

NCG-KCDO EMR Requirement (NER)- Medical Oncology Module (Version 1.0)

FOREWORD

The National Cancer Grid (NCG) Electronic Medical Records (EMR) initiative has been well received by the NCG Hospitals and our community of healthcare professionals and stakeholders. The enthusiasm and support we have garnered for this initiative reflect a shared commitment to advancing cancer care through technology and collaboration.

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance the EMR initiative, we have established distinct subcommittees to focus on specific areas of improvement. These subcommittees bring together subject matter experts in oncology from several NCG hospitals across the country to build the features and functionalities in EMR systems.

The Medical Oncology module has been developed in close collaboration with medical oncologists from across the NCG, leveraging their insights and expertise to ensure its effectiveness and usability. This module aims to streamline the chemotherapy process, providing oncologists and healthcare providers with the tools they need to deliver optimal care to patients with cancer.

This collaborative effort has been informed by thorough industry research, ensuring that the NCG helps EMR vendors build solutions aligned with best practices and meet the diverse needs of our stakeholders.

We share the pre-final version of the medical oncology module and welcome feedback, suggestions and guidance from the healthcare professionals involved in treating patients with cancer, healthcare technology companies and providers. Your inputs will help develop EMRs with strong cancer care workflows which in turn will ensure better care, outcomes and value-based care for patients with Cancer across India.

Dr C.S. Pramesh

Convener, National Cancer Grid
March 2024

Contents

1. NCG EMR INITIATIVE OVERVIEW	4
2. EMR FEATURE BUILDING	4
A. Medical Oncology Module Overview	4
B. Methodology	5
3. CT- Part A: Protocol Master	6
4. CT- Part B: Doctor’s Notes	8
5. CT- Part C: Nurse’s Notes	12
6. CT- Part D: Toxicity Monitoring	14
7. CT- Part E: Discharge Summary- On Treatment	15
8. CT- Part F: Discharge Summary- At Completion	17
9. Appendices	18
Appendix 1- Glossary of terms	18
Appendix 2- Reference documents	18

1. NCG EMR INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

The National Cancer Grid Koita Centre for Digital Oncology (NCG KCDO) launched an initiative to empanel Electronic Medical Records (EMR) vendors and help develop high quality EMR solutions that are appropriate for use in hospitals providing cancer care. This marks a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to promote digital health and enhance cancer care across the country. Launched with the aim of standardizing and improving clinical practices in oncology, it is a collaborative approach involving leading healthcare institutions, clinicians, and technology partners.

In March 2023, NCG KCDO released the NCG EMR Requirements (NER) – a comprehensive set of EMR requirements needed for effective management of patients with cancer. The NER is a blueprint for the development and implementation of robust EMR systems which will serve general hospitals well, but are also tailored specifically for oncology practices. The NER document is a result of intense deliberations over several months between healthcare professionals involved in cancer care and technology experts, and is available as a digital public good at [NCG-KCDO EMR Initiative](#).

To further support the development of the empanelled EMR systems, the NCG is developing detailed requirements and features in specific areas of oncology including radiotherapy, chemotherapy and surgical oncology. This document details the chemotherapy requirements and features, based on best practices developed at several leading NCG centres.

2. EMR FEATURE BUILDING

A. Medical Oncology Module Overview

Building on the features outlined in the NER (NCG EMR Requirement), the Medical Oncology Module is designed to streamline and optimize the chemotherapy treatment process for cancer patients. This module is designed to enhance the quality, safety, and efficiency of chemotherapy treatment within the NCG network, ultimately improving outcomes for cancer patients and advancing the field of oncology care.

Key features of the Medical Oncology module include:

2.1 Intent of Treatment Management: The Medical Oncology Module provides robust functionality to document and manage the intent of treatment for each patient. It allows clinicians to specify treatment goals and objectives based on the patient's clinical condition, disease stage, and individual preferences.

2.2 Role of Treatment Definition: Within the module, the role of treatment for each patient is clearly defined, detailing the specific modalities.

2.3 Treatment Planning and Scheduling: The Module has the facility for creating comprehensive treatment plans, including drug regimens, dosage, frequency, and duration of treatment cycles.

