Date: October 31, 2017     Administrative Circular: 2017:17

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, Part 2-Immunization of Special Populations & Part 4-
Biological Products

Part 2-Immunization of Special Populations

Chronic Kidney Disease

• References to candidates/recipients of a kidney transplant have been removed from this
  subsection, and a link to ‘Candidates for or Recipients of Solid Organ or Islet Cell Transplant’
  has been added for additional recommendations for this population.

• Revisions to the “Recommended vaccines” table include:
  o “All routine vaccines” changed to “All routine inactivated vaccines”. Reference to live
    vaccines and transplantation has been removed.
  o Influenza vaccine: content revised to indicate that inactivated vaccine should be
    used.
  o Hepatitis B vaccine: content related to post-immunization serology and annual testing
    has been added. Associated footnote B has been added which refers to the BC
    Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines for assistance with decision making regarding
    hepatitis B immunization based on serology results. NOTE: a revision date for this
    document has been included to indicate the most up-to-date version. BC
    Immunization Manual users will be notified of revisions to this document via an
    Administrative Circular indicating the new revision date.

• Hepatitis B content has been revised to include reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis
  B Guidelines with regard to post-immunization serological testing, as well as annual testing
  for the presence of anti-HBs. For clients who are HBsAg positive, the content has been
  modified to include a link to the BC Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1,
  Hepatitis B for case and contact management.

• Varicella content has been revised to remove information related to transplant recipients.

• Content related to TB screening for clients with chronic kidney disease has been added.
• Revisions to the Hepatitis B Vaccine Program for Chronic Kidney Disease Clients include:
  o The dosing and scheduling table has been revised as per the Canadian Immunization Guide.
  o The term “non-responder” has been revised to “2-series non-responder” for clarity.
  o Reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines has been added for ongoing management.
  o The previous footnote A related to the administration site for hepatitis B vaccine has been removed as this content is contained within Appendix B – Administration of Biological Products.
  o Footnote E has been added, indicating that serological recommendations for clients with chronic kidney disease differ slightly from other special populations due to the recommendation for annual testing.
  o Hepatitis B Vaccination Guidelines for Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease has been removed. For assistance with decision making regarding hepatitis B immunization based on serology results, reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines has been added.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated November 2010
Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated October 2017

Part 4-Biological Products

Hepatitis B Vaccine Higher Dose Schedule
• The table has been revised as the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has changed the recommendation for the dosage of Recombivax HB® for infants (of HB-negative mothers) to children less than 11 years of age from 0.25 mL to 0.5 mL. This now harmonizes the dosing recommendations for those 0-15 years of age (inclusive). As the ‘higher dosing’ recommendation for those 0-15 years of age is double the microgram dose for a healthy child of the same age, the “0-10 years” and “11-15 years” cohorts have now been combined into a “0-15 years” cohort.
  o The term “non-responder” has been revised to “2-series non-responder” for clarity.

Please remove page number: 1 dated March 2017
Please add new page number: 1 dated October 2017

Hepatitis B Vaccine Program for Chronic Kidney Disease Clients
• The dosing and scheduling table has been revised as per the Canadian Immunization Guide recommendations.
• The term “non-responder” has been revised to “2-series non-responder” for clarity.
• Reference to the BC Renal Agency Hepatitis B Guidelines has been added for ongoing management.

Page 2 of 4
• The previous footnote A related to the administration site for hepatitis B vaccine has been removed as this content is contained within Appendix B – Administration of Biological Products.
• Footnote E has been added, indicating that serological recommendations for clients with chronic kidney disease differ slightly from other special populations due to the recommendation for annual testing.

Please remove page number: 1 dated January 2010
Please add new page number: 1 dated October 2017

Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (Pneumovax®23)
• INDICATIONS has been updated to include “chronic neurological conditions that may impair clearance of oral secretions” for individuals 2 years of age and older, as per the Canadian Immunization Guide recommendations.

Please remove page numbers: 1&2 dated March 2015
Please add new page numbers: 1&2 dated October 2017
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Christine Halpert, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2555 / email: christine.halpert@bccdc.ca) or Stephanie Meier, Public Health Resource Nurse, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@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. Bonnie Henry
Deputy Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Mark Tyndall
Executive Medical Director
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