



CONSENT AND DIRECTION FOR DCA TREATMENT

I hereby confirm that I have been diagnosed with cancer. I further confirm that I have elected to have Medicor Cancer Centres Inc. ("Medicor") treat my cancer with the drug dichloroacetate sodium ("DCA").

I understand that DCA is a drug that has been found (in lab studies) to rapidly shrink human breast, lung and brain cancers (published in *Cancer Cell*, 11, 37–51, January 2007), endometrial cancer (published in *Gynecol Oncol*, Vol 109, Issue 3, June 2008) prostate cancer in combination with radiation (published in *The Prostate*, May 2008), and several other cancer types.

I understand that DCA has also been shown to effectively treat an aggressive brain cancer called glioblastoma in human research (published in *Science Translational Medicine*, Vol 2, Issue 31, May 12, 2010). Research to determine how well it will work on other cancers in humans is ongoing. I understand that high dose intravenous DCA has been studied and found to be safe (up to 100mg/kg iv in healthy volunteers and up to 80mg/kg iv in seriously ill liver transplant patients).

I am aware that the DCA treatment provided by Medicor is a promising cancer treatment, but has limited scientific proof of its effectiveness (either on its own, or combined with other treatments). I understand that the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario considers DCA treatment to be unproven and not within the usual practice of medicine in this province.

I confirm that one of the following is true:

A. I am not currently being offered medical treatment of my cancer, either because all standard medical treatments have failed, or because my oncologist (or other specialist) has determined that there are no proven treatment options for me. I understand that instead of DCA, I have a choice to receive no treatment for my cancer, and that I have the option of receiving only comfort care (palliative care).

B. I am currently receiving generally accepted medical treatment for my cancer which is not working optimally (or has a poor chance of success) and I would like to combine it with DCA treatment.

C. I have been offered generally accepted medical treatments for my cancer. After reviewing the risks and benefits of those treatments with my doctor(s), I voluntarily chose not to receive them. At this time I would like to be treated with DCA.

Potential Benefits

I understand that:

- it is hoped that DCA will cause slowing or stabilization of cancer growth, shrinking of cancer, or remission of cancer
- it is hoped that DCA will enhance the effects of my other cancer treatments (like radiation or chemotherapy) if taken according to the instructions given to me by Medicor
- it is expected that DCA may improve my heart condition (for patients with heart failure or angina)
- it is expected that DCA may improve my blood pH (if it is too acidic)

- the likelihood of these benefits is unknown
- it is expected to take 6 to 8 weeks before we can tell if the DCA is effective
- Medicor may collect information from my treatment to help doctors and patients learn more about DCA as a treatment for cancer, and that this information may be used to help future cancer patients
- my privacy will be maintained at all times in this process

Potential Risks

I understand that:

- DCA has been used in humans to treat a rare disease called congenital lactic acidosis, and found to be safe
- DCA is likely safe to use in cancer patients, but there is not enough research yet to confirm this
- I may have side effects while receiving DCA
- I will be watched carefully for any side effects
- doctors don't know all the side effects that may happen
- side effects may be mild or serious
- I may be given medicines to help lessen side effects
- many side effects go away soon after I stop taking DCA
- DCA may interact with other medications I am taking, especially those that can cause confusion or memory problems
- DCA may interfere with other cancer medication if I do not follow the instructions given to me by Medicor

Common Side Effects

I understand that:

- DCA can cause temporary nerve injury in the hands and feet
- this may be reduced with supplemental medication (which will be prescribed with DCA) and is treatable if it occurs, by stopping DCA and allowing the nerves to heal
- DCA can cause fatigue, sleepiness, nausea, heartburn, temporary memory loss, temporary confusion and tremors.
- DCA can cause a mild reduction in blood glucose (typically < 15%) which generally causes no symptoms

Uncommon Side Effects

I understand that:

- DCA can rarely cause abdominal pain, abnormal increase of liver enzymes in the blood, vomiting, low blood pressure / dizziness, emotional changes, loss of balance or leg weakness
- Some animal studies show that DCA can cause liver cancer. These studies used doses which are over 100 times higher than what would be prescribed for cancer treatment
- if DCA is very effective, it can lead to rapid tumour cell death. This can cause sweats, chills, fever, tumour bleeding, life-threatening salt imbalance in the blood, low blood sugar, abnormal heart rhythm and kidney damage. This is mainly a concern when treating lymphoma or leukemia with DCA in combination with chemotherapy.
- I may have an unpredictable reaction to the infusion (for intravenous DCA only). This is because the published information on intravenous DCA is limited (even though current publications indicate it is safe).

