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To: Wisconsin Local Health Departments

From: Julie Tans-Kersten
Director, Wisconsin Tuberculosis Program

Changes to the Wisconsin Tuberculosis (TB) Treatment Assistance Program

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Summary

The Wisconsin Tuberculosis (TB) Treatment Assistance Program (WTBTAP) is designed to encourage and support TB clients through the completion of TB treatment by providing funding to purchase treatment assistance aids. WTBTAP is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Wisconsin state tax revenue funds. WTBTAP was previously administered by the American Lung Association in Wisconsin **and will now be administered through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health Tuberculosis Program.**

WTBTAP is used primarily for clients who have active TB disease, but can also be used for clients being treated for latent TB infection (LTBI) for encouragement and assistance along the course of their therapy. Local health departments (LHDs) may enroll in the WTBTAP by reading the program guidelines and then completing and signing the WTBTAP Enrollment and Agreement form. Please contact the Wisconsin Tuberculosis Program for more information.

WTBTAP Guidance for LHDs

- Please call the Wisconsin Tuberculosis Program with any questions related to WTBTAP.
- LHDs must review and sign the WTBTAP Enrollment and Agreement form on an annual basis.
- TB treatment assistance aids without pre-approval are capped at:
 - \$50 for clients being treated for LTBI.
 - \$200 for clients being treated for active TB disease.
- Table 1 contains a list of allowable treatment assistance aids (included items) and items not covered by the WTBTAP (excluded items).
 - Purchase of gift cards will only be allowed for establishments where excluded items are NOT available.
 - Clients receiving gift cards must receive education on allowable purchases (Table 1).
- Treatment assistance above the capped amount must be pre-approved by the Wisconsin Tuberculosis Program.

Table 1. Allowable TB Treatment Assistance Aids

Items covered by WTBTAP (Included Items)	Items NOT covered by WTBTAP (Excluded Items)
Pill minders Food Beverages (non-alcoholic) School supplies Plants Bus tickets Gas cards (vouchers)* Flowers Personal care items Practical clothing items (less than \$20) Hobby supplies Books Gift cards to establishments where excluded items are NOT available (limit \$50 per gift card)	Cigarettes or other tobacco products Vaporizers, vape pens, hookah pens, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and “e-liquid” Cash Alcohol Gambling Health services (e.g., X-rays) Prescription and over-the-counter medications Gift cards to establishments where any of the above can be purchased (e.g., Target, Walgreen’s, Visa gift cards, etc.)

(*) Gas cards or vouchers must have “for fuel only” imprinted on the card by the company (not hand written).

WTBTAP contact information

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