



**BC Centre for Disease Control**

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June 2, 2003

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

**Re: Revisions to Immunization Program Section V - Anaphylaxis**

There was a request to simplify the guidelines for the management of anaphylaxis. Please note the following changes:

**Page 3, Section 4.0 "Administration of Epinephrine:"**

- Rather than calculating the dose of epinephrine according to weight, the instruction is to use the table that specifies the dose of epinephrine according to age. The priority is for the prompt administration of epinephrine, and its use should not be delayed.
- Instruction is to repeat epinephrine at 10 to 15 minute intervals, as needed. Previous instruction had been to repeat epinephrine twice at 20-minute intervals, as indicated, and to repeat at 10 to 15 minute intervals for severe reactions.

**Page 4, Section 5.0 "Administration of Benadryl®:"**

- Bullet 4 re: oral Benadryl®: dosage has been simplified to 1 mg/kg.

**Page 8, Section 11.0 "Emergency Treatment for Anaphylaxis," point #5:**

- Added instruction re: administration of oral Benadryl®

**"Table 2: Recommended Dosages for Epinephrine and Benadryl®:"**

- Deleted, as the information was a repeat of that in section 11.0.

The revised guidelines for the management of anaphylaxis are posted on the BCCDC website at: [www.bccdc.org](http://www.bccdc.org)

**Administrative Circular: 2003:08**



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Please remove and destroy the following pages from the Immunization Program Chapter of the Communicable Disease Control Manual:

Section V - Anaphylaxis

Table of Contents and Pages 1 to 9

Dated November 2002

Insert the following replacement pages in the Immunization Program Chapter of the Communicable Disease Control Manual:

Section V - Anaphylaxis

Table of Contents and Pages 1 to 9

Dated June 2003

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

Sincerely,

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