Process for Ordering Rituximab through the Rheumatology Service

Date: February 10, 2017 Author: Anne Westgard CNP Rheumatology

- 1. Determine if Rituximab is appropriate for the patient. Complete Pharmaceutical Prior Authorization in CPRS.
- 2. Rituximab is an antineoplastic medication and requires IMED consent. This is found in the CPRS→Tools menu→IMED consent→Hematology and Oncology →Chemo-Basic →Rituximab. The facility chemotherapy nurses will not administer without the consent form completion.
- 3. Discuss with the veteran what date to commence the infusion. Explain to the veteran that there are two infusions approximately two weeks apart. Advise the patient the infusion takes about 5-6 hours to complete. Of note: rituximab costs \$8000 per infusion cycle.
- 4. Call the MSA on 3F (Chemotherapy Infusion Clinic) at extension 2045 and schedule a date and time for both infusions.
- 5. Order labs in CPRS under Rheumatology orders (#48 rituxan labs) scheduled prior to each infusion. Of note, these include the following: CBC, AST, ALT, Alk Phos, Albumin, Total Bilirubin, Creatinine, BUN, CRP, ESR and Urinalysis.
- 6. Test all patients for Hepatitis B. Hepatitis B serology panel includes hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), anti-hepatitis B core antibody (total anti-HBcAb), and anti-hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBsAb). If HBsAg or anti-HBcAb is positive place GI consult for evaluation and treatment. Testing should be completed within 6 months prior to the start of the initial and subsequent infusions (same day is acceptable, but not preferred). If Hepatitis B surface antibody (anti-HBsAb) is negative consider vaccination.
- 7. Subsequent courses may be administered every 24 weeks (based on clinical evaluation), if necessary may be repeated no sooner than every 16 weeks.
- 8. Recommend monitoring total immunoglobulins (IGA, IGG, IGM) prior to starting a second cycle.
- 9. Rituximab to be ordered in Vista Chemotherapy Manager (VCM). Based on the following citation: Emery, Paul et al. "The efficacy and safety of rituximab in patients with active rheumatoid arthritis despite methotrexate treatment: Results of a phase IIB randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, dose-ranging trial," *Arthritis & Rheumatism*, 2006, Volume 54 (5): 1390-1400. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16649186
- 10. Consider/Recommend holding the veteran's antihypertensive medications on the day of the infusion due to potential hypotension from rituximab.
- 11. Place rituximab order in VCM.

Starting VCM:

CPRS→Tools menu→ More→VCM→ enter PIV card credentials→ double click

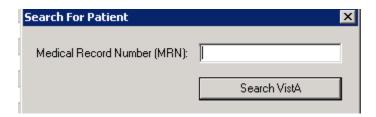


Enrolling Patient:

Click on Patient button from top left ribbon and select "Create New Patient Record"

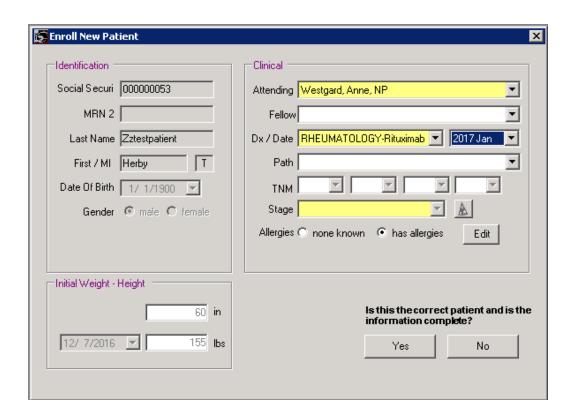


Enter the patient's full Social Security Number in the MRN field and press the **Search Vista** button.



