



**BC Centre for Disease Control**  
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Immunization Programs and Vaccine  
Preventable Diseases Service  
655 West 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4R4

Tel 604.707.2548  
Fax 604.707.2515  
[www.bccdc.ca](http://www.bccdc.ca)

**Date: October 16, 2013**

**Administrative Circular: 2013:18**

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

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual  
Chapter 2 – Immunization Program  
Section VII- Biological Products: 2013/2014 Seasonal Trivalent Influenza Vaccine  
(Inactivated and Live Attenuated)**

**2013/2014 Seasonal Trivalent Influenza Vaccine (Inactivated and Live Attenuated)**

The following group has been added to the list of eligible recipients of publicly funded influenza vaccine:

**Recommended and provided free to the following groups**

1. People capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk  
Added: Visitors to health care facilities and other patient care locations.

This change has been made to ensure that eligibility in these guidelines is consistent with that in the health care worker influenza protection policy for 2013/4, as recently approved by the Minister of Health.

**Please remove and recycle page number: 31  
Dated: August 2013**

**Please replace with new page number: 31  
Dated: October 2013**

Page 1 of 4

## **Safety Issues Applicable to Influenza Vaccines**

The following changes have been made to the page:

### **1. Egg Allergic Individuals**

The formatting has been changed from bullet to paragraph form.

The recommendation for immunization of individuals with a severe allergy to eggs following egg ingestion, including anaphylaxis, and based on the 2013/4 NACI influenza vaccine statement, has been updated to reflect the recent recommendations from the US Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters. Appropriate references have been provided. This change means that such individuals need not be immunized in a “controlled medical setting” and allows for immunization in other settings including public health immunization clinics. Please note that the Task Force advises that as anaphylaxis may rarely occur following any vaccine, all immunizers have procedures in place to safely manage this potentially serious adverse event.

The recommendation that such individuals should only be immunized using **inactivated** influenza vaccine and not live attenuated intranasal vaccine is unchanged.

**Please remove and recycle page number: 31a**  
**Dated: August 2013**

**Please replace with new page number: 31a**  
**Dated: October 2013**

## **FLUVIRAL®, FLUAD®, AGRIFLU®, VAXIGRIP®, INTANZA®, INFLUVAC®**

The following changes have been made to all pages for these inactivated vaccines:

### **1. RECONSTITUTION:**

We have deleted this subheading which read: “Not applicable. Product is fully liquid”. This change was made to create more space so that the updated pages can remain 1 page in length as this section was deemed non-essential.

### **2. CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

This section is unchanged, and still reads: ‘2. History of anaphylactic reaction to any component of [product]’. As well, we have left information in the **PRODUCT COMPONENTS** ‘Potential allergens’ section about egg protein or ovalbumin content, as this information is from the product monograph. However, we have added the note ‘See SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS.’

Page 2 of 4

**3. PRECAUTIONS:**

We have deleted: “Individuals who have severe allergic reactions to eggs should be immunized in a controlled medical setting (e.g., hospital) using inactivated influenza vaccine. <sup>A</sup>”

**4. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

We have added the text reflective of the updated section on Safety Issues Applicable to Influenza Vaccines, 1. Egg Allergic Individuals: “Egg allergic individuals (including those who have experienced anaphylaxis following egg ingestion) can be immunized with inactivated influenza vaccine in any setting attended by immunization service providers who are following standard vaccine administration practices. <sup>B</sup>”

**5. Footnotes:**

The footnote order has been reversed from the August 2013 version of this page.

**In addition to the above changes: for VAXIGRIP® only**

The following change has been made to the page:

**1. DOSES AND SCHEDULE:**

We have corrected the dose specified for recipients 6 mos-8 years of age from a volume of 5 mL IM to a volume of 0.5 mL IM

This was done to correct this error which was previously unnoticed. This product is not scheduled to be used in the BC publicly funded influenza vaccine program in the 2013-2014 season.

**Please remove and recycle page numbers:           32a-32c, 34a-34c**  
**Dated: August 2013**

**Please replace with new page numbers:           32a-32c, 34a-34c**  
**Dated: October 2013**

**FLUMIST®**

The following changes have been made to the page:

**1. RECONSTITUTION:**

We have deleted this section which read: "Not applicable. Product is fully liquid". This change was made purely for consistency with the above inactivated product page changes.

2. Special Considerations section has been moved from page 33c to page 33b with no content change made.

**Please remove and recycle page number: 33a-33c  
Dated: August 2013**

**Please replace with new page number: 33a-33c  
Dated: October 2013**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Brittany Deeter, Public Health Resource Nurse at telephone (604) 707-2577, fax (604) 707-2515 or by email at [brittany.deeter@bccdc.ca](mailto:brittany.deeter@bccdc.ca)

Sincerely,



Monika Naus, MD MHSc FRCPC FACPM  
Medical Director  
Immunization Programs and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Service  
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc: BC Ministry of Health:  
Dr. Perry Kendall  
Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Eric Young  
Deputy Provincial Health Officer

Craig Thompson  
Director, CD Prevention – Immunization

Warren O'Briain  
Executive Director  
Communicable Disease and Addiction Prevention