



March 21, 2005

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

**Re: Revisions to Communicable Disease Control Manual:
Chapter II – Immunization Program**

Please note the following revisions:

(1) Section II – Immunization Schedules:

Pages 2 to 6:

- New vaccine programs added to these schedules (i.e. meningococcal C conjugate and varicella).
- Footnote added that the 4th dose of Pentacel® should not be given before 15 months of age, in order to protect against Hib,.

Page 3:

- Schedule for Completion of Conjugate Pneumococcal Vaccination when a *Primary* Series has been Interrupted: moved from Section VII to Section II.

Page 8:

- Footnotes added:
 - When MMR is given before 12 months of age, two MMR doses are needed after 12 months of age.
 - The 4th dose of Hib should be given no earlier than 15 months of age.

Page 9:

- Varicella vaccine indicated for children and adults with sickle cell disease.
- Vaccines indicated for adult HIV+ individuals added to table.
- New footnote: Individuals post-HSCT receive **all** indicated vaccines, regardless of immunization history prior to HSCT

Administrative Circular # 2005:04



(1) Section II – Immunization Schedules (cont'd):

Page 19:

- Information about the risk of arthritis or arthralgias following rubella disease or rubella immunization has been updated and is consistent with the Canadian Immunization Guide.

(2) Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions:

Subsection 6.6 “Concurrent Administration of Live Vaccines” (page 7):

- Added information: “If two live parenteral vaccines are not given on the same day and are given < one month apart, the vaccine that was given second should be repeated 28 days after it was given.”

(3) Section IV – Vaccine Administration:

Subsection 7.0 “Injection sites, Needle Size and Positioning” Page 4:

- Deleted second bullet, given the need to administer more than one biological at each injection site.
- Moved third bullet to subsection 9.0 “Considerations for the Administration and Scheduling of Multiple Injections.”

Subsection 9.0 “Considerations for the Administration and Scheduling of Multiple Injections” Page 14:

- Bullet added as noted above.
- Second bullet deleted as the information was redundant.

(4) Section VII – Biological Products:

Page 2: Footnote added that the 4th dose of Pentacel® should not be given before 15 months of age, in order to protect against Hib.

Page 11: New footnote: “See [Immune Globulin Preparations \(HBIG, ISG, VZIG, HRIG\)](#) for maximum volume to be administered per site according to age.”

Page 13: In 5th row under column titled “Vaccination History of Exposed Person,” added “or anti-HBs is < 10 IU/L when tested more than 6 months post-vaccination” to category of “Complete Hep B vaccination (2 or 3 doses series) and anti-HBs status unknown.”

Page 26: New footnote: “See [Immune Globulin Preparations \(HBIG, ISG, VZIG, HRIG\)](#) for maximum volume to be administered per site according to age.”

(4) Section VII – Biological Products (cont'd):

Page 34: Moved “recent administration of an immune globulin preparation or blood product” into the contraindications section.

Pages 35 and 36: Meningococcal C Conjugate Vaccine (Menjugate™):

- Addition of eligibility of grade 12 students
- Revision of three dose scheduling for infants starting at 2 months of age: the third dose must be given when the infant is at least 5 months of age. A review of the literature indicated concern about the long-term effectiveness of meningococcal C conjugate vaccines when the last dose is administered to infants at < 5 months of age. In this regard, a new footnote has been added: “If last dose is inadvertently received before the infant is 5 months of age, give an additional dose at 12 months of age.”

Pages 37 and 38: Meningococcal C Conjugate Vaccine (Neis Vac-C):

- Addition of the new eligible groups (infants born on or after April 1, 2005 and grade 12 students).
- New footnote, for reason noted above: “If last dose is inadvertently received before the infant is 5 months of age, give an additional dose at 12 months of age.”

Pages 41, 42, 43 and 43a: Footnotes on each page indicate the 8 week spacing between the last dose of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV 7) and a dose of a pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine, for children ≥ 2 years of age, at high risk from pneumococcal disease.

Page 41a: moved to Section II: Immunization Schedules

Pages 45,55, and 62: New footnote: “See [Immune Globulin Preparations \(HBIG, ISG, VZIG, HRIG\)](#) for maximum volume to be administered per site according to age.”

Pages 63 and 65: Addition of new eligible groups:

- As a one-time catch-up, during 2005, all susceptible children from 18 to 48 months of age.
- Susceptible women of childbearing age (15 to 45 years of age).

Pages 64 and 66: New footnote under “Precautions:” Do TB skin testing on the same day as varicella immunization or delay TB skin testing for ≥ 6 weeks.”

Page 67 Yellow Fever Vaccine:

Contraindications:

- Addition of latex into vaccine component list.
- Revision of age of contraindication from under 4 months of age to under 9 months of age. This is due to the risk of neurotropic disease in this age group.
- Addition of immunocompromised and list of immunosuppressed conditions as further contraindications. This is due to the risk of neurotropic disease in these groups.

Precautions:

- Addition of new information concerning the risk of viscerotropic disease in those ≥ 65 years of age.
- New footnote under “Precautions:” Do TB skin testing on the same day as Yellow Fever immunization or delay TB skin testing for ≥ 6 weeks.”

Section X – Appendices:

This section has been re-formatted and re-ordered and two new subsections added:

Subsection 1.0 Referral Form for Varicella Immunization of Immunocompromised Clients

Subsection 2.0 Adverse Events Following Immunization - Temporal Criteria

Please remove and destroy the following from the Communicable Disease Manual: Chapter II – Immunization Program:

Section II – Immunization Schedules:

Pages 2 and 4

Dated December 2004

Page 5

Dated September 2004

Pages 3, 6, 8, 9 and 19

Dated July 2004

Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions:

Page 7

Dated July 2004

Section IV – Vaccine Administration:

Page 4

Dated November 2002

Page 14

Dated June 2003

Section VII – Biological Products:

Table of Contents Dated October 2004

Pages 2 and 26	Dated November 2002
Page 11	Dated June 2004
Pages 13 and 36	Dated June 2003
Pages 34, 43,43a, and 55	Dated August 2004
Pages 35, 37, 38, and 67	Dated September 2004
Pages 41 and 62	Dated December 2003
Page 42 and 45	Dated August 2003
Pages 63 and 65	Dated December 2004
Pages 64 and 66	Dated July 2004

Section X: all pages Dated June 2004

Insert the following replacement pages: Dated March 2005

Section II: Pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 19

Section III: Page 7

Section IV: Pages 4 and 14

Section VII: Table of Contents
Pages 2, 11, 13, 26, 34,
35 - 38
41, 42, 43, 43a, 45, 55,
62 - 67

Section X: Table of Contents
Pages 1 - 9

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 or to cheryl.mcintyre@bccdc.ca

Yours sincerely,

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