



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

Immunization Programs and Vaccine
Preventable Diseases Service
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Date: October 31, 2017

Administrative Circular: 2017:17

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

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual,
Chapter 2: Immunization, Part 2-Immunization of Special Populations & Part 4-
Biological Products**

Part 2-Immunization of Special Populations

Chronic Kidney Disease

- References to candidates/recipients of a kidney transplant have been removed from this subsection, and a link to 'Candidates for or Recipients of Solid Organ or Islet Cell Transplant' has been added for additional recommendations for this population.
- Revisions to the "Recommended vaccines" table include:
 - "All routine vaccines" changed to "All routine inactivated vaccines". Reference to live vaccines and transplantation has been removed.
 - Influenza vaccine: content revised to indicate that inactivated vaccine should be used.
 - Hepatitis B vaccine: content related to post-immunization serology and annual testing has been added. Associated footnote B has been added which refers to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines for assistance with decision making regarding hepatitis B immunization based on serology results. NOTE: a revision date for this document has been included to indicate the most up-to-date version. BC Immunization Manual users will be notified of revisions to this document via an Administrative Circular indicating the new revision date.
- Hepatitis B content has been revised to include reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines with regard to post-immunization serological testing, as well as annual testing for the presence of anti-HBs. For clients who are HBsAg positive, the content has been modified to include a link to the *BC Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1, Hepatitis B* for case and contact management.
- Varicella content has been revised to remove information related to transplant recipients.
- Content related to TB screening for clients with chronic kidney disease has been added.

- Revisions to the Hepatitis B Vaccine Program for Chronic Kidney Disease Clients include:
 - The dosing and scheduling table has been revised as per the Canadian Immunization Guide.
 - The term “non-responder” has been revised to “2-series non-responder” for clarity.
 - Reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines has been added for ongoing management.
 - The previous footnote A related to the administration site for hepatitis B vaccine has been removed as this content is contained within Appendix B – Administration of Biological Products.
 - Footnote E has been added, indicating that serological recommendations for clients with chronic kidney disease differ slightly from other special populations due to the recommendation for annual testing.
 - Hepatitis B Vaccination Guidelines for Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease has been removed. For assistance with decision making regarding hepatitis B immunization based on serology results, reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines has been added.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated November 2010
Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated October 2017

Part 4-Biological Products

Hepatitis B Vaccine Higher Dose Schedule

- The table has been revised as the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has changed the recommendation for the dosage of Recombivax HB® for infants (of HB-negative mothers) to children less than 11 years of age from 0.25 mL to 0.5 mL. This now harmonizes the dosing recommendations for those 0-15 years of age (inclusive). As the ‘higher dosing’ recommendation for those 0-15 years of age is double the microgram dose for a healthy child of the same age, the “0-10 years” and “11-15 years” cohorts have now been combined into a “0-15 years” cohort.
- The term “non-responder” has been revised to “2-series non-responder” for clarity.

Please remove page number: 1 dated March 2017
Please add new page number: 1 dated October 2017

Hepatitis B Vaccine Program for Chronic Kidney Disease Clients

- The dosing and scheduling table has been revised as per the Canadian Immunization Guide recommendations.
- The term “non-responder” has been revised to “2-series non-responder” for clarity.
- Reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines has been added for ongoing management.

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- The previous footnote A related to the administration site for hepatitis B vaccine has been removed as this content is contained within Appendix B – Administration of Biological Products.
- Footnote E has been added, indicating that serological recommendations for clients with chronic kidney disease differ slightly from other special populations due to the recommendation for annual testing.

Please remove page number: 1 dated January 2010
Please add new page number: 1 dated October 2017

Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (Pneumovax®23)

- INDICATIONS has been updated to include “chronic neurological conditions that may impair clearance of oral secretions” for individuals 2 years of age and older, as per the Canadian Immunization Guide recommendations.

Please remove page numbers: 1&2 dated March 2015
Please add new page numbers: 1&2 dated October 2017

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Christine Halpert, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2555 / email: christine.halpert@bccdc.ca) or Stephanie Meier, Public Health Resource Nurse, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



Monika Naus MD MHS Sc FRCPC FACPM
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Immunization Programs and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Service
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

BC Ministry of Health:
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