

 <b>Saskatchewan Health Authority</b>	<b>Number:</b> 40-001-05 SW <b>Title:</b> TB Medication Delivery in Community by Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)  <b>Role performing Activity:</b> DOT Worker	
<h1>STANDARD WORK</h1>	<b>Location:</b> All jurisdictions and agencies responsible for the delivery of DOT	<b>Department/Unit:</b> TB Prevention and Control Saskatchewan (TBPC SK)
	<b>Document Owner:</b> Manager, TBPC SK	<b>Date Prepared:</b> July 23, 2019
	<b>Last Revision:</b>	<b>Date Approved:</b> September 12, 2019
	<b>Related Policies/Documentation</b> TBPC SK Clinical Policy and Procedure 40-001: Treatment of Tuberculosis (draft)  Saskatchewan Health Authority (former Saskatoon Health Region) Nursing Policy and Procedure 1168: Delegation of Task to Formally Educated Unregulated Care Providers	

## Work Standard Summary:

In Saskatchewan, directly observed therapy (DOT) is the standard of treatment for persons with active tuberculosis (TB). DOT is also commonly used with individuals receiving treatment of latent TB infection. DOT means a health-care provider watches the client swallow each dose of medication. DOT seeks to improve TB treatment adherence thus preventing relapse and acquired drug resistance. DOT also enables close monitoring of individuals during their course of treatment. For those with active TB, effective treatment also prevents ongoing transmission of TB thereby enhancing public health and safety. The following standard work outlines the process for DOT.

### Definitions

**Delegating nurse** means the nurse(s) that is knowledgeable of the individual client’s care needs based on ongoing nursing assessment and is responsible for the overall care of the client in the community.

**DOT Worker** means the care provider responsible for delivery of DOT. This may be a nurse, continuing care assistant, TB Program Worker, or other provider.

**Enabler** means a practical item given to a client to facilitate adherence to treatment, isolation, clinic appointments or other aspects of treatment.

**Incentive** means a gift given to clients to encourage or acknowledge their adherence to treatment and/or isolation.

**Medication discrepancy** means an instance when information on the medication record is not congruent with medication packages or what has been ordered or reported. For example, medications listed on the Tuberculosis Order Set are not the same as what is provided in the medication dose packages.

**Medication error** means “any preventable event that may cause or lead to inappropriate medication use or client harm while the medication is in the control of the health care professional, client, or consumer. Such events may be related to professional practice, health care products, procedures, and systems, including prescribing, order communication, product labeling, packaging, and nomenclature, compounding, dispensing, distribution, administration, education, monitoring, and use” (National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention, 2015).

**Name alert** means a process initiated when two or more clients have the same last name or two or more clients have names that look or sound alike. The process includes: (1) placing a check mark in the name alert box on each TBPC SK Medication Record; (2) placing a name alert label on the medication bag; (3) highlighting the client name or writing 'name alert' on each dose package.

<b>Essential Tasks:</b>	
<b>Preparation</b>	
1.	<p>Remove one dose package from the large zip-lock bag (medication bag). Check that the client identifiers (full name, date of birth, and provincial health number), medication, dose, and dosage form (e.g., tablet, suspension) are the same as what is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordered on the Tuberculosis Order Set, and</li> <li>• Listed on the medication label on the dose package, and</li> <li>• On the TBPC SK Medication Record.</li> </ul> <p>Do not give the dose and notify the delegating nurse and TBPC SK Nurse Clinician if the identifiers do not match.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saskatoon office: 306-655-1740 or SK toll free 1-866-780-6482</li> <li>• Prince Albert office: 306-765-4260</li> <li>• Regina office: 306-766-4311</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: The client's name is the only identifier on the dose packages; the date of birth and provincial health number are not listed on the dose packages.</i></p>
2.	<p>Write the client's date of birth on the dose package:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the first dose of each new shipment of medication (i.e., with the first dose of each medication cycle),</li> <li>• When delivering medication to a client for the first time, <b>and</b></li> <li>• When the <i>name alert</i> process is in effect.</li> </ul>
<b>Medication Delivery</b>	
1.	<p>Confirm the client's identity using a minimum of two identifiers. Cross-reference the identifiers with the dose package as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Ask the client to spell their first and last name and state their date of birth if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The dose is the first dose of the medication shipment (medication cycle), or</li> <li>• It is your first time giving DOT to the client.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Ask the client to state their first and last name for all remaining doses of the medication shipment (medication cycle). Direct facial recognition is considered the second identifier when the DOT Worker already knows the client AND the dose is not the first dose of the medication shipment or the first time delivering DOT to the client.</li> <li>c. Ask the client to spell their first and last name and state their date of birth for every dose if the <i>name alert</i> process is in effect.</li> </ol> <p>Do not give the dose and notify the delegating nurse and TBPC SK Nurse Clinician if what is on the dose package does not match what the client states.</p>