2.4 Dose Calculation and Optimization: Built-in tools for accurate calculation of chemotherapy doses based on patient characteristics, such as body surface area, renal function, and comorbidities.

2.5 Toxicity Monitoring and Management: Comprehensive documentation of treatment-related toxicities, including grading, onset, duration, and management strategies. There is integration with standardized toxicity scoring systems, such as CTCAE (Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events), to facilitate consistent assessment and reporting. Automated alerts for critical or severe toxicities, prompting timely intervention, postpone treatment or modify dose as necessary.

2.6 Delivery Tracking and Verification: The module facilitates Real-time tracking of treatment delivery, including medication administration, infusion duration, and adherence to treatment protocols. Electronic verification of medication orders, preparation, and administration to minimize errors ensuring patient safety.

2.7 Nurse's notes: In-built templates and structured forms for standardized documentation of vital signs, symptom management.

2.8 Follow-Up Plan and Discharge Summary Documentation: Finally, the module supports the documentation of comprehensive follow-up plans for patients completing Chemotherapy treatment. It generates comprehensive discharge summaries which summarizes the patient's treatment course, response to therapy, ongoing care needs, and instructions for self-management.

B. Methodology

The methodology used to build the Chemotherapy Module within the NER (NCG EMR Requirements) document encompasses a systematic and collaborative approach, involving key stakeholders and leveraging industry best practices. Recognizing the need, NCG KCDO formed a subcommittee which consisted of medical oncologists from leading NCG hospitals across the country. The Medical Oncology Core Team developed the Chemotherapy Module based on their expertise and discussions with clinical and technology professionals.

The Medical Oncology module is characterized into 6 parts:

CT- Part A: Protocol Master- This section acts as a central repository within the chemotherapy module that contains standardized treatment protocols. It includes standard templates on chemotherapy regimens, dosing schedules, administration routes (To be configured as per the need of NCG member centre).

CT- Part B: Doctor's Notes- This section refers to documentation by oncologists or prescribing physicians regarding the patient's medical history, treatment plan, and progress throughout the

chemotherapy course. The notes include details such as diagnosis, chemotherapy regimen prescribed, dosage adjustments, response to treatment, and any complications or adverse events encountered.

CT- Part C: Nurse's Notes- It refers to the documentation entries made by oncology nurses or allied healthcare professionals involved in administering chemotherapy and monitoring patient responses. These notes typically include vital signs, infusion details, medication administration records, patient assessments, symptom management interventions.

CT- Part D: Toxicity Monitoring- Toxicity Monitoring involves the systematic assessment and documentation of chemotherapy-related adverse effects or toxicities experienced by the patient. It aims to identify and manage adverse events promptly, guide dose modifications or treatment adjustments, and optimize patient safety and quality of life during chemotherapy.

CT- Part E: Discharge Summary on treatment- It provides an overview of the chemotherapy regimen administered, treatment duration, cumulative doses received, response to treatment, toxicities encountered, follow up advice and care.

CT-Part F: Final Discharge Summary at Completion- The Final Discharge Summary provides closure to the chemotherapy phase of the patient's cancer journey. It encompasses a comprehensive review of the patient's medical history, chemotherapy treatments received, response to treatment, toxicity profile

3. CT- Part A: Protocol Master

Medical Oncology Module			
SNo	Data Elements	Clinician's Response	Remarks for Vendors
1	Defining Chemotherapy Protocol		
A	Protocol Name		To configure as per NCG Member Centre
B	Number of Cycles	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 7	
C	Number of days between Cycles		Enable drop down from serial number 1 till 28
D	Special Instructions		Open Text box

