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   Deputy Provincial Health Officer
    Ministry of Health Services Ministry of Health Services

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

    Warren O'Briain
    Executive Director
    Comm Disease and Addiction Prevention
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    Valery Dubenko
    Manager, Communicable Disease Prevention --Immunization
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