Date: July 22, 2022

Administrative Circular: 2022:30

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 & Appendix E – Management of Biologicals

Part 4 – Biological Products
COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility
• Eligibility criteria for ‘pediatric population - 6 months-4 years of age (inclusive)’ has been added.
• Preferred vaccines have been included in second booster dose eligibility.
• Appendix B has been updated to include children from 6 months of age.

Please remove page numbers: 1-3 dated July 8, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated July 22, 2022

COVID-19 Vaccine SPIKEVAX™ (Moderna) (6 Years of Age and Older)
• The vial cap colour has been added to the title of the product page to differentiate this product from the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine 6 months to 5 years of age formulation.
• Administration:
  o Content for low dead-volume syringes and/or needles has been streamlined.
  o Storage and Handling:
    ▪ Frozen temperature range has been updated to -50°C to -15°C.
    ▪ The vial size is now referred to as a 5 mL vial instead of 10 or 14-dose vials. In addition, content regarding the 14-dose (7 mL US-labelled product) has been removed as all lots of this vaccine have expired.
• Adverse Events:
  o Additional content has been added related to reported rates of myocarditis.

Please remove page numbers: 1-5 dated July 8, 2022
Please add new page numbers: 1-5 dated July 22, 2022
COVID-19 Vaccine SPIKEVAX™ (Moderna) (6 months – 5 years of age)
A new biological product page has been developed.

Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated July 22, 2022

The Healthcare Provider Q&A will be updated shortly to include supporting information regarding COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for children (6 months to 4 years).

Please also remove the Title Page and Table of Contents for Part 4 – Biological Products dated June 2022 and replace with the enclosed updated Title Page and Table of Contents dated July 2022.

Appendix E – Management of Biologicals

Guidance for Receiving and Handling the Moderna COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine

- Storage conditions for the frozen vaccine have been updated to -50°C to -15°C.
- Content under ‘Thaw each vial before use’ has been revised to include thawing times for the 2 different presentations of the vaccine: the 5 mL vial (for those 6 years of age and older) and the 2.5 mL vial (for those 6 months-5 years of age).
- Content referring to the 14-dose US-labelled vial has been removed as all of this product has expired.

Please remove page numbers: 1-4 dated August 10, 2021
Please add new page numbers: 1-4 dated July 22, 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