

PRACTICAL ADVICE



- Give the medication at the same time each day (e.g. in the morning, at dinner time...), as it will be easier to remember that way. 😊
- Give the medication with a meal as it will be better tolerated.
- It is possible to crush pills and mix them with juice if necessary.
- It is possible to dilute the syrup with juice but make sure the child drinks it all.

If one dose is forgotten, the child must take it as soon as possible in the same day but **DO NOT DOUBLE A DAILY DOSE!**

FOLLOW UP



During the period that your child is being treated for tuberculosis infection, there will be regular visits scheduled at the Tuberculosis Clinic. These visits are important because they therapy is well tolerated and that your child is doing well without evidence of disease or side effects.

WHEN I MUST SEE A DOCTOR?

- ✓ TB symptoms : cough, fever, chills, weight loss, night sweats, tired
- ✓ Body rash
- ✓ Abdominal pain
- ✓ Nausea, vomiting

For more information about tuberculosis or if there some questions, contact us:

Tuberculosis clinic
(514) 345-4931 ext. 3937 or 3900

Réalisation

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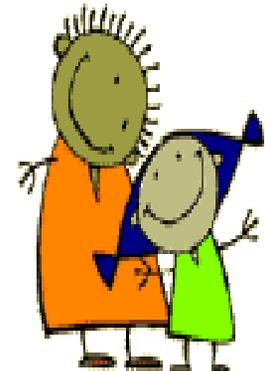
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LATENT TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION



INFORMATIONS FOR PARENTS


CHU Sainte-Justine
Le centre hospitalier
universitaire mère-enfant
Pour l'amour des enfants


Université
de Montréal

*SERVICE DES
MALADIES INFECTIEUSES*

Your child has a new diagnostic of latent tuberculosis infection. This leaflet will give you all the information you need.

WHAT IS TUBERCULOSIS?



Tuberculosis is a disease caused by a bacteria called Mycobacterium tuberculosis. Most of the time, only the lungs are affected but the bacteria may spread to other organs such as the lymph nodes, brain and bones.

WHAT IS TUBERCULOSIS DISEASE?

This is a state where the tuberculosis bacteria are active. The disease is associated with symptoms such as :

- Fever, chills
- Weight loss and loss appetite
- Night sweats
- Fatigue
- Abnormal chest X-ray (usually)

This disease can be contagious. Declaration and treatment are mandatory by law and supervised by public health center.

WHAT IS TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION?

That is a state where the tuberculosis bacteria are present but inactive in the body. The child is **not sick** and **not contagious**.

HOW IS TUBERCULOSIS SPREAD?

At some point, your child has had contact with someone that had the disease. When this contagious person coughed, the tuberculosis bacteria went from his / her lungs into the air. Your child became infected by breathing the air that was carrying the bacteria.

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT YOUR CHILD HAS TUBERCULOSIS?

With a skin test (PPD or Mantoux skin test), a chest X-ray and a medical examination, the doctor can identify the presence of a tuberculosis infection.

HOW IS TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION TREATED?



Tuberculosis infection is treated in order to reduce the risk of developing tuberculosis disease.

The doctor will usually prescribe for your child for a medication called isoniazid (INH) that to be taken daily for 9 months.

The medication is FREE (Costs are assumed by the government) and it is available as a tablet or a syrup.

SIDE EFFECTS OF THE TUBERCULOSIS MEDICATION

Unlike in adults, the medication is generally well tolerated by children and there are usually no side effects. Some possible side effects are :

- Vomiting, nausea
- Fatigue (mild)
- Abdominal pain

These effects are usually minor and short-lived and do not interfere with treatment. If, however, these side-effects persist or other symptoms appear, please contact the Tuberculosis Clinic.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF MY CHILD DOESN'T TAKE THE MEDICATION ?

The bacteria that inactive in your child's body could become active at any moment and provoke the tuberculosis disease. The treatment would be more complicated (a combination of several medications) due to the severe nature of the tuberculosis disease.

Many factors increase the risk of developing the tuberculosis disease : young age, prior health conditions, recent contact with someone with the disease and recent immigration.

It is possible that the bacteria will remain inactive forever but prevention is the best option.