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

Re: Revisions to Communicable Disease Control Manual:
Chapter 1 – Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies

Numerous minor updates were made throughout Chapter 1– Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies to capture programmatic and administrative changes. Changes of note are highlighted here:

Page 3, Section 3.0

Figure 1 was modified to include new guidance as per Section 3.2.1.

Page 5, Section 3.1

Table 1 was modified to include a gradient of risk and to separate BC exposures from exposures occurring outside BC.

Pages 9-10, Section 3.2.1

This section was revised to provide criteria to assist in determining if animal observation is required.

Pages 15-16, Section 4.2

This section was revised to clarify the rationale for why RPEP should not be delayed beyond 48 hours.

A footnote was added to explain that a literature review was conducted to assess the duration of time after an exposure during which RabIg remains effective.

Page 28, Appendix A

The contact list was updated.

Please remove and destroy the following from the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1 – Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies:
Table of Contents
Pages 1 to 32 Dated May 2016

Please insert the following in the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1- Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies:
Table of Contents
Pages 1 to 34 Dated May 2017
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me (604-707-2558; eleni.galanis@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,

Eleni Galanis, MD MPH FRCPC
Physician Epidemiologist
Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Services
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc: BC Ministry of Health:

Dr. Perry Kendall
Provincial Health Officer
Dr. Bonnie Henry
Deputy Provincial Health Officer

Warren O'Briain
Executive Director
Craig Thompson
Director, CD Prevention – Immunization

Communicable Disease and Addiction Prevention