



May 17, 2007

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

Re: Meningococcal Disease Control Guidelines

Please note the following revisions to the above guidelines:

Page 2, Section 3.0 “Epidemiology:”

- Reports data for 2006

Page 3, Section 4.0 “Definitions:”

- List of close contacts includes sexual contacts of cases of primary meningococcal urethritis

Page 4, Subsection 5.2 “Management of Cases:”

- Second paragraph pertaining to topical antibiotic treatment includes reference to primary meningococcal urethritis.

Page 5, Subsection 6.1 “Chemoprophylaxis of Close contacts:”

- Fourth paragraph references sexual contacts of primary meningococcal urethritis

Page 9, Section 6.3 “Immunoprophylaxis of Close contacts:”

- Previously, all close contacts of invasive meningococcal disease were offered immunoprophylaxis; now only a subset of the close contacts at highest risk of disease should be immunized with serogroup-specific meningococcal vaccine (Canadian Immunization Guide, 2007, p. 241). Close contacts recommended to receive both immunoprophylaxis and chemoprophylaxis include:
 - household contacts of the case
 - persons who share sleeping arrangements with the case
 - persons who have had direct contamination of their nose or mouth with oral/nasal secretions of a case (i.e. kissing on the mouth; sharing toothbrushes, eating utensils, cigarettes, mouth-guards, water bottles, or musical instrument mouthpieces), and
 - children and staff in child care and preschool facilities

Administrative Circular # 2007:07





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Section 6.3 “Immunoprophylaxis of Close contacts (cont’d):”

- This section has been revised for consistency with the changes made to the Immunization Chapter, Section VII Biological Product pages for meningococcal vaccines, as per Administrative Circular 2007:06, dated May 14, 2007.

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

Meningococcal Disease
Table of Contents
Pages 1 – 22

Dated May 2005

Insert the following pages in the Communicable Disease Control Manual – Chapter I Management of Specific Diseases:

Meningococcal Disease
Table of Contents
Pages 1 – 22

Dated May 2007

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Karen Pielak, Nurse Epidemiologist, @ telephone (604)660-3382, fax (604)660-0197 or by email karen.pielak@bccdc.ca

Sincerely,

David Patrick
Director
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BC Centre for Disease Control





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