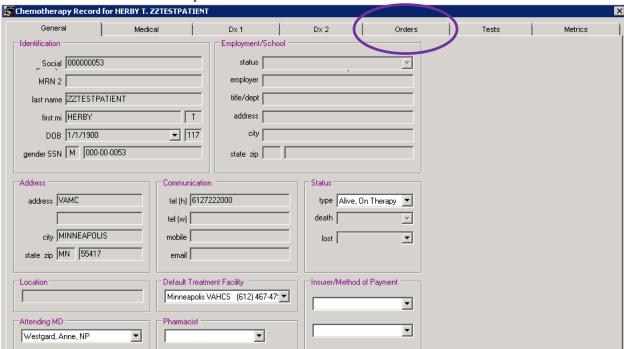
VCM will search for a matching patient in Vista and import basic patient information including most recent height, weight, and allergies.

At the Enrollment screen enter information in the required fields.



Click the Accept button and the General tab of the patient in the Chemotherapy Record will display.

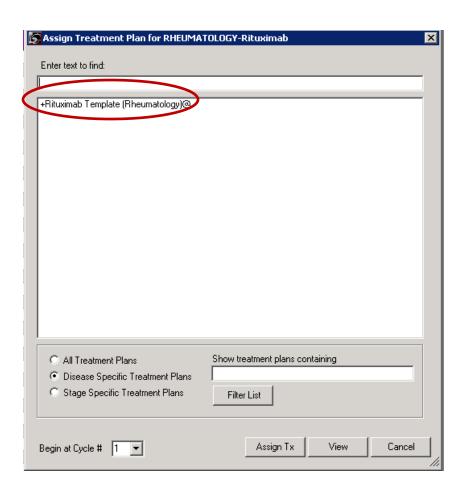
Click "Orders" tab within the patient record.



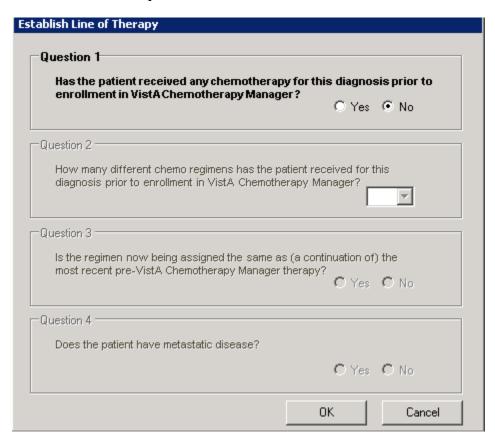
Then click on the **Assign Tx** button



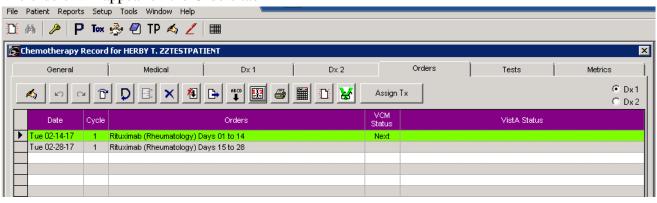
Then highlight Rituximab template (Rheumatology) and then click Assign Tx button



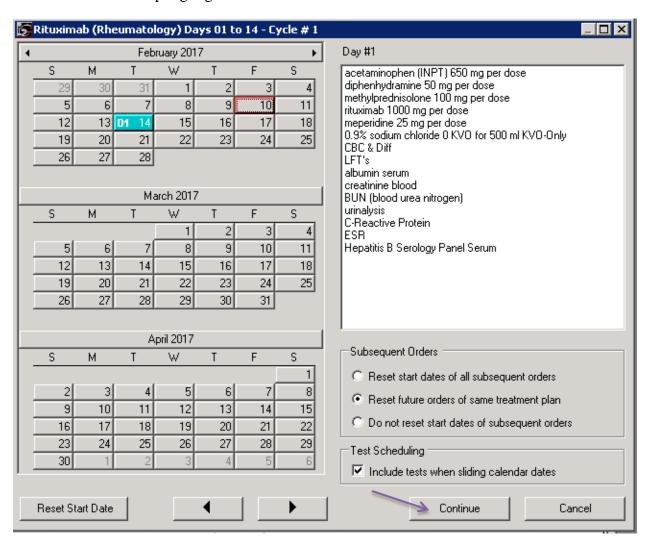
Fill in the answer to question 1 as No.



