



# Oncologic Emergencies: Core Conditions

COURSE SYLLABUS (OEMA00ODM26)

2026

**Course Educators:**

Allison Loucks, RN, MN, CON(C)

Donalda MacDonald RN, CON(C)

**Course Authors:**

Donalda MacDonald RN, CON(C)

Philiz Goh, RN, MN, CON(C)

---

**Course Format:** eLearning

**Contact Information and Technical Support:** [support@desouzainstitute.com](mailto:support@desouzainstitute.com)

**Registration:** Required

**Eligibility:** Available to all healthcare providers working along the cancer care continuum.

*There is no prerequisite for this course, though a foundational knowledge of cancer, cancer disease sites and principles of treatment is recommended.*

## A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This 6-week online course will introduce learners to the oncologic emergencies (OE) which may present before, during, or after a cancer diagnosis. These emergencies may be life-threatening, and prompt recognition of signs and symptoms, as well as initiation of prevention strategies or early interventions, are imperative for a positive outcome.

This course will introduce learners to the 5 more commonly seen oncologic emergencies.

Although learners can complete the various components of the course at their own pace, the course must be **completed in its entirety** within **six weeks** of the course start date (this date can be found on the course information page in *My Account*).

Course content and resources provided in this course are based on best practice guidelines from provincial and national bodies. Local protocols and policies vary among healthcare organizations; please consult educators within your organization if you have specific questions related to local protocols and policies.

## B. de Souza DESIGNATION CREDITS

---

**Domain of Practice** Treatment and Delivery of Evidence Based Care

**Learning Hours** 5 hours

**de Souza Credit** 0.125 credits

---

## C. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Define each oncological emergency (OE).
- Discuss normal anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology related to the OE.
- Discuss risk factors, signs and symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis for each OE including any standardized tools available.
- Explain the principles of treatment for each OE.
- Discuss the role of the Health Professional in assessment and management of each OE.

## D. MODES OF LEARNING

The eLearning environment fosters a self-directed approach. You can progress through the modules and exercises at a time that is convenient for you at home or work. The course timetable in Section G on page 4 of the course syllabus outlines weekly expectations for participants.

- **Learning and application:** Sections and modules were developed by the de Souza education team to reflect the latest knowledge in Oncologic Emergencies. The content is up-to-date and includes interactive application exercises and links to the latest clinical guidelines. Please note, this course does not replace your own organization's policies and procedures.
- **Study Guides:** A printable study guide is available for each module that you can print and fill in as you progress through the interactive course modules. Study guides are optional but can be helpful for your future reference.

## E. MODES OF EVALUATION

As part of the evaluation process, you are required to complete the following:

- **Participant Baseline Survey:** This survey assesses your knowledge, attitude, and confidence before you begin the eLearning modules for the course.
- **eLearning Modules** and required readings.
- **Case Study Quizzes** achieving a passing score of 70% in each quiz. Participants will have a maximum of two attempts for each quiz.
- **Participant Post-course Evaluation:** At the end of the course, you will be required to complete the online post-course evaluation through eLearning.

When you have successfully met all the above requirements, within two business days, you will receive an email containing instructions on how to download your **certificate of completion** via your "My Account". As well as credit towards obtaining your de Souza designation.

## F. EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

To be successful in completing this course, you are encouraged to set aside 1 to 2 hours each week to complete each section as learning is primarily self-directed. The total learning hours for this course are **5 hours**, which do not include quizzes.

You can complete the modules in any order you wish, but all must be completed within the **6-week** period after you register for the course.

If you have vacation planned within the timeframe, ensure that you include that time away in your schedule to complete all modules. No extension will be given due to vacation time.

Your course activity completion will be reflected in your grade book. You will be expected to complete all modules through the eLearning system.

If you are experiencing difficulty completing this course in a timely way, please review the de Souza policies in section K and contact [support@desouzainstitute.com](mailto:support@desouzainstitute.com).

## G. COURSE TIMELINE

You can complete the modules in any order you wish. The course timeline below is just a guide to help you pace yourself, so that all course requirements could be completed within the 6-week time period.

Module	Post Date	Date to complete
Learner Agreement	Within 1 <sup>st</sup> week of the course	Completion by the end of 1 <sup>st</sup> week
Participant Baseline Survey	Within 1 <sup>st</sup> week of the course	Completion by the end of 1 <sup>st</sup> week
1: Hypercalcemia and Case Study	Within 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of the course	Completion by the end of 2 <sup>nd</sup> week
2: Febrile Neutropenia and Sepsis and Case Study	Within 3 <sup>rd</sup> week of the course	Completion by the end of 3 <sup>rd</sup> week
3: Tumour Lysis Syndrome and Case Study	Within 4 <sup>th</sup> week of the course	Completion by the end of 4 <sup>th</sup> week
4: Cytokine Release Syndrome and Case Study	Within 5 <sup>th</sup> week of the course	Completion by the end of 5 <sup>th</sup> week
5: Spinal Cord Compression and Case Study	Within 6 <sup>th</sup> week of the course	Completion by the end of 6 <sup>th</sup> week
Final Evaluation		

## H. EDUCATOR AVAILABILITY

This course is self-directed. If you have questions about the course or are having difficulty with the course content, contact [support@desouzainstitute.com](mailto:support@desouzainstitute.com) and include the course name "OEMA00ODM25" in the subject line. You can expect the course educators: Allison Loucks, Donaldda MacDonald, or another educator to respond to your questions within 24-hours during the week and within 48 hours (about 2 days) on the weekend.

## I. VIRTUAL LIBRARY

de Souza Institute has a [virtual library](#) that can be accessed to those registered in this course or any other de Souza Institute continuing education program. This resource enables you to access over 1500 e-Journals, 200 e-books and 8 on-line databases such as CINAHL or Ovid-Medline. You can use the virtual library to access the required reading materials for your course. The virtual library can be accessed 24 hours a day at any location that has internet access using a login and password.

The direct link is <https://library.desouzainstitute.com/login>.

## J. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

### eLearning Centre Orientation

The [eLearning Centre Orientation](#) will introduce you to online learning and to help you understand how to navigate through the de Souza Institute eLearning Centre and courses. It is **strongly** recommended that you complete this orientation so that you will be able to successfully navigate de Souza's eLearning environment.

### de Souza Institute Support

If you have questions about the content of a course, please email your course educator through [support@desouzainstitute.com](mailto:support@desouzainstitute.com).

If you need assistance accessing or navigating the eLearning Centre, please refer to the eLearning Orientation course. If you have questions or have any general technical difficulties, please contact [support@desouzainstitute.com](mailto:support@desouzainstitute.com).

## K. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Click the links below to review de Souza Institute Policies:

[Academic Honesty and Copyright Policy](#)

[Cancellations, Incomplete and No Show Policy](#)

[Request for Accommodation Policy](#)