2 Defining drug dosage and frequency			
A	Chemotherapy drug database		List down all the drugs. Repeat the steps from B-K for each and every drug in the protocol
B	Drug Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Chemo Drug <input type="checkbox"/> Chemo Drug <input type="checkbox"/> Post Chemo Drug	Select one
C	Dose	<input type="checkbox"/> ml <input type="checkbox"/> mg <input type="checkbox"/> mcg <input type="checkbox"/> gms <input type="checkbox"/> Unit	Write the dose in numerical form Choose one option
		<input type="checkbox"/> Kg <input type="checkbox"/> m2	Choose one option
D	Maximum Dose		Write in maximum dose in numerical form
E	Route of Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Intrathecal <input type="checkbox"/> Subcutaneous <input type="checkbox"/> Intravenous <input type="checkbox"/> Peripheral Line <input type="checkbox"/> Intravenous Central Line <input type="checkbox"/> Intramuscular <input type="checkbox"/> Per Oral <input type="checkbox"/> Transdermal	Choose one option
F	Administration Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Bolus <input type="checkbox"/> Infusion	Choose one
G	Frequency	<input type="checkbox"/> Once Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Twice Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Thrice Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Four Times Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Others	Choose one
H	Diluent/ Additive	<input type="checkbox"/> Ringers Lactate <input type="checkbox"/> Normal Saline <input type="checkbox"/> Dextrose Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Saline <input type="checkbox"/> 5% Dextrose <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Dextrose <input type="checkbox"/> Distilled Water	Choose one
I	Volume (ml)		Write the volume in numeric form

J	Duration of Infusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Stat <input type="checkbox"/> Duration	Choose One
		Period ____/Hours/Minute/Second	To be Enabled only if the response to 'Duration, is chosen in above row
K	Special Instructions		Open Text Box
Save the Protocol Master			

4. CT- Part B: Doctor's Notes

Doctor's Notes			
SNo	Data Elements	Clinician's Response	Remarks for Vendors
1	Primary Details		If multiple options are chosen in row A, then repeat the entire set (Item A through Item M)
A	Name of the consultant		Choose Multiple option
B	Height/Length of the patient		In Cms
C	Weight		In Kg
D	LMP Date		Calendar View. Only for female patients in the reproductive age group of 10-45
E	BSA (m2)		Auto calculate based on the The DuBois & DuBois Formula. This will change for each Cycle as per change in weight.
F	ECOG Performance Status	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	Incorporate standard ECOG Criteria
2	Tumor Board		
A	Past tumor board decision		Autopopulate from VTB/MDT module

B	Past tumor board decision followed	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
C	If No, Reason		Open text box
D	Assign patient to tumor board	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
E	If Yes, Schedule the patient for tumor board discussion	DD/MM/YYYY	Link to VTB/MDT Scheduler
F	Question for tumor Board discussion		Open text Box. Mention reason and question for tumor board discussion
3 Allergic Reaction			
A	Allergy/Reaction	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	To disable rows 3B- 3E if the response to 3A is 'No'
B	If Yes, Name of the drug		Open text box
C	Type of Allergic Reaction (Description, Eg- Skin reaction)		Open text box
D	Allergy/Reaction Severity Level	<input type="checkbox"/> Mild <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Severe	Choose one
E	Drug Interaction Checked	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	MedScape/UptoDate/Any other
4 Treatment			
A	Intent of treatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Curative <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Curative	
B	Type of Chemotherapy	<input type="checkbox"/> Neo Adjuvant <input type="checkbox"/> Concurrent <input type="checkbox"/> Adjuvant <input type="checkbox"/> CT Alone	If Concurrent, Start of RT, End of RT, Treatment interruption and Reason to suspend/Stop the treatment should be visible from RT Module
C	Patient Consent taken	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Option to Upload soft copy of the consent form/click picture of the form with date of consent
D	Chemotherapy Safety Checklist Verified	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If No, further options should be disabled
5 Protocol Selection			

