, your central line will be flushed with heparin and sterile water. This is done in order to keep your catheter clean and clear for multiple uses. Proper care and maintenance of your catheter is essential to avoid infections and to give your catheter a long life.

During the treatment, while your blood is going through the instrument, a blood-thinning agent (citrate) is dripped into the circuit to prevent coagulation. Citrate is not a drug and has no lasting effects.

After your dendritic cell injections, a small amount of blood or fluid may continue to leak from needle sites. If that happens, apply pressure until it stops. While there is no great danger with such small bleeds, it is important that you avoid unnecessary risks for injuries that may result in cuts or scrapes. If accident-induced bleeding occurs, apply pressure. If it does not stop, go to the nearest emergency room. Explain the situation to them and have them contact us. Or call 911 for help.

With any procedure that involves removing blood from the bloodstream, a drop in blood pressure can occur. This can happen, but it is very rare, and the medical staff can easily correct the situation. Whenever a procedure involves placing a needle into a vein, bleeding, damage to veins, small collections of blood in the tissue surrounding the vein causing bruising (hematoma), or infections can occur, but these, too, are uncommon.

Scheduling

As previously mentioned, the photopheresis treatments always require two or more consecutive days. Your physician will prescribe a cycle of treatments specifically for you. They can be given as frequently as three per week, or at other intervals. As you improve, an extended-care home program will be designed. We will provide you frozen packets of dendritic cells for several months. It is very important that you let us know as far in advance as possible with scheduling problems. We will attempt to adjust the schedule to your preference while following the doctor's recommendations. In an emergency situation or if your appointment conflicts with other important appointments, call us as soon as possible and we will make an attempt to reschedule. If you cannot keep an appointment, call us at your earliest convenience. Our telephones are connected to 24-hour voicemail (877-424-4772).

Transportation, Lodging and Directions

When traveling to CHIPSA, we advise that you use the hospital's shuttle service for transport into Mexico from San Diego to the CHIPSA facilities. Please contact Patient Services at 877-424-4772 and request for our CHIPSA Shuttle Service. We provide a "courtesy shuttle" for your visit with all who visit us.

There are several hotels in the area that provide a discount for CHIPSA Hospital outpatients and we will be happy to provide access. Our hospital also provides room and board for a modest fee based on room availability. The CHIPSA Medical Center provides lodging for companions at low rates a patient's friend or visiting spouse. Remember to let us know if or when you need lodging for a relative, or if you intend to bring along a friend. We will be happy to assist you.

We are committed to facilitating your medical treatment at CHIPSA Hospital by arranging transportation needs from the San Diego community area to our hospital facilities.

- Please attempt to arrange to arrive on a weekday, if possible.
- Book your flight to the San Diego's Lindbergh International Airport (call for assistance)
- Upon your arrival, proceed to the Traveler's Aid Desk near your baggage claim area.
- A driver will meet you with a CHIPSA sign at the Lindbergh Airport's Traveler Aid Desk.
- Let us know if a wheel chair, oxygen or other special care circumstances are needed.

Billing Procedures

It is important that prior to your first treatment, you speak with the Patient Service representative at the CHIPSA front desk located inside the entrance to the hospital in Baja California, Mexico, to understand your costs, and to sign-off on our HIPAA privacy policy.

The staff in the CHIPSA office will be able to answer most of your questions. They will also be able to help you with any questions you may have about the actual bill.

CHIPSA will contact a medical (insurance) claims entity and will assist you in obtaining approval when necessary. However, it may be necessary for you to pay for your entire treatment before protocols can begin.

A comprehensive bill from CHIPSA will also cover the charges for the actual treatments, laboratory tests, diagnostics, and all extra required procedures. A service charge for the physician fees will come from the CHIPSA Hospital as a separate line item. You will receive several charges, yet only one bill.

Remember to bring issues to Patient Services whenever you have questions.

Feel free to call us concerning costs. We do our best to address payment solutions.

Contact Information

Feel free to call Patient Services at our main office number: **(877) 424-4772**

Photopheresis Program is open Monday through Saturday from 7:30 until 4 PM.

We will always be closed on holidays and every weekend.

Our phones are connected to voicemail that will answer phones if we are not available. Please leave us a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

CHIPSA

Gerson Medical Center

670 Colonia Jardines del Sol
Playas Tijuana, Mexico, C.P. 22700

CHIPSA US-Mail

PO Box 1850, Chula Vista, CA 91912

patientservices@chipsa.com
infoservices@chipsa.com
admissions@chipsa.com

<http://www.chipsa.com>

Photopheresis Program:

CHIPSA Hospital: **011-52 (664) 680-2902**

CHIPSA FAX: **011-52 (664) 680-2908**

Patient Services: **(877) 424-4772**

Information Services: (800) 759-2966

Gar Hildenbrand, Clinical Epidemiology

Gilberto Lopez, Attending Physician

Raul Morales, Hematology/Oncology

FOR ANY LOCAL EMERGENCY CONTACT YOUR PHYSICIAN,
GO TO YOUR LOCAL EMERGENCY ROOM OR CALL 911.

If you need to contact us in an emergency, call the main hospital number at (877) 424-4772 and ask for Patient Services. Explain to the representative that you have an emergency and ask to have the Resident on-call contacted.

Patient Checklist

Medical Records: (If not available, do not delay arrival. CHIPSA will send for records)

- Pathology reports
- Current lab test results
- Surgical summary
- Discharge summaries
- Any radiology reports and the films (X-ray, CT, MRI) if possible.

Acceptable Mail Addresses for correspondence, official documents or medical records:

CHIPSA / Gerson Hospital
670 Colonia Jardines Del Sol
Playas Tijuana, Baja California
Mexico C.P. 22700

CHIPSA Patient Services
627 H Street, Suite A90
Chula Vista, California
USA 91910

CHIPSA USPO Box
PO Box 1850
Chula Vista, California
USA 91912

Supplies of your current prescription medications and medical supplies. Some medications (e.g.: pain killers, especially morphine and Demerol) and supplies (e.g.: colostomy fittings) are not internationally standard. Colostomy patients, please bring colostomy sleeves for irrigation. Please, also bring any of the following for you stay:

- Cassette or CD recorder, fresh tapes, CD & batteries.
- Blank notebooks, pens and pencils.
- Envelopes and US postage stamps (if you wish)
- Clock radio or travel alarm.
- Personal articles (toilet/grooming).
- Pajamas, robe, slippers, and informal clothing for the cool evenings

Verification of identity, such as a driver-license or birth certificate document MAY BE required for U.S. and Canadian citizens upon entry into Mexico and re-entry into the U.S. However, identity papers are usually NOT required to enter Mexico, CHIPSA recommends that ID preparations should be considered however, to avoid confusion.

Medical file folder provided by CHIPSA (discuss all forms that shall be apart of arrival)

- Admission sheet-medical consent (HIPAA protocol)
- Patient health history
- Medical liability release form
- Quality of life questionnaire



CENTRO HOSPITALARIO INTERNACIONAL PACIFICO, SA

Gerson Medical Center

Center of Integrative Medicine
670 Colonia Jardines del Sol, Playas Tijuana
Baja California, Mexico, C.P. 22700