Date: February 18, 2022  
Administrative Circular: 2022:09

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 mRNA Vaccine COMIRNATY® (Pfizer-BioNTech) (Adult/Adolescent)

- **Doses and Schedule:**
  - Footnotes B and G have been revised to provide additional clarity regarding the preferential use of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for the primary series and booster dose, respectively.

- **Precautions:**
  - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a recent study in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Special Considerations:**
  - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-6 dated February 4, 2022  
Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine COMIRNATY® (Pfizer-BioNTech) (Pediatric)

- **Precautions:**
  - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for...
treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a recent study in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Special Considerations:**
  - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-6 dated February 3, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated February 18, 2022

**COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine SPIKEVAX™ (Moderna)**

- **Doses and Schedule:**
  - Footnote A has been revised to indicate that the minimum age for vaccine receipt is based on age at presentation, and to provide additional clarity regarding the preferential use of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for the primary series.
  - Footnote G has been revised to provide additional clarity regarding the preferential use of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for the booster dose.

- **Precautions:**
  - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a recent study in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Special Considerations:**
  - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-5 dated February 4, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-5 dated February 18, 2022
COVID-19 Vaccine **VAXZEVRIA™/COVISHIELD** (AstraZeneca/Verity Pharmaceuticals)

- **Doses and Schedule:**
  - Footnote C has been revised to indicate that the minimum age for vaccine receipt is based on age at presentation.

- **Precautions:**
  - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a recent study in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.
  - Content related to myocarditis/pericarditis has been revised per recent updates to the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine pages.

- **Special Considerations:**
  - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated January 7, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine (Ad26.COV2.S [recombinant]) (Janssen Inc.)

- **Doses and Schedule:**
  - Footnote B has been revised to indicate that the minimum age for vaccine receipt is based on age at presentation.

- **Precautions:**
  - Receipt of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 has been removed from PRECAUTIONS as deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer indicated. The original advice to defer COVID-19 vaccination for 90 days following receipt of these medications was a cautionary approach; the basis for this change is referenced to general immunization guidance and findings from a recent study in which individuals who received an anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody demonstrated a robust immune response to subsequent COVID-19 vaccination.
  - Content related to myocarditis/pericarditis has been revised per recent updates to the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine pages.

- **Special Considerations:**
  - Content was added to indicate that deferral of COVID-19 vaccination is no longer recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.
recommended for individuals who have received anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma for treatment or prevention of COVID-19.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated January 14, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated February 18, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine Screening Checklist
The question regarding receipt of specific medications for COVID-19 prevention and treatment (monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma) was deleted, as a deferral period is no longer recommended prior to COVID-19 vaccination.

Please remove page number: 1 dated December 7, 2021
Please add new page number: 1 dated February 18, 2022

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 FACPM
Medical Director
Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:
Provincial Health Officer
Dr. Bonnie Henry

Dr. Reka Gustafson
Vice President, Public Health & Wellness, PHSA & Deputy Provincial Health Officer

Deputy Provincial Health Officer
Dr. Martin Lavoie

BC Ministry of Health, Population & Public Health Division:

Brian Sagar
Senior Director Communicable Disease, Population and Public Health Division

Bernard Achampong
Executive Director, Public Health, Planning and Prevention, Population and Public Health Division