

TB as a disease of inequality – the impact of housing

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Who might be having video-observed treatment?

Directly observed therapy should be considered as an integral part of enhanced case management in complex cases such as those from underserved groups¹.

- people who are homeless
- people who misuse substances
- people who have been in prison
- vulnerable migrants

Video observed therapy found to be more effective than DOT, likely to be preferable across a broad range of settings²

Access to technology as a potential barrier

References

1. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (2017) *Quality Standards*
2. Story et al., (2019) *Smartphone-enabled video-observed versus directly observed treatment for tuberculosis: a multicentre, analyst-blinded, randomised, controlled superiority trial* **Lancet** **393**(1216)

How housing can impact health

Homes for people of working age



Unhealthy homes increase the risk of

- respiratory illness
- cardiovascular problems
- mental health problems



Overcrowded homes increase the risk of

- mental health problems
- respiratory illness
- tuberculosis
- tobacco harm



Precarious housing & homelessness increases the risk of

- physical and mental health problems
- alcohol and drug misuse
- suicide
- tobacco harm
- tuberculosis

Underlying health issues can in turn raise the risk of being homeless or living in precarious housing



How can we help signpost people into suitable services?

- TB Action plan: 5.2.7 Monitoring the provision of access to practical skills training, for example, prescribing, phlebotomy, education or training in signposting patients to benefits and housing support

What support is available? – local authority services

- [Gov UK postcode checker](#) to find which local authority for that patient
- [Mecclink website](#) has contact details for each local authority housing service, duty to refer contact details and affordable warmth resources

MECC Link - Simple Signposting to Better Health and Wellbeing

[Home](#) » Yorkshire & Humber

[Location view](#) [Wellbeing view](#)

Affordable Warmth
Alcohol
Covid-19 Support
COVID-19 Vaccinations
Memory Problems/Dementia/Carers
Falls and Frailty
Financial Inclusion
Fire Safety and Prevention (Safe and Well)
Healthy Diet and Healthy Weight
Housing and Homelessness

Act – what support is available?

- [Contact details and leaflets for support services on the West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership website](#)
- [Citizens Advice](#), a network of independent charities offering free and confidential advice about the [Grants and benefits to help pay energy bills](#).
- This includes details of the [Warm Home Discount Scheme](#).

6 tips for keeping warm

Aim to keep your home at 18 to 21°C (that's 65 to 70°F)

1

Keep bedroom windows closed on cold nights

2

Layer clothing and wear gloves and scarves when outside

3

Keep as active as you can

4

Contact one of the support services listed in this leaflet to find out if you are eligible for financial support to pay your heating bills or to make home improvements to keep your home warm

5

6

Have your heating and cooking appliances checked by a Gas Safe Registered engineer to check they are operating safely



Act – what support is available?



0113 238 0601

greendoctorleeds@groundwork.org.uk



[Groundwork](#), a group of charities that focuses on poverty and the environment

- Making the most of their income and debt advice
- Cost comparison and switching fuel providers
- Emergency broken heating, hot water or gas appliances
- Priority Services Register sign up for vulnerable people
- Energy efficiency advice

Act - What support is available?

Better Homes Yorkshire

A programme for residents in participating councils (Leeds, Bradford, Kirklees, Calderdale, Wakefield, York, Craven, Harrogate and Selby) to pay less for their energy and live in healthier, warmer homes. The programme has improved 3000 homes in the first three years alone.

You can find out more by calling: 0800 597 1500 or by going onto the [Better Homes Yorkshire website](#).



Both customers and non-customers of British Gas living in England can apply for an energy grant. You can find more information on the [British Gas Energy Trust website](#), including details about the [energy grant scheme](#), or call 0121 348 7797

Duty to refer

- The [Homelessness Reduction Act 2017](#) significantly reformed England's homelessness legislation by placing duties on local housing authorities to intervene at earlier stages to prevent homelessness in their areas, and to provide homelessness services to all those who are eligible.
- Additionally, the Act introduced a **duty on specified public authorities to refer service users who they think may be homeless or threatened with homelessness to local authority homelessness/housing options teams.**
- **This includes emergency departments, urgent treatment centres and hospital inpatient services**



West Yorkshire
Health and Care Partnership

**We're helping
to keep people
warm this winter**

Signposting Families to Affordable Warmth and Housing Services in WY

Signposting families to affordable warmth and housing services in West
Yorkshire.

www.eventbrite.co.uk

This 30 minute webinar is for any health and care staff across West Yorkshire working with families and carers with children and/or young people whose health might be affected by cold homes or poor living conditions to know what services are available and how to access them.

Across West Yorkshire 169,000 households, 18% of the 2.4 million people are having a difficult choice to make on whether to spend money on fuel or food. The West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership are investing £1million to help keep people warm this winter, in addition to existing services.

The webinar is open to anyone working in child health, and is likely to be of particular interest to social prescribers, maternity services, health visitors, paediatric services, community nursing teams and primary care teams. The event will be recorded. Those unable to attend on the day are able to register their interest on the same link to receive a copy of the slides and recording after the event.

[Signposting Families to Affordable Warmth and Housing Services in WY Tickets, Wed 16 Feb 2022 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Referral pathways

- NHS England/Improvement require integrated care systems to have a policy between healthcare and housing services for children and young people with asthma
- If you have any relevant policies/learning to share please contact me claire.gilbert7@nhs.net