Date: June 24, 2022

Administrative Circular: 2022:24

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 4 - Biological Products, Appendix B –
Administration of Biological Products & Supporting Documents

Part 1- Immunization Schedules

2. Routine Schedules

2.1 Schedule A: Basic Immunization for Children Starting Series at 2 Months of Age

- Rotavirus has been removed from 6 months age indication as Rotarix® is now the currently supplied Rotavirus vaccine in BC.
- Varicella has been removed from grade 6 indication, as 2nd dose varicella (provided as MMRV) has been routinely provided at 4-6 years of age since 2013 and the majority of children would have received it prior to grade 6.

2.2 Schedule B: Children 1 to 6 Years of Age (Inclusive) When Starting or Resuming Immunization

- Varicella has been removed from grade 6 indication, as 2nd dose varicella (provided as MMRV) has been routinely provided at 4-6 years of age since 2013 and the majority of children would have received it prior to grade 6.

Please remove page numbers: 5 & 6 dated October 2020
Please add new page numbers: 5 & 6 dated June 2022

Part 4 – Biological Products

Human Papillomavirus Vaccines

**Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Nonavalent): Gardasil® 9**

- Gender specific language has been revised for clarity and inclusivity, as well as a link to the PHSA glossary of terms related to trans health and services has been included.
- Footnote E has been added to indicate the vaccine is approved for use in males up to 45 years of age, although not yet addressed by NACI.

Please remove page numbers: 1-3 dated June 2019
Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated June 2022

Monkeypox Vaccine

Smallpox and Monkeypox Vaccine (Live attenuated, non-replicating): IMVAMUNE®

- Additional content was added for shipping and storage of vaccine at freezer temperatures of -90°C to -70°C.
- Content added to indicate the vaccine can be stored frozen up until the vaccine’s expiry date of 2023-09-30.

Please remove page numbers: 1-2 dated June 10, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-2 dated June 24, 2022

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines

Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine: Prevnar® 13

A footnote has been added to refer to Part 4 – Biological Products, Completing a Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Series when the basic schedule has been delayed.

Please remove page numbers: 1-3 dated August 2018
Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated June 2022

Completing a Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine Series

- Content in the table has been corrected to indicate high risk infants between 12 and 23 months of age who have previously received 2 doses of PCV prior to 12 months of age require 1 dose for completion of series.
- Footnote A has been revised to indicate that when a high risk condition is diagnosed after completion of a PCV series, no further doses are recommended, except for specific conditions outlined in Part 2 – Immunization of Special Populations (e.g., HSCT recipients).

Please remove page number: 1 dated November 2010
Please add new page number: 1 dated June 2022
Zoster Vaccines

Zoster Vaccine (Recombinant): Shingrix®

- The interval between an episode of shingles and administration of SHINGRIX® in footnote C has been revised to indicate that immunization be deferred until the acute stage of the illness has fully resolved. An interval of 1 year between an episode of shingles and immunization with SHINGRIX® is no longer indicated.
- Special Considerations content has been revised to indicate SHINGRIX® may be considered for immunocompromised adults 18 years of age and older per Health Canada approval.
- Content regarding Guillain-Barré syndrome has been added to the Precautions and Adverse Events sections.

Please remove page numbers: 1-2 dated October 2018
Please add new page numbers: 1-2 dated June 2022

Appendix B: Administration of Biological Products

Instructions on how to open One Point Cut ampules has been updated for clarity in section 8.

Please remove entire section: dated May 2022
Please add entire section: dated June 2022

Additional GlaxoSmithKline resources on how to open OPC ampules are available in the circulated educational letter and video. Note that while the operator in the video is using gloves, these are not recommended for routine use in this context.

Supporting Documents

History of Immunization in BC

- The influenza vaccine products used in the 2021-2022 influenza season have been included.
- The rotavirus vaccine table has been updated to indicate ROTARIX® has replaced RotaTeq® as the vaccine routinely given to infants.

Please remove page numbers: 13 & 20 dated December 2020 and August 2020
Please add new page numbers: 13 & 20 dated June 2022
Vaccine Development and Licensing

Biologics and Genetics Therapies Directorate (BGTD) has been updated to Biologic and Radiopharmaceutical Drugs Directorate (BRDD).

Please remove page number: 1-2 dated May 2009
Please add new page numbers: 1-2 dated June 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,

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