

November 5, 2004

ATTN: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices

Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators

Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

Re: Priority Groups for Influenza Vaccine

Due to unanticipated early demand for influenza vaccine, delivery of the influenza immunization program needs to be paced to match demand to available supply. Vaccine is only to be provided to groups at highest risk for death and hospitalization/complications from influenza.

The list of groups eligible for publicly-funded vaccine has been revised as an interim measure until a sufficient supply of influenza vaccine is obtained.

Please delete and destroy the following page from Communicable Disease Control Manual Chapter II – Immunization Program:

Page 31 Dated October 2004

Insert the following replacement page:

Page 31 Dated November 5 2004

Administrative Circular # 2004:17



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Karen Pielak, Nurse Epidemiologist, at telephone (604) 660-6061, fax (604) 660-0197 or by e-mail to karen.pielak@bccdc.ca

Sincerely,

David Patrick
Director
Epidemiology Services
BC Centre for Disease Control

DMP/kka

pc: Dr Perry Kendall Dr. Eric Young

Provincial Health Officer
Ministry of Health Services

Deputy Provincial Health Officer
Ministry of Health Services

Dr. Bob Fisk Warren O'Briain Medical Consultant Executive Director

Non-Communicable Disease Comm Disease and Addiction Prevention

Ministry of Health Planning Ministry of Health Services

Valery Dubenko Manager, Communicable Disease Prevention --Immunization Communicable Disease and Addiction Prevention Ministry of Health Services