



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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Division of Public Health

**April 13, 2023**

**TO:** Local Health Department TB Staff  
**FROM:** Jason Stout, MD, MHS, TB Controller/Medical Director  
**RE:** Tuberculosis medication shortages

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Jason Stout, MD, MHS, TB Controller/Medical Director.

The North Carolina Tuberculosis Control Program is continuing to monitor ongoing shortages of isoniazid. Isoniazid 300 mg tablets are on back order status until mid-June; 100 mg tablets may be available but supply is uncertain. In light of these ongoing shortages, the NC Tuberculosis Control Program is recommending prioritizing the use of isoniazid as follows:

- 1) The top priority is ensuring treatment of current active TB cases.
- 2) Second priority is treatment of individuals who test positive for latent tuberculosis after recent close contacts to infectious cases.
- 3) Patients with latent tuberculosis for whom treatment is recommended should be preferentially treated with rifampin monotherapy, if at all possible. If rifampin is contraindicated AND there is no emergent need for latent tuberculosis treatment (such as imminent use of a biologic agent), initiation of latent tuberculosis treatment may be deferred until adequate drug supply is available.

If insufficient isoniazid supply is available to continue treatment of a current active TB case, the county should reach out to the NC Tuberculosis Control Program for guidance regarding alternative regimens.

We will continue to update our partners as new information on this shortage becomes available. Please contact the NC Tuberculosis Control Program with any questions or concerns.

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

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