A	Protocol Name		Generate a list of dropdowns of all the protocols made in the Protocol Master page
B	Any Ongoing toxicities from the previous cycle or prior chemotherapy regimen	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, provide link to Toxicity monitoring page, If No, proceed ahead
C	Alert Pop Up of past cycle adverse event -Cycle no -Toxicity name -Grade		A Pop Up
D	Select one to proceed ahead	<input type="checkbox"/> Continue same treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Modify dose <input type="checkbox"/> Change in treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Postpone treatment- Due to socioeconomic reasons	If continue same TT, then the modified dose option from rows 7C-7E should be disabled.
E	Reason for Changing the protocol	<input type="checkbox"/> Tolerance <input type="checkbox"/> Progression <input type="checkbox"/> Others, Ex- Patient's Choice	Row 5E should be enabled only If the response to 5D is Modify dose/Change treatment
F	Start date of the protocol	DD-MM-YYYY	Calendar view
6 Treatment Planning			
			View EMR- Link to the EMR
A	Cycle No		Auto populate with an option to edit
B	Frequency (Day)		Provide dropdown option from 1-28 and Others
C	Plan dates	DD-MM-YYYY	Calculate all the future dates as per the protocol
Disclaimer-The date of next cycle may change in case of toxicity and any delays due to compliance or travel to another centre			
7 Current Medication Details			
			Ability to generate prescription
A	Drug Name		Auto Populate
B	Dose		Auto calculate as per the BSA formula
C	Modified Dose		Free text box
D	Whether modified	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

E	Reason for modification	<input type="checkbox"/> Co-Morbidities <input type="checkbox"/> Toxicity in previous cycle <input type="checkbox"/> Poor performance status <input type="checkbox"/> Low nutritional Profile <input type="checkbox"/> Poor general condition <input type="checkbox"/> Others, _____	
F	Given	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Row 7G, 7H, 7I to appear only if the response to 7F is 'No'
G	Reason for not given		Open text box
H	Follow up date		Calendar View
I	Tests Recommended		Open text box
8 Approvals			
A	Verified by: Doctor Signature		
B	Prepared By: Nurse Signature		
C	Verified and administered by: Nurse Signature		
Go to CT Part C: Nurse's Notes			

5. CT- Part C: Nurse's Notes

Nurse's Notes							
Sno	Data elements	Clinician's Response			Remarks for Vendors		
1	Treatment details						
A	Cycle no				Auto Populate from 6A		
B	Frequency (Day)				Auto Populate from 6B		
C	Plan date				Auto Populate from 6C		
D	Enter place of treatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Casualty <input type="checkbox"/> Daycare <input type="checkbox"/> Injection room <input type="checkbox"/> Interventional Radiology <input type="checkbox"/> Paediatric Daycare <input type="checkbox"/> Ward <input type="checkbox"/> Other hospital					
E	General/Private	<input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Private					
2	Vital Sign Monitoring						
S	Vital Signs	Pre		During		Post	
NO							
A	Temp						
B	Pulse						
C	BP						
D	RR						
E	SpO2						
3	Chemotherapy Drug Administration						
SNo	Drug Name	Special Instructions	Dose	Given	Starting time	Ending time	Reason for not given/not completed
	Auto Populate from	Auto Populate from	Auto Populate from	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			<input type="checkbox"/> Infusion Reaction <input type="checkbox"/> Toxicity <input type="checkbox"/> Others

	Doctor's Notes	Protocol Master	Doctor's Notes
A	Status of completion of cycle	<input type="checkbox"/> Completed as planned <input type="checkbox"/> Not completed	
B	Referral Letter		In case patient wants to take Chemo from outside, hospitals can upload the referral letter template
C	Doctor Notes		Open text box and link to EMR
Go to CT Part D-Toxicity Monitoring Page			

6. CT- Part D: Toxicity Monitoring

Toxicity Monitoring								
Sn o	Data elements		Clinician's Response		Remarks for Vendors			
	Cycle	Day of Onset	Place of toxicity management	Grading system	Toxicity (System)	Adverse event	Grade	Description
			<input type="checkbox"/> Home <input type="checkbox"/> Local hospital OPD <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Center OPD <input type="checkbox"/> Local Hospital-Hospitalisation <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Center-Hospitalisation	<input type="checkbox"/> WHO <input type="checkbox"/> CTCAE		CTCAE 5.0*		Open text box
2	Postpone treatment							
A	Postpone treatment		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		If Type of Chemo is Concurrent, then Postpone treatment details to show in RT Module as a red Flag			
B	Reason to Postpone				Open text box			
C	No of days of postponement				Open text box			
Go to CT Part E: Discharge Summary								

