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TUBERCULOSIS  
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SOUTH AFRICA



health

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# Managing Tuberculosis Drug Supplies

URC

# Maintaining Adequate Supplies of TB Drugs

- Key element of the DOTS strategy
- Treatment and prevention of TB depends on availability of quality assured TB drugs

# Learning Objectives

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- Calculate the amount of TB drugs the facility will need for a quarter
- Ensure adequate supply of TB drugs at all health facilities that treat TB patients

# Calculating drug requirements

- Determine the number of patients registered last quarter for each treatment category
- Determine the number of tablets/vials of each drug needed to treat one patient per regimen
- Determine the total amount of each tablet/vial needed to treat all patients during the quarter for all regimens
- Allow for reserve stock
- Account for the tablets/vials of each drug in the facility

# Reserve stock

- Reserve stock allows for:
  - possible increases in the number of patients
  - extra supplies in cases of delays in delivery
  - approx 10% of patients will need to extend intensive phase
  - all calculations (adults) are based on 37 – 54kg weight band, some patients may be larger

## Step 1: How many patients were registered last quarter

- TB Register or Quarterly Report on Case Finding can be used
- Determine
  - total number of new pulmonary smear positive cases
  - total number of all retreatment smear positive cases
  - total number of all extra-pulmonary and smear negative cases

## Step 2: Number of tablets/vials of each drug needed to treat one patient per regimen (BU)

- New smear positive : Regimen 1
  - 2(RHZE)/4(RH)
- Retreatment cases : Regimen 2
  - 2(SRHZE)/1(RHZE)/5(RH)5(E)
- cases: length of treatment will be determined by site of disease
- Number of tablets/vials per episode also called basic units (BU)

### Step 3: Number of tablets/vials of each drug needed for all patients in all regimens (TU)

- This is also called total basic units by treatment regimen (TU)
- New smear positive will need 3tabs X 7days X 4
- 84 tabs per month or 168 tablets per intensive phase
- Basic Units per episode for a new patient is equal to 168 RHZE

## Step 4: Allow for reserve stock

- Health facilities should have one month's reserve stock of all drugs needed to treat TB.
- The reserve stock level for a facility is 3 months
- Multiply the amount of tablets/vials needed for all patients by 2 for reserve stock

## Step 5: Account for drugs currently in stock at the facility

- Before finalizing your order always check the stock levels at the health facility store
- This number is subtracted from your estimated drug requirements to maintain your maximum stock levels

# We can stop TB

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