Date: April 29, 2021       Administrative Circular: 2021:18

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 4 – Biological Products

Part 4 – Biological Products

COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 Vaccine (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) (AstraZeneca/Verity Pharmaceuticals)

- The age indication has been revised to individuals 30 years of age and older per NACI’s updated recommendation. Footnote A has been revised to further clarify that informed consent should include the risk of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) versus the individual’s risk of serious illness from COVID-19, and when they would be eligible to receive an mRNA vaccine (see BC Government’s COVID-19 Immunization Plan for timelines).
- Adverse Events: Information related to Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS), formerly known as Vaccine-Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT), has been revised to indicate its estimated occurrence is approximately 1 in 100,000 vaccine recipients. Additionally, ‘headache beginning beyond 4 days after vaccination’ has been added to the list of symptoms warranting medical attention.
- The COVID-19 Vaccines HealthLinkBC File has been updated accordingly.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated April 20, 2021
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated April 29, 2021
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,

Monika Naus MD MHSc FRCPC FACP
Medical Director
Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

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