

Epidemiology Services BC Centre for Disease Control Society 655 W 12th Ave Vancouver BC V5Z 4R4

March 12, 2003

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

Re: Guidelines for Needle Exchange Programs

Guidelines for Needle Exchange Programs have been developed by Dr. Timothy Christie, PhD, Health Care Ethicist, BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. The document also includes an extensive literature review.

Please insert these guidelines in the Communicable Disease Control Manual:

Needle Exchange Programs Pages 1 to 19

Dated February 2003

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Karen Pielak, Nurse Epidemiologist at 604-660-6061 or email <u>karen.pielak@bccdc.ca</u>

Sincerely,

David Patrick Director Epidemiology Services BC Centre for Disease Control

DMP/kka

Aministrative Circular # 2003:03

pc: Dr Perry Kendall Provincial Health Officer Ministry of Health Services

> Dr. Bob Fisk Medical Consultant Non-Communicable Disease Services Ministry of Health Planning

Jane Crickmore Public Health Nursing Consultant Disease and Injury Prevention Branch Ministry of Health Planning

Dr. Shaun Peck Deputy Provincial Health Officer Ministry of Health Services

Lorna Storbakken Director Disease and Injury Prevention Branch Ministry of Health Planning