



## Health, Seniors and Active Living

Public Health and Primary Health Care Division  
Communicable Disease Control  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 300 Carlton St, Winnipeg, MB R3B 3M9  
T 204 788-6737 F 204 948-2190  
[www.manitoba.ca](http://www.manitoba.ca)

September 14, 2016

Dear Health Care Provider:

**Re: Shortage of Pyrazinamide (PZA) 500mg:**

Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) has been notified of a national supply shortage of Pyrazinamide 500mg, one of the first line Anti-Tuberculosis (TB) drugs. According to the manufacturer, the restore date is uncertain.

MHSAL is exploring the available supply in the system with Health Canada.

According to the Canadian Tuberculosis Standard (7<sup>th</sup> edition \_ Table 3 page 104):

If the PZA is missing: when the initial 2-month phase of treatment is completed with only Isoniazid INH, Rifampin (RMP) and Ethambutol, the continuation phase with INH and RMP needs to be extended to 7 months (instead of only 4 months), for a total of 9 months treatment (instead of usual total of 6 months) for pan sensitive pulmonary TB only.

MHSAL will send further updates as new information is made available.

If you have any questions, please contact MHSAL at 204-788-6737

Sincerely,

*“Original signed by”*

Richard Baydack, PhD  
Director  
Communicable Disease Control

*“Original signed by”*

Richard Rusk, DVM, MD  
Medical Officer of Health  
Communicable Disease Control