

Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
Division of TB and Newcomer Health
TB Drug Assistance Program for clients requiring second line TB drugs

Background

Funds have been appropriated by the General Assembly to purchase medications and supplies for individuals who have drug-resistant tuberculosis and/or require treatment with second-line antimicrobial agents.

Procedure

1. Only cases with drug susceptibility results documenting resistance to one or more of the standard anti-tuberculosis medications or who have other medical conditions requiring the use of second line drugs are eligible to participate in the program.
2. All clients enrolled in the second line TB drug assistance program must participate in directly observed therapy (DOT) and be case managed by the LHD regardless of the source of medical care. They may also not be eligible for free medications through another source, such as DOD, DOC, Veterans Administration, Medicaid or private insurance.
3. Requests for assistance for clients needing second line drugs will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Local health department TB nurse case-managers requesting authorization for patients to participate in the program should fax the "Pharmacy Eligibility Worksheet for Second Line Drug Program" request form to "TB Nurse Consultant", 804-371-0248 (fax). A response will be sent within one business day. Please call if no response is received or the need is urgent.
4. The State Pharmacy in Richmond will fill all prescriptions for clients needing second line drugs (for all districts with medications filled by the State Pharmacy).
 - a. The LHD should complete the LHS-181 to order medications through this program. It is acceptable to forward the LHS-181 with separate signed physician prescriptions, but the LHS-181 must also be included.
 - b. In the top right corner under Program enter "TB Drug Resistance"
 - c. In the remarks section, under cost code, enter "603"
 - d. In the remarks section, under FIPS code, enter "000"
 - e. In the remarks section, under PSD code, enter "B"

Prescriptions filled through the program will have no cost to the client or district other than normal pharmacy shipping charges.