

**Procedures for Tuberculosis Directly Observed Therapy (DOT)  
or Directly Observed Preventive Therapy (DOPT)**

1.	<p><b>Prior to meeting with the client the first time</b>, review <i>Checklist for Tuberculosis DOT/DOPT Education Session</i> in a joint meeting with Communicable Disease/Immunization Coordinator (CD/IC) , Public Health Nurse (PHN-Case Manager) and/or Home Care (HC) Case Coordinator (as applicable) and HC Nursing Supervisor.</p>
2.	<p><b>At first meeting with client</b>, introduce yourself and remind/reassure client of the purpose of the visit. Explain to client you are there to <b>observe</b> the client taking their medication.</p> <p>If the client is a child and unable to take medical independently, the parent or other caregiver with whom the child is comfortable may give the medication in the presence of the Observer (Public Health Nurse, Direct Service Nurse, Home Care Attendant or Designated Person).</p>
3.	<p>With the client, get their medication from their storage place and review the <i>DOT/DOPT record</i>.</p>
4.	<p>As part of DOT/DOPT make sure it is the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Right client</b> Identify client using 2 client identifiers upon initial visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ask client to state their first and last name</li> <li>○ ask client to state their date of birth</li> </ul> Subsequent visits use any 2 of the following identifiers (ask client to state their first and last name, greet client by name and observe the response, verify name and address with client label).</li> <li>● <b>Right medication(s)</b></li> <li>● <b>Right time</b> (twice weekly meds are usually taken at least 3 days apart, Monday and Thursday, or Tuesday and Friday. If necessary, twice weekly medications can be taken within a minimum of 48 hours)</li> <li>● <b>Right route</b> – by mouth</li> <li>● <b>Right dose</b></li> <li>● <b>Right documentation</b></li> </ul> <p>Report to the PHN, CD/IC, or HC Resource Coordinator/Case Coordinator if you observe any of the above is not correct.</p>
5.	<p>If the client is a case, Review <i>TB DOT Medication Side Effect Check List</i> with the client.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Check box if no abnormality reported by client.</li> <li>● If the client tells you about, or if you observe any physical symptoms outside the normal as listed on the <i>TB DOT Medication Side Effect Check List</i>, report this to the PHN, CD/IC and/or HC Case Coordinator <b>immediately before giving medication</b> to determine next steps.</li> </ul> <p>If the client:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● refuses to take medication</li> <li>● does not take medication as prescribed or</li> <li>● is not home</li> </ul> <p>this needs to be reported. If the Observer is a Direct Service Nurse, report to the HC Case Coordinator, who then reports to PHN and CD/IC. If Observer is a HCA, report to HC Resource Coordinator, who then reports to PHN and CD/IC.</p>
6.	<p>If the client requires assistance getting medication out of packaging, follow routine practices, including washing hands with soap and water or applying alcohol-based hand rub before &amp;</p>

	after assisting with medication. Don gloves for administration.
7.	<p>Observe the client taking their medication, or observe the parent or caregiver giving the medication to a child.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Count the number of pills in the bubblepack slot</li> <li>• Hand the pack to client to open</li> <li>• Client will push <b>ALL</b> medication from the blister pack for that day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If pushing medications crushes them, the client may cut into the package</li> <li>○ If medication comes in a pre-filled envelope, empty it into a medication cup</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Make sure that the right number of pills have been taken out of the bubblepack slot and none have fallen on the ground or left in the bubblepack</li> <li>• If medication is liquid, client will pour the medicine into a medicine cup (if already not in pre-dosed syringes) being sure it is the exact dose as prescribed.</li> <li>• If the client has difficulty swallowing and the medication is not liquid, medication can be crushed and mixed with food (e.g. pudding, apple sauce) or fluid. If Observer is a nurse, they may assist with this. Home Care Attendants cannot.</li> </ul>
8.	The client may take medication with any fluid to effectively swallow medication.
9.	Observe the client until they have swallowed all the medication.
10.	Observe client return blister pack or liquid medications to appropriate storage place to be available for the next treatment.
11.	<p>Document the date on the <i>DOT/DOPT Record</i> and initial it.</p> <p>*The first time you complete this form, print your name and sign the bottom of the <i>DOT/DOPT Record</i>.</p>
12.	Document any relevant information, action, client response or plan in the client file.