



BC Centre for Disease Control
AN AGENCY OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

July 25, 2008

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

**Re: Revisions to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 –
Immunization Program**

(1) Section II – Immunization Schedules

Page 11: Worksheet for Immunization of Adult Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HSCT) Recipients(Those ≥18 Years of Age):

- In the first column of the table, for Pneumococcal Polysaccharide, footnote number corrected to ③. Symbol ④ was there previously, referencing MMR vaccine in error.

Page 12: Worksheet for Immunization of Child Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HSCT) Recipients (Those < 18 Years of Age):

- Clarification in footnote ⑨ that administration of doses of MMR and varicella vaccine should be separated by at least 4 weeks.

Page 16: Worksheet for Immunization of Adult Solid Organ Transplant Candidates and Recipients:

- Two spaces provided to record MMR vaccine.

(2) Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions for Immunization

Page 12: 8.10 Splenic Disorders

- Timing of vaccine administration for asplenic individuals has been clarified, and is consistent with recommendations in the Canadian Immunization Guide. Vaccines should be given at least 14 days prior to elective splenectomy. In the case of emergency splenectomy, provide vaccines 14 days post-splenectomy. If there is concern that a patient will not present later for vaccination, vaccination should be done prior to hospital discharge. References are included that support these recommendations.

Administrative Circular # 2008:06

Section VII - Biological Products:

Pages 2, 3, 4 & 81:

- These pages were incorrectly dated as April 2008 in Section VII posted on the BCCDC web site. The dates were correct on the excerpts accompanying AC 2008:04, dated April 28, 2008. The dates on the web site pages have been corrected back to February 2008. There was no change to the content of these pages in April 2008.

Pages 4, 45, 47, 51 & 53: Hib, meningococcal and pneumococcal vaccines:

- Timing for vaccine administration pre- or post- splenectomy has been clarified, as described above.

Pages 18, 19 & 23: Recombivax (Hepatitis B) vaccine:

- The pediatric presentation for Recombivax, (5mcg/0.5 ml, thimerosal free) has been added to these pages.

Pages 27 & 28: Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Gardasil):

- Yeast is moved to the “Vaccine Components” list and Contraindication #1 now reads “History of anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of HPV vaccine, or to any component of Gardasil™.” This contraindication had previously listed yeast.
- Footnote ④ is changed to read “Gardasil™ vaccine can be administered at the same visit as other age-appropriate vaccines.” This change was made due to reported confusion regarding the previous statement of “...using a separate syringe and a **different anatomic site**...” When HPV is administered concurrently with another vaccine in the same limb, separate the injections by a distance of at least 1 – 2”.

Page 38 & 39: Measles/Mumps/Rubella vaccine:

Revised footnote symbol to ④ re: pregnancy. Footnote ⑤ now refers to HCWs.

Page 46: Meningococcal Quadrivalent Polysaccharide Vaccine (Menomune):

- Footnote ① added to reference prior recommendation for Menactra™ use for protection against Group A meningococcal disease when a child is 2 years of age, if there is continuing outbreak exposure or expected ongoing exposure during travel.

Page 47: Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Prennar):

- Indication (2) “Provided free to aboriginal infants and children 2 to 59 months of age” has been removed. All infants and children in the province age 2 to 59 months of age are eligible for vaccine, since the first infants eligible for vaccine in July 2003 are now 59 months of age.

The last statement in footnote ② (“Asplenic identified at 5 – 16 years...”) has been deleted. This statement is already in the “INITIAL SERIES” column.



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Pages 50, 51, 52 & 53: Pneumococcal Polysaccharide vaccines:

- Footnotes have been renumbered for clarity.

Page 54: Polio Vaccine:

- Footnote ❶ has additional clarification: while polio immunization is not considered necessary for previously unimmunized adults in Canada who do not expect to travel to areas where polio outbreaks occur, it is indicated for those in “Indication” (3) “Children and adults who may be or are exposed to wild polioviruses”. This would include previously unimmunized health care workers.

Page 63: Rabies Vaccine Post-exposure (Rabavert):

- The dosage for an unimmunized individual has been corrected to read 1.0 ml. It was written previously as 10 ml.

Page 66: Tetanus-Diphtheria-acellular Pertussis (Tdap) (Adacel):

- The indications for HSCT recipients and solid organ transplant clients have been separated to avoid confusion. All HSCT clients require immunization, but only previously unimmunized solid organ transplants require immunization.

Page 82: Varicella Vaccine:

- Indication (6) now reads “ **Susceptible** Child and Adult candidates for solid organ transplant...”

Section X – Appendices:

Page 1: 1.0 Referral Form for Varicella Vaccination:

- This form has been updated to include child and adult candidates for solid organ transplant, and adults following HSCT.

Page 2: 2.0 Referral Form for MMR Vaccination:

- This is a new page, developed to facilitate obtaining specialist approval for administration of MMR vaccine to immunocompromised clients where indicated.

The addition of the new page means that subsequent sections have been renumbered.

Please remove and destroy the following pages from the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program:

(1) Section II – Immunization Schedules:

Pages 11& 12

Dated April 2008

Page 16

Dated February 2008

(2) Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions for Immunization:

Page 12

Dated June 2003

(3) Section VII – Biological Products:

**Pages 4, 18, 19, 23, 39, 45,
46, 47, 54 & 63**

Dated February 2008

**Pages 27, 28, 38, 50, 51, 52, 53
66 & 82**

Dated April 2008

(4) Section X – Appendices:

Remove TOC, pages 1- 8 and Algorithm for Hepatitis B Vaccine for Clients with Chronic Renal Disease.

Please insert the following pages in the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program:

(1) Section II – Immunization Schedules:

Pages 11, 12 &16

Dated July 2008

(2) Section III – Contraindications and Routine Precautions for Immunization:

Page 12

Dated July 2008

(3) Section VII – Biological Products:

**Pages 4, 18, 19, 23, 27, 28, 38, 39, 45, 46
47, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 63, 66 & 82**

Dated July 2008

(4) Section X – Appendices:

TOC and pages 1 – 9 and Algorithm for Hepatitis B Vaccine for Clients with Chronic Renal Clients

Dated July 2008



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If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Karen Pielak, Nurse Epidemiologist, or Cheryl McIntyre, Associate Nurse Epidemiologist, at telephone (604) 660-6061, fax (604)660-0197 or e-mail karen.pielak@bccdc.ca or cheryl.mcintyre@bccdc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monika Naus".

Dr. Monika Naus
Medical Director, Immunization Program and
Associate Director, Epidemiology Services
BC Centre for Disease Control

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