Dear Parents:

I recommend that your child take preventive (window) treatment to stop him/her from getting tuberculosis (TB). Your child was exposed to TB and taking medicine will decrease his/her chance of becoming sick.

Children aged 4 and younger exposed to TB are at greatest risk of quickly developing life-threatening disease. The risk of acquiring tuberculous infection is particularly high in children who live with expectorate-positive adults. Once contagion has occurred, the risk of progression to TB disease is highest during the first two years. The risk of progression also depends on age: the risk of developing active disease is significantly higher in children than in adults, being about 15% in adolescents, 24% in children aged 1–5 years, and 40–50% in those aged < 2 years. Furthermore, the tendency to evolve into active disease is more frequent in children and its clinical course is more rapid, putting them at greater risk of developing the more severe forms such as tubercular meningitis or miliary TB.

The purpose of window prophylaxis is to abort an early TB infection and prevent progression to TB disease. It can take up to 3 months for the TST / IGRA to become positive after infection, therefore I strongly recommend that your child be placed on window treatment at least until second round testing can occur.

We will do a second TB test 8 weeks after last exposure. If the test is negative, we will stop the medicine. If the test is positive, we will continue the medicine for a full 4 months to complete latent TB infection (LTBI) treatment and to stop the infection from developing into active disease.

If you do not give your child this important medicine, you may be endangering your child’s health.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Amanda Norwood, DO

WCCHD Medical Director/Health Authority

I have read and understand the above.

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Child’s Name and Date of Birth

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Parent signature Date

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Witness signature Date