

VOT/DOT in Bradford

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TB in Bradford

- ▶ 70 – 80 notifications per year
- ▶ High proportion of complex cases
 - Increased cases with drug resistance
 - Patients who had previous TB
 - Homelessness
 - Drug and Alcohol misuse
- ▶ 5 Specialist nurses, 2 full time and 3 part time
- ▶ 3 respiratory consultants, 1 paediatric consultant



TB Service challenges during the pandemic

- ▶ Staff sickness
- ▶ Redeployment, so TB service left with x1 staff full time and x1 part time
- ▶ Face to face clinics still ongoing
- ▶ X2 consultants left
- ▶ X1 staff pregnant, working from home
- ▶ Increase in DOT
- ▶ Increase in active TB in close contact
- ▶ Delay referrals for TB (longer exposure, delay smear +ve results)



DOT

- ▶ Always do DOT for patients who meet criteria
- ▶ Work closely with medical team and wards to ensure DOT doses are prescribed for those who need it.
- ▶ Starting doing VOT regularly June 2020
- ▶ In 2020
 - 28 patients in total on DOT/VOT
 - 23 had active TB – 6 children and 17 adults
 - 5 had LTBI – 3 children and 2 adults

All completed treatment, non were lost to follow up



VOT

- ▶ First tried to do VOT in 2017 – school child with MDR
- ▶ Find and Treat service was not suitable – BD doses for 12 months
- ▶ Issues with information governance

- ▶ June 2020 - complex case
 - Young mother died in ICU with TB meningitis 1 day after admission
 - Partner Smear positive, 2 children LTBI, extensive family contacts
 - DOT for smear positive case
 - 1 child not taking LTBI treatment correctly and was later notified



VOT

- ▶ June 2020 – COVID pandemic
- ▶ Children were having regular clinic appointments – NHS Attend Anywhere – virtual clinic appointments
- ▶ Contacted our Transformations team and registered account.
- ▶ Used NHS Attend Anywhere for VOT and supported the family to all complete treatment.



- ▶ Continue to use NHS Attend Anywhere

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- ▶ Increased capacity to support patients through TB treatment – have had up to 10 patients at one time on VOT

- ▶ Positive response from patients
 - More convenient than DOT visits
 - More confidential eg with housemates
 - Easy to use



Challenges

- ▶ Chasing patients who do not log in
- ▶ Weekends and evenings (Airedale Digital Hub)
- ▶ Technology
- ▶ Access to smart phones
- ▶ Network problems
- ▶ Language barrier
- ▶ Continue to do DOT for those who require it