Unknown Side Effects

I understand that:

- DCA can cause side effects which are as yet unknown, and unpredictable
- DCA may not be effective at treating my cancer, but is unlikely to worsen my cancer

Monitoring for Side Effects

I understand that:

- while receiving DCA I will be closely monitored to ensure safety, and for effectiveness of the treatment. This will consist of a various combinations of routine check-ups, lab tests, and imaging studies which may be as follows:
 - General blood tests
 - Tumour markers
 - ECG (if needed)
 - Urinalysis (if needed)
 - Imaging studies (such as Ultrasound, CT scan, MRI, or PET scan)
- the frequency of tests will depend on the nature of my cancer, my age, my underlying medical conditions, my concurrent medications and other factors
- in most cases, a detailed assessment and tests will be done at the start of treatment, and monthly after that
- basic tests will generally be performed every week or every 2 weeks

Follow-Up

I understand that while receiving DCA I will be monitored to ensure safety, and for effectiveness of the treatment. This will consist of a various combinations of routine check-ups, lab tests, and imaging studies.

For telemedicine patients or patients who cannot attend in person regularly at the office: I confirm that I have a local doctor who will be the primary doctor monitoring my treatment according to the treatment plan I receive from Medicor.

Reproductive Risks – for women

I understand that:

- I should not become pregnant while taking DCA, because the effects of DCA on an unborn baby are not know
- I should not breastfeed a baby while receiving DCA
- reliable birth control approved by my family doctor must be used while receiving DCA (if applicable)

Reproductive Risks – for men

I understand that:

- I should not father a baby while taking DCA
- reliable birth control approved by my family doctor must be used while receiving DCA (if applicable)

My decision to undergo the DCA treatment is entirely voluntary. I understand that I may discontinue the DCA treatment at any time. My decision to stop DCA treatment will not affect my medical care. I understand that the DCA treatment may be stopped if the medical staff so determine that it is in my best medical interests.

I understand that Medicor is owned by a family member of the Medical Director. I understand that any diagnostic tests or treatment provided by the Medical Director and/or Medicor will only be performed for my benefit, and that I have a choice of where I may obtain such diagnostic tests or treatments.

I understand that the results of the DCA treatment are not guaranteed. I acknowledge that no guarantee or assurance has been made by anyone from Medicor regarding the DCA treatment.

I have read and understand the Medicor Telemedicine / Email policy. I understand the risks associated with email communication, and I consent to the conditions outlined in the policy. I acknowledge Medicor's right to withdraw the option of communicating through email, upon the provision of notice.

I have been given the opportunity to read this form and discuss it with the medical staff, and to ask any questions I may have. My questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I voluntarily consent to the DCA treatment and I accept all of the risks associated with it.

Costs

I understand that I am responsible for the cost of the DCA for my treatment, as it is not funded by Ontario Drug Benefits and generally not funded by private medical insurance. I understand that I am also responsible for the cost of any related drugs that are prescribed for my treatment, or to reduce DCA side effects (since they may not be funded by Ontario Drug Benefits or private medical insurance). I will also be responsible for the costs of any tests that may be necessary but are not covered under my health insurance.

_____ Patient's Signature (or legal substitute)	_____ Printed Name	_____ Date
---	-----------------------	---------------

_____ Witness' Signature	_____ Printed Name	_____ Date
-----------------------------	-----------------------	---------------

_____ Medicor Staff Signature	_____ Printed Name	_____ Date
----------------------------------	-----------------------	---------------



Telemedicine and Email Policy

At Medicor we are pleased to offer telemedicine / email communications to our patients. Communicating information by email can be very convenient. Email and telemedicine are generally not covered by provincial health insurance in Canada.

Medicor has an optional private monthly telemedicine plan to help make email and telemedicine more affordable. The **monthly fee is \$385** and covers the following:

- Email / phone / fax new prescriptions and repeat prescriptions (in Canada) – up to 10 per month
- General email medical advice (non-urgent) – up to 20 emails per month
- Telemedicine assessments (by email, non-urgent) – up to 10 per month
- Fax / email copies of test results to patients – up to 10 per month
- Completion of simple 1 page forms – up to 2 per month

Individual services are available to all patients and are billed according to the list below.

Individual Services	Cost
Phone / fax / email a new prescription or repeat prescription (up to 5 drugs)	\$20
Phone / fax / email copies of test results to patients (per report)	\$20
Phone / email / telemedicine assessment and medical advice (non-urgent)	\$50 and up ¹
Phone discussion with patient's other doctor(s), at patient's request	\$50 and up ¹
Forms completion	\$50 and up ¹
Research into specific treatments (by patient request) ²	\$50 and up ¹
Disability Tax Credit form	\$75
CPP Disability Benefits application	\$100

¹ - Billed at a rate of \$450 per hour of physician time (minimum \$50 per service).