7. CT- Part E: Discharge Summary- On Treatment

Discharge Summary- On treatment									
Sno	Data Elements			Clinician's Response		Remarks for Vendors			
1	Primary Details								
A	Name					Auto Populate			
B	Age					Auto Populate			
C	Gender					Auto Populate			
D	Ht/Wt/BSA					Auto Populate			
E	Diagnosis					Auto Populate			
F	Type of Chemotherapy					Auto Populate			
G	Protocol Name					Auto Populate			
H	Cycle No					Auto Populate			
I	Frequency (Day)					Auto Populate			
J	Tolerated Chemotherapy Well			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		If no, Toxicity table to appear as below			
2	Toxicity Monitoring Summary					Include Past toxicities too			
	Cycle	Day of Onset	Place of toxicity management	Grading system	Toxicity (System)	Adverse event	Grade	Description	
3	Chemotherapy Administration Details								
	Sno	Drug Name				Dose given			
4	Advice on Discharge								
	Symptoms			Drug Name	Route	Dosage	No of Days	Remarks	Add
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pain <input type="checkbox"/> Loose Motions <input type="checkbox"/> Constipation								

<input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting <input type="checkbox"/> Increase White Blood Cells <input type="checkbox"/> Mouth Ulcer/ Painful Swelling <input type="checkbox"/> Indigestion <input type="checkbox"/> Fever or prevention of infection (Temp above 100F or 38C, please take one dose of drug, do CBC and contact your doctor immediately)							
Post Chemo drugs in the protocol master to get auto populated							
5 Follow up Schedule							
A	Follow up date for doctor/Chemotherapy Clinic						Calendar View
B	Follow up date for Day Care/Chemotherapy Delivery						Calendar View
C	In case of emergency, Contact _____						Configure as per NCG Centre
D	Tests recommended	<input type="checkbox"/> CBC <input type="checkbox"/> LFT <input type="checkbox"/> RFT <input type="checkbox"/> Serum Electrolytes <input type="checkbox"/> Others _____					Multiple Choice possible
6 Approval							
A	Doctor's Sign						E-Sign
If the treatment is completed, go to CT Part F: Discharge Summary at Completion							

8. CT- Part F: Discharge Summary- At Completion

Chemotherapy Summary- At Completion							
Sno	Data Elements			Clinician's Response		Remarks for Vendors	
1	Chemotherapy Completion dates						
Cycle No	Chemotherapy Completion Date			Auto Populate, If Cancelled, provide a box for cancellation			
Cycle 1	DD-MM-YYYY						
Cycle 2	DD-MM-YYYY						
2	Toxicity Monitoring Summary						
Cycle	Day of Onset	Place of toxicity management	Grading system	Toxicity (System)	Adverse event	Grade	Description
A	Completed Planned no of Cycles		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
B	If no, please specify reasons		<input type="checkbox"/> Death <input type="checkbox"/> Progression <input type="checkbox"/> Defaulter <input type="checkbox"/> Tolerance		If No, then RT Module should be intimated- Row no 18,19,20,21		
C	End of treatment response						
D	End of treatment response date		DD-MM-YYYY		Calendar View		

9. Appendices

Appendix 1- Glossary of terms

Abbreviations	
NCG	National Cancer Grid
EMR	Electronic Medical Record
NER	NCG EMR Requirements
LEAP	Leading EMR Adoption Program
ECOG	ECOG performance Status Scale is a widely used method to assess the functional status of a patient
BSA	Body Surface Area
RR	Respiratory rate
BP	Blood pressure
CTCAE	Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events
Ht	Height
Wt	Weight
CBC	Complete Blood Count
LFT	Liver Function Test
RFT	Renal Function Test

Appendix 2- Reference documents

1. [ncg-emr-requirements-ner.pdf \(kcdo.in\)](#)
2. *CTCAE5.0- <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1eI-Fgl492JKBSi-ChXcMW8GTVVZzOSv/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=105450460550883119207&rtpof=true&sd=truehttps://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1eI-Fgl492JKBSi-ChXcMW8GTVVZzOSv/edit?rtpof=true&sd=true#gid=192951646>