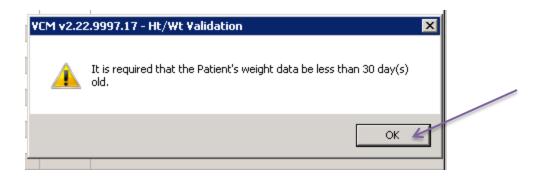
The orders will appear on the Orders tab



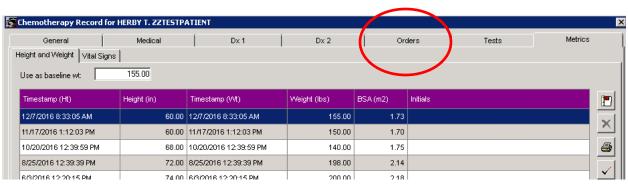
Double click on the top/highlighted order. Select a start date and click the **Continue** button.



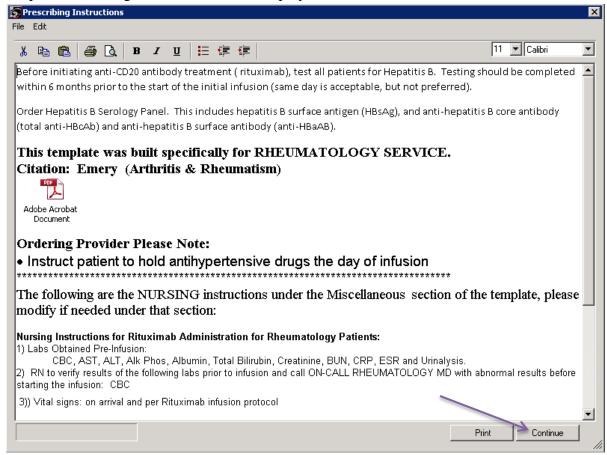
Double click the highlighted Order, **if** the patient's weight is > 30 days the following will display. Select Ok.



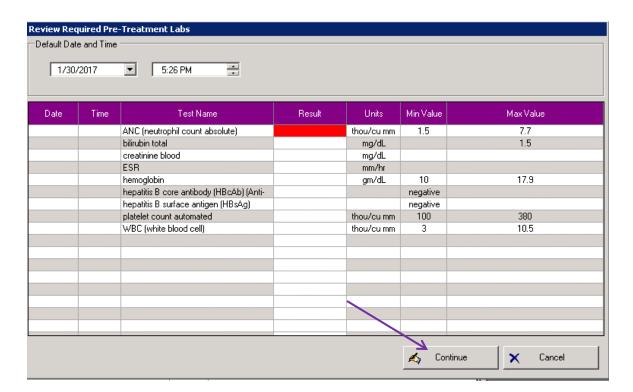
Post the patient's most recent weight and then select Orders tab



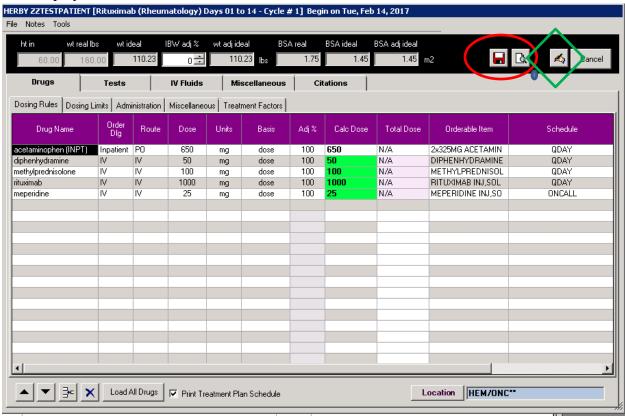
Helpful Prescribing Instructions screen displays. Select Continue button.



Labs display and most cases the labs are not back when the orders are signed. They need to be completed prior to Pharmacy processing the order. Select **Continue** button.



