

TUBERCULOSIS MEDICATIONS

This pamphlet talks about the TB pills which you are taking. It is very important that you take all of your pills, even if you feel better. It takes at least 6 months or longer to kill all of the TB germs in your body.

Tell the Nurse or Doctor if you are allergic to any medications or if you are taking other medications before starting your TB pills.

You should take your TB pills on an empty stomach.

Avoid drinking alcohol while taking TB pills.



Some people are scared about the number of TB pills they have to take, which may be between 7-12 pills daily. This is normal for the treatment of tuberculosis, and the pills should be taken all at the same time.

SIDE EFFECTS

Most people who take TB pills have no problems. A few people will develop side effects which should be reported to the Nurse or Doctor immediately. These include:

- Nausea or vomiting
- Yellow skin or eyes
- Dark urine(looks like tea)
- Numbness or tingling in your hands or feet
- Rash or itch
- Vision changes
- Joint pain

You may be asked to go for blood tests. These are important to check for serious side effects.

Common TB Drugs



ISONIAZID (INH)

May come as tablets or liquid. Used to treat people who have tuberculosis or given to people who have TB infection, to prevent them from developing tuberculosis.



RIFAMPIN

Come as red capsules. Used in the treatment of tuberculosis. Will turn your urine, saliva, sweat, and tears an orange-red colour. Contact lenses should not be worn because they may become stained.

Rifampin makes birth control pills less effective, so a different form of birth control should be used.



PYRAZINAMIDE **(PZA)**

Come as white tablets. Used in the treatment of tuberculosis. This TB drug is usually only used for the first 2 months of treatment and then is stopped.



ETHAMBUTOL



Come as white or green tablets. Used in the treatment of tuberculosis. While taking this medication, your vision should be checked once a month.



If you have any questions about your TB pills, please ask your nurse or doctor.

Services Provided by TBSA

- Management of TB Cases
- Consultative Services to Community Health Nurses
- Public Education Sessions
- Inservice Education to Community Health Nurses
- Community Skin Testing Surveys

For Further Information About Tuberculosis Please Contact Your Community Health Centre

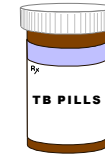
or
TB Services to Aboriginals
BC Centre for Disease Control Society
655 W 12th Ave
Vancouver BC V5Z 4R4

Telephone: (604) 660-9998
Fax: (604) 660-1950
TBinfo@bccdc.ca
www.bccdc.org

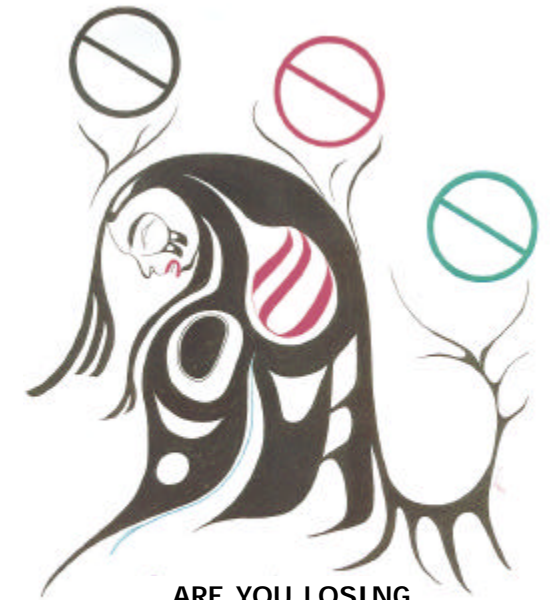


BC Centre for Disease Control

TUBERCULOSIS IN FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES



TB MEDICATIONS



ARE YOU LOSING
BREATH ENERGY SPIRIT ?



MAY BE THE CULPRIT...
CHECK IT OUT

TB Services to Aboriginals
Division of TB Control