

Instructions for Families of Children Exposed to Tuberculosis (TB)

Your child has been exposed to a person with TB disease. Although your child's TB test is negative now, we will need to re-evaluate your child in 3 months to be sure that he or she is not infected with the TB germ. TB can be a dangerous disease for children. Because children can develop the disease quickly, it is recommended that your child take medicine to prevent the disease even before the results of the second test are known. It is important for you to give your child the medicine correctly.

Medicines:

DRUG	DOSAGE	STRENGTH	NO. OF PILLS

Please bring all of your child's medicines to every visit!

To give the medicines, do the following:

- Crush pills or open capsules.
- Put the contents into something sweet and thick, such as chocolate pudding, banana baby food, jelly, or anything your child likes.
- Give all of the medicine together about the same time each day.
- Some families find that giving the medicine in the evening works better.

These are some of the side effects associated with TB medicines:

- Loss of appetite, poor energy, nausea, vomiting, belly pain or diarrhea can occur initially. If any of these continue after the first week of treatment, this could mean that there is a problem.
- Numbness or tingling of the fingers or toes sometimes occurs.
- It is possible that a rash may develop.
- There is a small risk of hepatitis (liver inflammation) with Isoniazid (INH). This is very rare in children.

If any of these side effects occur, call us right away. You may need to stop the medicine.

Plan for follow-up:

- Every month, you will need to bring your child back for a short check up and to obtain refills of medicines.
- Three months after your child is no longer exposed to tuberculosis, we will repeat the TB test. If the test is negative, we may stop the medicines. If the test is positive, we will continue the medicines.

Public Health Nurse: _____ Phone #: _____

