



BC Centre for Disease Control
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Clinical Prevention Services
Provincial STI Services
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Date: June 21, 2018

Administrative Circular: 2018:09

ATTN: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**RE: Revisions to the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Manual – Chapter 5:
Sexually Transmitted Infections: Section 1: STIs**

**Please note the following changes to the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Manual –
Chapter 5: Sexually Transmitted Infections: Section 1: STIs**

**(1) BCCDC Non-Certified Practice Decision Support Tools – Updated. Please discard and
replace the following with *Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual
Assault (June 2018)*:**

- ***Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault (June 2012)***

**(2) BCCDC Non-Certified Practice Decision Support Tools – Updated. Please discard and
replace the following with *Core Nursing Practice Competencies for Dispensing
Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault (June 2018)*:**

- ***Competencies for Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault by
CRNBC Sexually Transmitted Infection Certified Practice Registered Nurses
(October 2011)***

Changes in *Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault (June 2018)* include:

- Focus on a client-centered, trauma informed approach to promote safe and equitable care;
- Terminology, language and practice that respects and includes both gender and cultural diversity and awareness, including a move from gender-based to site-based testing;
- Expanded *Application Parameters* to include likelihood of non-certified practice designation nurses providing care to sexual assault survivors. In addition, to align with the recently revised Pelvic Exam DST, further application parameters were included for referral or a consult to a physician or nurse practitioner;

- More fulsome sexual health/assault history section – addition of type and nature of assault, date and time of assault, number of assailants, human papilloma virus (HPV) and hepatitis A virus (HAV) immunization history/status;
- Offering of vaccination and/or education for HPV and HAV – to align with current BC Immunization Guidelines for provincially funded vaccines;
- Change of wording from diagnostic tests to screening tests;
- Creation of a Table to present serological and specimen collection and accompanying notes;
- Updates and formatting to align with recent revisions and changes made to the certified practice DSTs scheduled for submission to CRNBC in September of 2018.

Updates include:

- Support to offer self-swab specimen collection to align with the provision of client-centered care, and recent validation of this method of specimen collection;
- Reference to 4th generation HIV screening - the current standard for baseline HIV serological testing in the province;
- Inclusion of *Trichomonas vaginalis* testing (where available) to align with inclusion of this organism on the BC Public Health Laboratory testing panel;
- Increase to the scope and breadth of the “Treatment of Choice” table as per other DSTs. Examples include:
 - Addition of ceftriaxone and azithromycin as first choice treatment with inclusion of allergy and administration notes for IM ceftriaxone
 - Move of cefixime and doxycycline as 2nd choice treatment
 - Move of azithromycin 2 gm as 3rd choice treatment
 - Retreatment for clients who have missed 2 or more consecutive doses of doxycycline
 - Referral to the STI medication handouts for further medication or client information
 - Change of wording: “*DO NOT USE ceftriaxone or cefixime if history of allergy to cephalosporins. Consult with or refer to a physician or NP if history of anaphylaxis or immediate reaction to penicillins*”. From “*do not use cefixime if allergic to penicillin or cephalosporins*”.
 - Addition of recent data regarding azithromycin and QT prolongation

- Updates to references and hyperlinks. This includes updates to all current BCCDC Guidelines (ex. Guidelines for Testing, Follow up, and Prevention of HIV - October 2016, Hepatitis B – December 2017, Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Management Guidelines (BBFE) – October 2017), as well as to relevant non-BCCDC Guidelines (ex. BC-CfE HIV Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Guidelines - May 2017, CRNBC legislation). As a consequence, this DST also includes updates to current treatment and diagnostic practices which include:
 - Provision of HIV Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) up to 72 hours (from 36 hours);
 - Inclusion of a link to Consultation Sites for PEP;
 - In instances where the assailant is known to be HIV positive, or is identified as “high risk” for HIV infection, contact the medical microbiologist at BCCDC (604-661-7033) to discuss if HIV RNA testing is an option;
 - Follow-up serology as per BBFE guidelines
- Consideration or offering of prophylactic syphilis treatment to align with other existing guidelines and the current landscape of syphilis epidemiology in the province.
- Update to emergency contraception (EC) including timelines for offering and type of EC to offer (ie. Oral hormonal vs. IUD)
- Enhanced Monitoring and Follow-Up to include a Test of Cure if treatment other than the recommended first choice was used as well as return for immunizations according to the recommended schedule
- Three appendices were added to this revision of the DST:
 - Appendix A: Flow diagram outlining follow-up for clients post sexual assault
 - Appendix B: Definitions
 - Appendix C: Client resources

Please remove the following sections from the CDC Manual: Chapter 5: Section 1: STIs:

- *Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault (June 2012)(pp1-9)*
- *Competencies for Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault by CRNBC Sexually Transmitted Infection Certified Practice Registered Nurses (October 2011)*

Please insert the following updated section to the CDC Manual: Chapter 5: Section 1:

STIs:

- *Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault (June 2018)(pp1-21)*
- *Core Nursing Practice Competencies for Dispensing Prophylactic Medications Post Sexual Assault (June 2018)*

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact:

- Dr. Troy Grennan, Medical Head, STI/HIV Program – Clinical Prevention Services
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- Geoffrey Ford, Senior Practice Lead, Clinical Prevention Services
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A Continued Nursing Education (CNE) webinar to review the changes to the BCCDC Non-Certified Practice Decision Support Tools section of Chapter 5 (CDC Manual) is scheduled for **September 6, 2018**. The webinar is hosted by [PHSA Webcasting Services](#) and is recorded for viewing at a later date. Presentation details include:

Title: Sexual Assault Decision Support Tool Update

Date: Thursday, September 06, 2018

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM PST

Duration: 1:00:00

Link: <http://mediasite.phsa.ca/Mediasite/Play/4cd94faa45a14a6eb5eba5bcf3dc16001d>

Sincerely,



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BC Centre for Disease Control

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