



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

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**Date:** September 22, 2017 **Administrative Circular: 2017: 15**

**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 (CDC) Manual –  
Chapter 5: Sexually Transmitted Infections-  
Section 2: HIV/AIDS**

**Please note the following changes to the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Manual  
Chapter 5: Sexually Transmitted Infections: Section 2.**

**(1) HIV/AIDS – Updated:** *Guidelines for Medical Health Officers: Approach to people with HIV/AIDS who may pose a risk of harm to others (December 2010); replaced with Guidelines for Medical Health Officers: Approach to people with HIV/AIDS who may pose a risk of harm to others (June 2017):*

Revisions to *Guidelines for Medical Health Officers: Approach to people with HIV/AIDS who may pose a risk of harm to others (June 2017)* include:

- **Receipt of Notification** section (p. 6) and summary in **Appendix I**: revised. These sections include explicit mention that “Reports may also arise from surveillance or partner notification activities indicating that an HIV positive individual has been named as a recent contact of someone newly diagnosed with HIV or are part of a phylogenetic cluster which is expanding.”
- **Assessment of Risk** section (p. 8-9) and summary in **Appendix I**: revised. These sections reflect current evidence (with appropriate references) regarding the effectiveness of HIV treatment in preventing onward transmission.
- **Assessment of Risk** revised to include “Epidemiologic context”. This section includes information from partner notification and phylogenetic surveillance as additional tools to assess risk.

- **Appendix II** – “ESTIMATED TRANSMISSION PROBABILITIES OF ACQUIRING HIV FROM AN INFECTED SOURCE BY ROUTE OF EXPOSURE”: revised. This section includes a table which stratifies exposures based on the plasma HIV viral load of the source, as well as by the use of a barrier for sexual acts. The previous version of the table only presented risks assuming no use of HIV treatment or barriers.
- **Interventions** section (p. 11 – 13) and summary in **Appendix I**: revised. This section includes “Assistance with initiation and continuation of appropriate HIV treatment” and “Engaging in treatment for drug or alcohol use disorder(s), if appropriate” as additional interventions to reduce the risk of onward transmission.
- **References**: revised. References updated to include the most recent scientific evidence. References which were not directly cited in the text were removed.

**(2) HIV/AIDS – Removed:** *Guidelines for Medical Health Officers: Frequently Asked Questions (January 2011).*

- FAQ documents was removed due to infrequent use and because the information was not reflective of current evidence.

**Please remove the following sections from the CDC Manual: Chapter 5: Section 2: HIV/AIDS:**

- *Guidelines for Medical Health Officers: Approach to people with HIV/AIDS who may pose a risk of harm to others - December 2010 (pp. 1-30)*

**Please insert the following updated section to the CDC Manual: Chapter 5: Section 2: HIV/AIDS:**

- *Guidelines for Medical Health Officers: Approach to people with HIV/AIDS who may pose a risk of harm to others - June 2017 (pp. 1-28)*

Please contact Dr. David Moore, STOP HIV Physician Lead ([David.Moore@bccdc.ca](mailto:David.Moore@bccdc.ca)), Cheryl Prescott, Senior Practice Leader, Clinical Prevention Services (P): 604-707-5651 ([Cheryl.Prescott@bccdc.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Prescott@bccdc.ca)) or Monica Durigon, Nurse Educator, Clinical Prevention Services, (P): 604-707-2435 ([Monica.Durigon@bccdc.ca](mailto:Monica.Durigon@bccdc.ca)) for questions or if further information is required.

Sincerely,



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BC Centre for Disease Control

cc: Dr. Mark Tyndall  
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