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Date: July 6, 2016 Administrative Circular: 2016: 11

**ATTN:** Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices

Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators

Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

RE: Revisions to the Communicable Disease Control Manual – Chapter 5

**Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)** 

## **BACKGROUND**

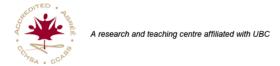
In May 2015, interim guidelines for syphilis treatment were developed by the STI Expert Working Group of the Public Health Agency of Canada in response to a national shortage of Bicillin L-A. The interim guidelines were subsequently circulated broadly by the BCCDC and included into Chapter 5 of the BCCDC Communicable Disease Manual.

Pfizer Canada has confirmed that production of Bicillin L-A is back to normal and that health care providers can resume use of Bicillin L-A for the treatment of syphilis as per provincial recommendations. Please disregard the interim treatment guidelines for syphilis, and resume using the "British Columbia Treatment Guidelines: Sexually Transmitted Infections in Adolescents and Adults, 2014".

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE: BCCDC Communicable Disease Control Manual – Chapter 5: Sexually Infections:

**Removed:** Interim Syphilis Treatment Guidelines during the Benzathine Penicillin G (Bicillin L-A) shortage 2016.





If you have questions regarding these practice changes, please contact Troy Grennan, Physician Lead, Provincial HIV/STI Program, Clinical Prevention Services BCCDC (Troy.grennan@bccdc.ca) 604-707-5606 or Cheryl Prescott, Senior Practice Lead, Clinical Prevention Services, BCCDC at 604-707-5651 or Cheryl.Prescott@bccdc.ca.

Sincerely,



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> BC Ministry of Health: Dr. Perry Kendall **Provincial Health Officer**

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