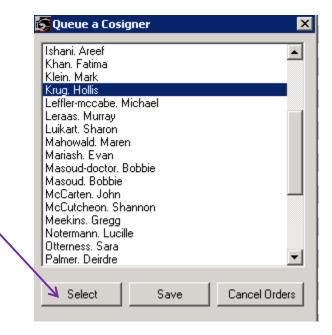
This display is the standard order set for the rituximab infusion



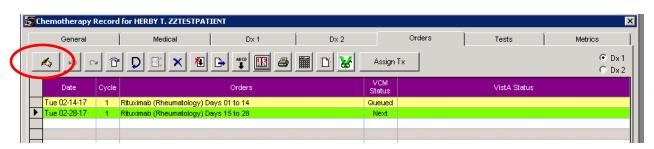
Fellows will select the **Save icon**. Providers with prescribing privileges for rituximab will select the **Sign icon**.



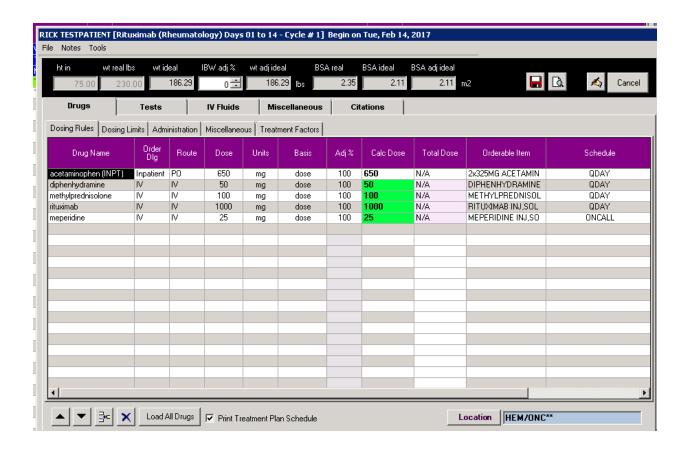
Rheumatology Fellows please **Highlight and Select** the Provider who will be responsible for signing the order.



Do the same ordering process with the second highlighted order.

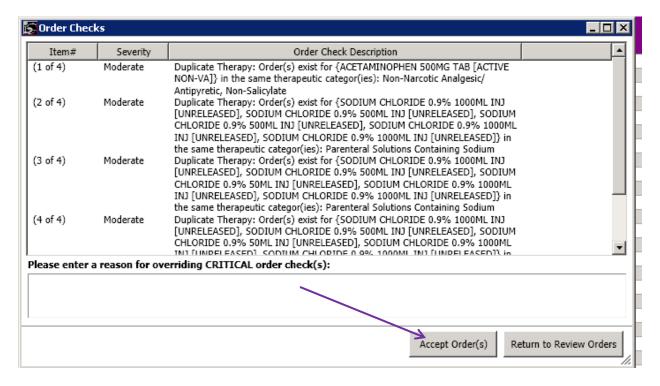


Rheumatology Providers select sign icon Pen in Hand.

