

Protocol for Home-based Directly Observed Therapy

Directly Observed Therapy (DOT): Antiretroviral therapy that is prescribed to a patient where a third party does not administer but observes the taking of each dose. The DOT worker does not sort medications into pill boxes or handle medications directly at all. The role of the DOT worker is to watch the patient take the medications and note the time medications were taken on the logs. The DOT worker and the patient must sign the DOT tracking log.

Eligibility for home-based DOT is determined by the patient's care team – the team must include a physician. The request for DOT will come from Dr. Garcia and be forwarded to Anne Statton.

Once a patient has been identified as needing DOT, the physician, social worker or case manager will contact the PACPI Project Director. The Project Director will determine the appropriate personnel for the assignment (Delta T agency, CDPH nurse or other persons may be involved in observing doses taken twice daily and on weekends.

Once the complete assignment of DOT is made, the PACPI Project Director will communicate this information (Name of worker, times for visits, etc) to the PACPI HP Housing Partner.

The PACPI Project Director will collaborate with someone from the care team to address any problems or concerns that arise with the DOT service.

The PACPI Project Director will ensure that timely payment is made to any sub-contractors providing DOT. Payment will usually be made every two weeks according to PACPI's check cutting schedule, provided that all tracking logs are turned in on time.

The PACPI Project Director will make regular (monthly) reports to the PACPI Project Team and Housing Partner on the status of DOT services conducted to clients in the HP program.

Copies of the Log Sheets will be maintained in the PACPI office. Medical information such as initial viral load/CD4 and viral load/CD4 at delivery and/or DNA PCR results at four months on the newborn will be tracked by the PACPI enhanced case manager and recorded in the Client Track/FACTORS database.