² - For Canadian patients: research can be done at no charge during office visits only, strictly limited by available appointment time.

Patients may change or cancel service plan at any time according to the Medicor Cancellation Policy (see Payment Authorization form). Service plans are also subject to cancellation at the discretion of Medicor Cancer Centres Inc.

For Canadian patients (except Québec), some email / telemedicine services are now **free** (paid by the government). You may obtain these free services at Medicor if certain conditions are met:

- 1) Your cancer is metastatic or considered to be incurable
- 2) Your Medicor physician is the main physician providing ongoing quality-of- life enhancing care (which may include gentle medicines such as DCA, TM or LDN).

See table below.

Free (by email / phone)	Payment Required (by email / phone)
Ordering tests and interpreting test results	Assessment of new problems
Arranging for assessments, procedures or therapy	Prescriptions (new or repeats)
Coordinating community and hospital care	Routine forwarding of lab reports / test results
Discussion with and providing advice regarding the above (when medically necessary)	
Supplies and personnel related to all of the above	

If you meet the conditions listed, you may obtain the free services by selecting “Yes”. Please check one of the boxes below.

Yes, I would like Medicor physician Dr. Akbar Khan to be my primary physician who is regularly providing quality-of-life enhancing care. This allows me to obtain the **free** services listed on the left side of the table above. I have a valid health card from any province in Canada (except Québec).

No, I already have a family physician who is in charge of providing quality-of-life enhancing care. I understand that I will have to pay a fee if I ask my Medicor physician for any of the services listed in the table above. I have the **option** of starting the Medicor monthly email plan. If I come to the office **in person**, I can obtain these services at **no charge**. I have a valid health card from any province in Canada (except Québec).

Note: Québec patients are excluded because the Québec government will not automatically pay for their medical care in Ontario. Québec patients are responsible for payment of all medical services up front and may apply to the Ministère de la Santé for reimbursement.

General information

Communicating by email can be very convenient, but it creates some issues which you should be aware of:

- The privacy and security of email communication cannot be guaranteed.
- Email can be forwarded, intercepted, circulated, stored or even changed without the knowledge or permission of Medicor or the patient.
- Email senders may accidentally misaddress an email, resulting in it being sent to unintended and unknown recipients.
- Even after the sender and recipient have deleted their copies of the email, back-up copies may exist on a computer or in cyberspace.
- Emails can introduce viruses into a computer system, and potentially disrupt the computer (Medicor does use anti-virus software on all of its computers).

Medicor will use reasonable means to protect the security and confidentiality of email information sent and received. Due to the issues outlined above, Medicor requests that you understand the following:

- Emails to or from you form part of your medical record, and may be printed or saved electronically by Medicor. Other individuals authorized to access the medical record will have access to those emails.
- Emails may be forwarded internally if necessary to those involved in diagnosis, treatment, reimbursement or health care operations. Medicor will not forward emails to independent third parties without your written consent, except as authorized or required by law.

- Medicor will try to read and respond promptly to emails, but we cannot guarantee that any particular email will be read and responded to within any particular period of time. **You should not use email for medical emergencies or other time-sensitive matters.**
- Email communication is not a substitute for clinical examination. You are responsible for following up on the physician's email and for scheduling appointments with the Medicor doctor or your other doctor(s) when it is appropriate.
- If your email requests or requires a response from Medicor and you have not received a response within a reasonable time period, it is your responsibility to follow up to determine whether the intended recipient received the email and when the recipient will respond.
- You should not use email for communication regarding sensitive medical information, such as sexually transmitted disease, mental health, or substance abuse. Similarly, Medicor will not generally discuss such matters by email (there may be rare exceptions).
- You are responsible for informing Medicor of any types of information you do not want to be sent by email.
- Medicor is not responsible for information loss due to technical failures.
- Emails will not be encrypted.

Instructions for Communication by Email

To communicate by email, please do the following:

- Limit or avoid using an employer's computer.
- Inform Medicor of any changes in your email address.
- Include in the email: 1) patient name
2) a description in the email's subject line (e.g., "prescription renewal")
- Review the email to make sure it is clear and that all needed information is provided before sending to Medicor.
- Take precautions to preserve the confidentiality of emails.

Should you require immediate assistance, or if your condition appears serious or rapidly worsens, you should not rely on email. Rather, you should call Medicor for advice or an appointment, call your family doctor or specialist, go to the nearest hospital Emergency Department, or take other appropriate action.

*Yes, I would like to start the Medicor telemedicine monthly plan (\$385/month) **OPTIONAL***

No, I do not want to start the Medicor telemedicine monthly plan at this time. I have the option to start this plan in the future.

I have read and understood this telemedicine and email policy.

Patient's Signature
(or legal substitute)

Printed Name

Date