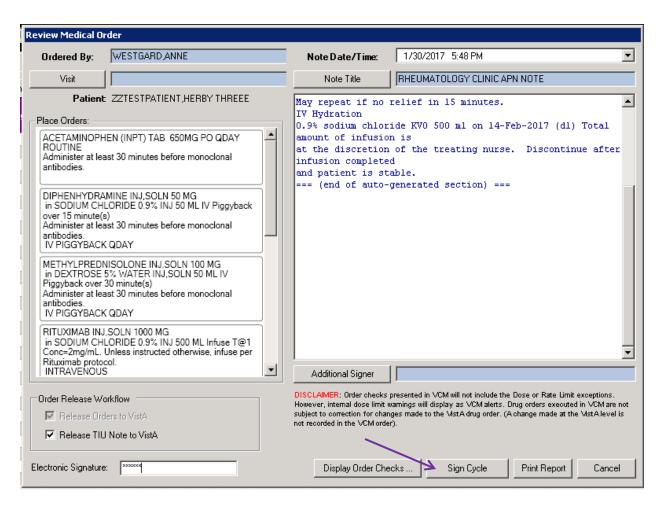


Rituximab (Rheumato	logy) Days 01 to 14		0/4 4/00/	Minneapolis VA HCS (612) 467-4793 VA Midwest Health Care Network (VISN 23) Memable (VISN 23) One Velerans Orlus Minneapols, MM 5547-2300					000-00-0053 ZZTESTPATIENT, HERBY T. dob 1/1/1900 (117) Male Anne Westgard, NP			
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ocetaminophen (INPT)) 650 mg/dose	NA	650 mg			PO	QDAY on	day 1				
	Administer at leas	Administer at least 30 minutes before monoclonal antibodies.										
iphenhydramine	50 mg/dose	50 mg/doise NA 50 mg				IV	QDAY on	day 1				
		Administer by IMPB over 15 minute(s) in 50 ml 0.9 % sodium chloride Administer at least 30 minutes before monoclonal antibodies.										
methylprednisolone	100 mg/dose	e NA 100 mg				IV	QDAY on	day 1				
		Administer by MPB over 30 minute(s) in 50 ml 5% dextrose in water Administer at least 30 minutes before monoclonal antibodies.										
ituximab	1000 mg/dose	NA 1000 mg			IV QDAY on day 1		day 1					
	Administer by infu	Administer by infusion T@1 in 500 ml 0.9 % sodium chloride Coxo-2mg/m L. Ux Ess Instructed otherwise, in tise per Rithx Imab protocol										
meperidine	25 mg/dose	NA	25 mg			IV	ONCALL PI	RN on day				
		Administer by syringe over 5 minute(s). For rituoimab rigors. May repeat if no relief in 15 minutes.										
DISCLAMER: Order checks y CMI alerts. Drug orders exect not recorded in the VOM order ALL DRUG ORDERS TO BE F FORMULAE USED: Cockcroft CI+ Continuous Numan Page 1 . ORDERS TOR	uled in VCM are noi subleo; ILLEO GENERICALLY UNU B. Cauli (real body weight),	:Hocomecio LESS PRESC Mos leter Equ	on trichanges in RIBERIWRITE Usilon, Hamwi	nande kol	he VislAdru	g order. (A change made at	The VisiA buells				

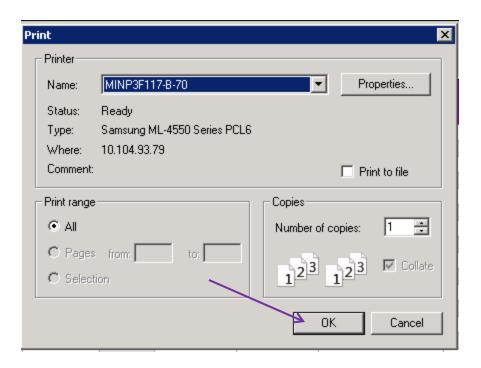
Order checks will display press Accept Orders. If Critical Orders severity displays you must enter a reason for overriding.



Change note title to your usual Rheumatology Note Title and enter **Electronic Signature** and select **Sign Cycle**

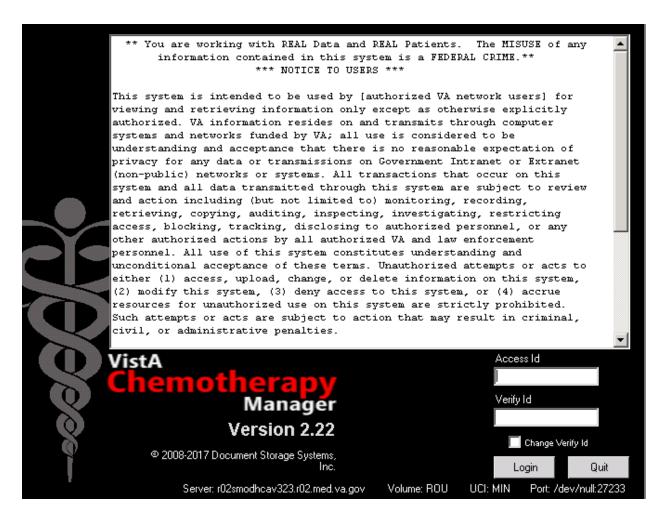


Select Ok at the Print display, it is defaulted to the correct printer. It displays twice.



To Log Off, close the patient record. Double click on the **Key icon** on the upper left hand ribbon





Select Quit



Select Yes.

Double click the handshake to log off the VCM server

