

# Pharmacy Instructions

## Policies:

- FOB does not give expired medicines to patients. If you find expired medicines, give them to FOB staff for disposal.
- It is recommended that no more than 2 medicines per patient per chief complaint be given. This recommendation is given to eliminate confusion and does not include vitamins or Tums.

## Prior to the Start of Clinics:

- Children's vitamins and prenatal vitamins should be divided into packets of a 6-month supply on Saturday or Sunday evening, after your arrival in Honduras.
- Adult vitamins should be divided into packets for a 90-day supply to be taken every other day.
- Bags for Well Clinic should be assembled to include one tube of anti-itch cream, bacitracin ointment, Tylenol 325mg (30), toothbrushes and TUMS. These bags should have an instruction sheet added to them.
- Divide the supply of vitamins into 5 piles (one for each day). "Extras" (flip flops, etc.) will NOT be left in communities. Diapers, slings, flip flops, etc. will be utilized at the discretion of medical providers and will be kept in the pharmacy area not at individual stations. Larger community needs are addressed by FOB Honduran staff on an ongoing basis.
- Please remember that FOB inventory for teams is sent on a rolling basis. Therefore, any vitamins and Well Clinic bags (or other medications) remaining at the end of the week are to be used by the following team. Do not give away any remaining medications or supplies at the end of the week.

## General Clinic Setup:

- Each medical professional and pharmacy volunteer must review the team's inventory thoroughly prior to the first clinic day. FOB provides medical professionals with a copy of the medical handbook, which includes our inventory, listing which medicines are available for use and contains helpful notes for practitioners.
- Each nurse or doctor assigned to the medical clinic should take an assortment of the most used medicines to their station site on the first day. At the end of each day, all leftover medicines for the day should be placed in a box provided for you.

## Pharmacy Instructions:

- Open one bottle at a time and use completely before opening another.
- Maintain the order of the medicines tub categories.
- All medications should be given in zip-top bags. Do not use other types of bags which must be knotted.
- All medications must be labeled in SPANISH with the following information:
  - a. Patient's first name
  - b. Name of medication and dosage, e.g. Amoxicillin 250 mg
  - c. Directions for taking the medication, e.g. "1 tablet 2 times per day"
  - d. Any special instructions, e.g. "Take with food"
- After dispensing all medicines to a family, the parent or eldest sibling should repeat the instructions of each medicine to the translator to ensure that all directions have been understood.
- Medications which are pre-bagged such as vitamins, Tums, and Tylenol should have a label on the bag rather than writing on the bag with a sharpie.
- Minimize the amount of pre-bagged medications left for the next team.
- When amoxicillin powder is not available, use amoxicillin capsules for children as well as adults. Medical staff can teach parents to open capsules and mix the powder with beans or a liquid.