

CHANGES TO THE ONS CHEMOTHERAPY AND BIOTHERAPY PROVIDER COURSE FOR CARD RENEWAL

UCSD SPECIFIC FAQs

1. Why did ONS change to an on-line version of the ONS course anyway?
 - a. Based on responses to student feedback they recently evaluated the two-day chemotherapy training course. Participants told them that although it's crucial to the day-to-day work as an oncology nurse, the vast amount of content covered is difficult to absorb over the two-day, 16-hour in-person course. To better meet your needs, ONS is replacing the two-day, face to-face chemotherapy course with an interactive, comprehensive, online course that will offer a certificate indicating the learner possesses specific specialty knowledge (from ONCC) and a continuing nursing education certificate and provider card (from ONS).
2. When does this change take place?
 - a. The new course launches in January. Registration is open now. The current course and current renewal course will no longer be available at that time. Please click on this link for registration deadlines and course dates: https://www.ons.org/sites/default/files/2014-Chemo-Course-Dates_0.pdf
3. How does this online course work?
 - a. The online certificate course will continue to train you on the latest chemotherapy and biotherapy information, but it will allow you to complete the learning over a longer period of time, at your own pace. **The course takes 15 hours to complete.**
4. How will I be paid for the course?
 - a. Inpatient Nurses: You will be paid 4 hours per week for the duration of the course up to 15 hours.
 - b. Outpatient Nurses: TBD based on your schedule
5. **How do I sign-up and pay for the course?** UCSD is pleased to be able to offer bulk discounts to UCSD employees for the renewal and initial course.
 - a. **Obtain your Voucher number:** Register at www.edr.ucsd.edu under the calendar to obtain your voucher number. You will need to have your department code ready when registering online.
 - b. **Then, register through ONS:** Register at www.ons.org. You will need the voucher number when registering for the class.
 - c. The cost is:
 - i. \$85.00 for the one time full course renewal (current cardholder)
 - ii. \$185.00 for the Initial course (non-cardholder)
 - iii. If you sign-up for the course without a UCSD voucher code, we will only reimburse you for the UCSD price, not the ONS price for the course.
6. What if I don't finish the course or if I fail the course?
 - a. **It is your responsibility to complete and pass the course within the specified timeframe.** As an adult learner you choose your own pace through the class.

- b. **If you do not complete the course on time or you fail the examination (you have two attempts), you will be responsible for paying for and completing the course again on your own time.**
7. Why and when do I have to take this course anyway, I already have my chemotherapy provider card?
- All current chemotherapy provider card holders eligible for renewal in 2014 and 2015 will need to complete the initial assessment-based certificate program **at their next renewal** to establish evidence of their baseline specialty knowledge. The new program will not be a repeat of past programs; therefore, the certificate speaks to knowledge assessed in the new program. Once you take the new program, the next renewal will be something similar the current process of a practice update.
 - You **MUST** have an active ONS Chemotherapy Provider Card to administer chemotherapy at UCSD. Please plan appropriately. **If your card expires in January or February of 2013 you will have until March 31st to complete the course.**
8. If this is a certificate course, am I eligible for the nursing certification differential?
- No. The ONS Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Course is transitioning to an assessment-based certificate program. Credentials are not awarded for completion of a certificate program, but certificates indicating attainment of knowledge or added qualifications may be awarded to learners who complete all program requirements.
9. What if I am new to administering chemotherapy and do not have my ONS chemotherapy Provider Card?
- For those who do not currently hold a chemotherapy provider card, ONS develops the program for **RNs with a minimum of six months' oncology experience** who are interested in learning about chemotherapy and biotherapy used to treat cancer, symptom management related to the agents, and safe handling of the agents. Payment for the course will be the same. In addition, these are the requirements that must be fulfilled to administer chemotherapy at UCSD:
 - If you are new to oncology or need a refresher, you **must** attend the UCSD Oncology 101 and 201 Courses prior taking the ONS Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Course.
 - Complete and pass the online ONS Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Course.
 - For Inpatient nurses: Attend the Beacon/UCSD Skills Specific Supplemental Course (this is how you get access to the Orders, Chemo Tab in EPIC (4 hours). Register for this on the EDR website at www.edr/ucsd.edu under the calendar.
 - For Outpatient nurses: Attend the UCSD Skills Specific Supplemental Course (2.5 hours). Register for this on the EDR website at www.edr/ucsd.edu under the calendar.
 - Complete the initial chemotherapy competency and make sure it is filed in your red file.

NOTE: This is not an “easy” course. Do not wait until the last minute to complete the discussions and exam. If you are having difficulty with the content, please contact Aran Tavakoli x76140 or atavakoli@ucsd.edu prior to the close of the course. Follow all directions for the course!

For more in-depth and up to date information please visit the ONS website at www.ons.org under the chemotherapy courses tab.