Date: February 8, 2023  Administrative Circular: 2023:05

ATTN: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators
Health Authority Communicable Disease Epidemiologists
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 6: Surveillance of Reportable Conditions

The following changes to the Provincial Minimum Datasets have been made:

1. Based on a recommendation made at the November 24, 2022 Communicable Disease Policy Advisory Committee meeting, it has been clarified that case by case reporting with minimum datasets as otherwise applicable to all other reportable communicable diseases does not apply to sporadic cases of influenza.

The following two guidelines have been updated to reflect this exemption.

   • Data Elements Collected for all Reportable Communicable Diseases:
   • Data Elements Collected for all Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Invasive Group A Streptococcal Disease

Small wording changes have also been made to update the language in the first of the guidelines above.

2. Based on a recommendation made at the January 17, 2023 Communicable Disease Policy Advisory Committee meeting, enhanced surveillance for invasive Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) has been approved for BC until the need for ongoing enhanced surveillance is reviewed in January 2024.

This is being done in the context of elevated rates of invasive Hib affecting adults, with evidence of transmission in specific populations.

The following guideline has been updated to reflect this exemption.

   • Data Elements Collected for all Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Invasive Group A Streptococcal Disease
An accompanying enhanced surveillance form for invasive Hib has also been developed and is available on this page: http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/professional-resources/surveillance-forms
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at telephone: 604-707-2540 or email: monika.naus@bccdc.ca.

Sincerely,

Monika Naus MD MHSc FRCPC FACPM
Medical Director
Immunization Programs and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Service
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pc:
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