



September 24, 2004

**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 Chapter**

**Please note the following revisions to the Communicable Disease Control Manual Chapter II "Immunization Program:"**

**(1) Section II – Immunization Schedules:**

- Pages 2, 4 and 5:
  - Addition of varicella vaccine for school entry and grade 6 students starting this 2004/05 school year
  - Addition of meningococcal C conjugate vaccine for grade 9 students starting this 2004/05 school year
- Pages 13 and 14:
  - Deletion of comment that MMR and varicella vaccines may not be given post-transplant. They may be considered at 24 months post-transplant. Consult with the client's medical specialist prior to immunization.
- Pages 15 and 16:
  - Addition of MMR vaccine – to be considered at 24 months post-transplant following consultation with the client's medical specialist.

**(2) Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions:**

- Page 1:
  - In the second paragraph, the list of immunization information resources has been re-ordered. Prior to immunizing a client, the first resource to consult is the BCCDC Immunization Program, followed by the Canadian Immunization Guide and the vaccine manufacturer's product monograph.

### **(3) Section VII – Biological Products:**

- **Page 18 Hepatitis B Vaccine Pre-Exposure (RecombivaxHB®):**
  - For infants and children < 11 years of age, give three doses of vaccine, at 2 month intervals. The exception is the 0 -1- 6 month schedule when the vaccine is provided at birth to infants who will be contacts of a chronic hepatitis B carrier.
- **Pages 35 and 37 Meningococcal C conjugate vaccines:**
  - Addition of eligibility of grade 9 students
- **Pages 37 and 38 Meningococcal C Conjugate Vaccine (Neis Vac-C):**
  - Clarification of age for 2 dose schedule (i.e. infants from 2 months *up to* 12 months of age)
- **Page 41a Completion of conjugate Pneumococcal Vaccination When Primary Series Has been Interrupted:**
  - Wording has been changed to: "Consider a primary series interrupted when the child subsequently presents at an age that is older than the age grouping in which they **last** presented." This reflects the fact that there may be more than one interruption to the primary vaccine series. When a child does not present for vaccination at the recommended time, but is still within the same age grouping, this represents a delay, not an interruption, and this table is not applicable.
- **Pages 63 and 65 Varicella Vaccines:**
  - Addition of eligibility of school entry and grade 6 students starting this 2004/05 school year
- **Page 67 Yellow Fever Vaccine:**
  - Addition of precaution: "Individuals with a history of thymus disorder or dysfunction (including myasthenia gravis, thymoma, thymectomy, or DiGeorge syndrome) have an increased risk of yellow fever vaccine associated viscerotropic disease. Carefully consider the benefits and risks before vaccination. Alternative means of yellow fever prevention should be considered if travel plans cannot be altered to avoid yellow fever-endemic areas."

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

Section II – Immunization Schedules:

Pages 2, 4, 5, 13, 14, 15 and 16

Dated July 2004

Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions for Immunization:  
Page 1 Dated July 2004

Section VII – Biological Products:  
Pages 35 and 41a Dated December 2003  
Pages 18, 37 and 38 Dated August 2004  
Pages 63, 65 and 67 Dated July 2004

**Please insert the following replacement pages:**

Section II – Immunization Schedules:  
Pages 2, 4, 5, 13, 14, 15 and 16 Dated September 2004

Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions for Immunization:  
Page 1 Dated September 2004

Section VII – Biological Products:  
Pages 18, 35, 37, 38, 41a,  
63, 65 and 67 Dated September 2004

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

Sincerely,

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