2.	<p>Ask the client if they tolerated the last dose or if they experienced side effects. If the client reports side effects or if other concerns exist regarding the delivery of DOT, do not give the dose and notify the TBPC SK Nurse Clinician and delegating nurse for direction.</p> <p><i>Note: For urgent concerns on weekends and statutory holidays, notify the on-call TB physician by calling the Royal University Hospital Switchboard (306-655-1000). For TBPC SK DOT Workers; call the Registered Nurse on standby.</i></p>
3.	<p>Give the medication to the client and directly observe them swallow it. Do not give medication to the client to take later.</p> <p><i>Note: All TB medication must be taken at the same time; for example, if one pill falls on the ground or the client refuses to take one of the medications then all of the medication must be withheld. Notify the TBPC SK Nurse Clinician and delegating nurse if this occurs.</i></p> <p><i>Note: Medications may be crushed and mixed with food and then taken immediately. Medications may also be crushed and mixed with rifampin suspension and then taken immediately. Tablets may be cut in half and placed in gel capsules supplied by the TB Pharmacy. Gel capsules may be useful for clients that have difficulty swallowing tablets or for those that do not like the taste of the tablets.</i></p>
4.	<p>Place all used/unused medication packaging in the dose package. Date and initial the dose package. Do not throw any packaging out.</p> <p><i>Note: Medication audits are completed for clients receiving TB medications by DOT. Used and unused packaging is counted during the audit process. Adjustments to treatment and/or the length of treatment will be made based on audit results.</i></p>
5.	<p>Provide incentives and/or enablers in accordance with the client's plan of care.</p>
6.	<p>Notify the TBPC SK Nurse Clinician and the delegating nurse, if applicable, within one working day if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The client reports adverse effects,</li> <li>• The client misses a dose (refer to Appendix B for alternate delivery days),</li> <li>• There is a medication error or discrepancy,</li> <li>• The client plans to be away from the community or has been admitted to a facility such as a hospital or treatment centre,</li> <li>• Adherence concerns or issues arise, or</li> <li>• Any other concerns arise.</li> </ul>
<b>Documentation</b>	
1.	<p>Document medication delivery on the TBPC SK Medication Record as per Appendix C.</p>

## Supplies

- Medication bag with dose packages
- TB Prevention and Control Saskatchewan [Medication Record](#)
- TB Prevention and Control Saskatchewan Tuberculosis Order Set
- Incentives and enablers, if required
- Pill crusher, as necessary
- Gel capsules, as necessary
- Food for delivering medication in, as necessary

## References

Saskatchewan Health Authority. (2018). TB Prevention and Control Saskatchewan policy and procedure: *Treatment of Tuberculosis* (DRAFT).

Saskatchewan Health Authority. (2015). TB Prevention and Control Saskatchewan policy and procedure: *TB Medication Administration, Delivery and Management in Saskatchewan First Nations Communities*.

Saskatchewan Health Authority – former Saskatoon Health Region. (2013). Policy and procedure 7311-60-017: *Verification of Identification*.

Saskatchewan Health Authority – former Saskatoon Health Region. (2017). Nursing policy and procedure # 1168: *Delegation of Task to Formally Educated Unregulated Care Providers*.

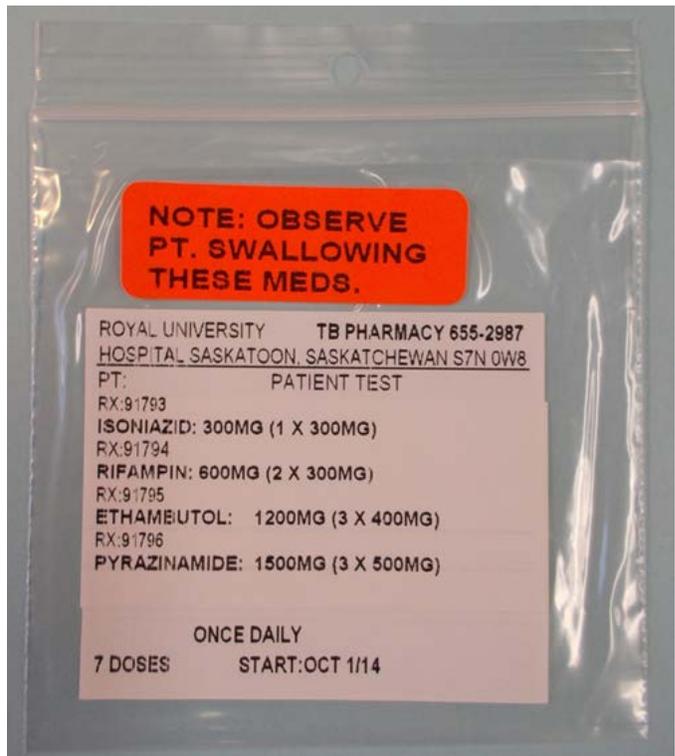
National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention, 2015.

## APPENDIX A: Medication Packaging Examples

Medication bag containing daily dose packages



Dose package



## APPENDIX B: Missed Doses and Alternate DOT Delivery SCHEDULES

Frequency of medication	Days medication to be delivered	Day dose missed	Alternate day(s) to administer
Once a week	Refer to standard work <a href="#">40-001-045 SW: Isoniazid-Rifapentine for Treatment of Latent TB Infection – Delivery in Community by Directly Observed Therapy.</a>		
Twice a week <sup>1</sup>	Monday and Thursday	Monday	Tuesday and then give Thursday dose on Friday
		Thursday	Friday
3 times a week	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday	Any day	No alternate day
5 days a week	Monday to Friday	Any day	No alternate day

<sup>1</sup>Twice a week DOT may be delivered on Tuesday and Friday on an ongoing basis if required as a result of workload or client preference provided it is approved by the TBPC SK Nurse Clinician.

