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 1 – Immunization Schedules, Part 2 – Immunization
of Special Populations, Part 4 – Biological Products, Supporting Documents -
History of Immunization in BC

Part 1 – Immunization Schedules
Vaccine Abbreviations and Vaccines
• Updated to include RotaTeq® and to remove 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

2. Routine Schedules
• 2.1 Schedule A
  o Updated to include a third dose of rotavirus vaccine at 6 months of age for RotaTeq®.
  o Footnote C revised to specify that all doses should be administered by 8 months plus 0
days of age rather than 8 months less 1 day and that if any dose in the series is
RotaTeq® or the product is unknown, a total of 3 doses of vaccine should be
administered.

3.1 Minimum Intervals Between Vaccine Doses Table
• Updated to include minimum intervals for both rotavirus vaccines.
• Footnote M revised to specify that all doses should be administered by 8 months plus 0 days
of age rather than 8 months less 1 day and that if any dose in the series is RotaTeq® or the
product is unknown, a total of 3 doses of vaccine should be administered.

Please remove page numbers: 2, 5, 13 & 14 dated May & October 2017
Please add new page numbers: 2, 5, 13 & 14 dated April 2018
Part 2 – Immunization of Special Populations

Referral Forms

Referral Form for Rotavirus Vaccination
- The form has been revised to indicate that it is to be used for clients with a suspected or known immunocompromising condition.
- Contraindications to rotavirus vaccine have been removed. This content has been removed to include only conditions for which a referral is required.

Specific Immunocompromising Conditions

Candidate For or Recipient of Solid Organ or Islet Cell Transplant
- Table 1: BC Children’s Hospital Multi-organ Transplant Clinic Accelerated Immunization Schedule for Children Expected to be Transplanted Before 18 Months of Age has been revised to include a third dose of rotavirus vaccine at 4 months of age for RotaTeq®.
- Table 2: BC Children’s Hospital Multi-organ Transplant Clinic Routine Immunization Schedule for Children Expected to be Transplanted After 18 Months of Age has been revised to include a third dose of rotavirus vaccine at 6 months of age for RotaTeq®.
- Footnote added on each of the preceding tables to specify that if any dose in the series is RotaTeq® or the product is unknown, a total of 3 doses of vaccine should be administered.

Part 4 – Biological Products

Rotavirus Vaccines
- Beginning in May 2018, BC will transition from ROTARIX® to RotaTeq® as the rotavirus vaccine used in the infant immunization program.
- RotaTeq® and ROTARIX® vaccines are now on separate biological product pages as they have different schedules and during the transition both products may be available.
- INDICATIONS: revised to remove statement related to ROTARIX® vaccine being the product used in the publicly funded program in BC.
- DOSES AND SCHEDULE:
  - Footnotes revised to indicate that the first dose of either rotavirus vaccine is to be administered by 20 weeks less one day of age with the final dose administered by 8 months plus 0 days.
  - Footnote inserted to provide direction when the first dose of rotavirus vaccine is inadvertently administered at ≥ 20 weeks.
• ADMINISTRATION: revised content related to the administration of rotavirus vaccine prior to injectable vaccines. An additional reference has been included as a footnote.

• CONTRAINDICATIONS:
  o Bullets 2 and 5 have been combined into one bullet as they are both related to intussusception.
  o Bullets 3 and 4 have been revised to eliminate duplicate content and distinguish diagnosed Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) from other known or suspected immunocompromising conditions.

• SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:
  o Content related to the administration of rotavirus vaccine to infants hospitalized in the NICU has been revised.
  o Added content indicating that there are no restrictions on the timing of oral polio virus and rotavirus vaccines.

• ADVERSE EVENTS: minor revisions have been made to the intussusception content.

Please remove:

• the Biological Products page for Rotavirus Vaccine page numbers: 1-3 dated March 2017

Please add:

• the Biological Products page for Rotavirus Vaccine (ROTARIX®) page numbers: 1-3 dated April 2018; and
• the Biological Products page for Rotavirus Vaccine (RotaTeq®) page numbers: 1-3 dated April 2018

Please also remove the Table of Contents for Part 4 – Biological Products dated October 2017 and replace with the enclosed updated Table of Contents dated April 2018.

Supporting Documents

History of Immunization in BC

• “Rotavirus Vaccine” updated to indicate that RotaTeq® replaces ROTARIX® as the vaccine routinely given to infants.

Please remove page number: 19 dated May 2017
Please add page number: 19 dated April 2018
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 Katharine Chilton, Public Health Resource Nurse, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2522 / email: katharine.chilton@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,

Monika Naus MD MHSc FRCPC FACPM
Medical Director
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BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:
BC Ministry of Health:
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Deputy Provincial Health Officer
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