



**BC Centre for Disease Control**  
AN AGENCY OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

May 9, 2005

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

**Re: Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Management Guidelines**

Please note the following revisions to the above guidelines:

**Page 5, “Table 1: Fluids capable of transmitting bloodborne pathogens:”**

- Regarding breast milk and HBV transmission – in addition to the biological plausibility, particularly if nipples are cracked or bleeding, added statement “or if the mother is HBeAg positive.”

**Page 5, Subsection 5.3.2 “Assess the risk of transmission from the source” and**

**Page 9, Subsection 5.4 “Determine the HIV, HBV, and HCV status of the exposed person:”**

- Instruction to advise the source and exposed persons that anti-HIV testing may be done nominally or non-nominally.
- Addition of guidelines for obtaining informed consent from the source and exposed person for blood testing.

**Page 18, Subsection 9.2 “HBV exposure:”**

- Deleted statement that HBIG can be given, if indicated for exposures occurring through consensual adult sex or sharing injection drug equipment. Only hepatitis B vaccine is to be given, if indicated. This recommendation is consistent with the revised guidelines for the control of hepatitis B.

**Administrative Circular # 2005:06**





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**HLTH 2339** “Management of Percutaneous or Permucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid/Laboratory Requisition:”

- New note at top of form regarding option of non-nominal HIV testing and reference to the back of the last page of the form for guidelines for obtaining informed consent for blood tests
- New WCB billing code number

**HLTH 2340** “Management of Percutaneous or Permucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid Letter for Follow-Up Physician:”

- The notation “results of the above tests will determine the need for further testing” has been added following the section that specifies which baseline blood tests were performed.

**Please delete and destroy the following pages from the Communicable Disease Control Manual – Chapter I Management of Specific Diseases:**

Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Management  
Pages 1 – 25

Dated April 2003

HLTH 2339 “Management of Percutaneous or Permucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid/Laboratory Requisition”

Dated January 2003

HLTH 2340 “Management of Percutaneous or Permucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid Letter for Follow-Up Physician”

Dated February 2003

**Insert the following replacement pages:**

Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Management  
Pages 1 – 26

Dated May 2005

HLTH 2339 “Management of Percutaneous or Permucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid/Laboratory Requisition”

Dated April 2005





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HLTH 2340 "Management of Percutaneous  
or Per mucosal Exposure to Blood and Body Fluid  
Letter for Follow-Up Physician"

Dated August 2004

**Note: stock of the HLTH 2339 and HLTH 2340 can be ordered from  
Warehousing Services, 742 Vanalman Avenue, Victoria BC, V8Z 3B5, by  
e-mail [brian.mcneil@gems9.gov.bc.ca](mailto:brian.mcneil@gems9.gov.bc.ca) or by phone (250) 952-4439.**

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](mailto:karen.pielak@bccdc.ca)

Sincerely,

David Patrick  
Director  
Epidemiology Services  
BC Centre for Disease Control

DMP/kka

pc: Dr Perry Kendall  
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Ministry of Health Services

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