



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: October 29, 2019

Administrative Circular: 2019:14

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 2 – Immunization of Special Populations**
- **Part 4 – Biological Products**
- **Appendices**
- **Supporting Documents**

Part 1 – Immunization Schedules

- Subsection 4.5.4 Grace Period has been added, indicating that when reviewing immunization records retrospectively, vaccine doses given ≤ 4 days prior to the recommended minimum interval or minimum age can be counted as valid. The exceptions to this include:
 - Interval between live vaccines when not administered at the same visit; a 4 week minimum interval must always be maintained between live vaccine doses
 - Rabies vaccine series
 - Prospective scheduling of future vaccines
- The minimum interval table, footnote F has been updated to include the June 2014 date for the change in minimum age for dose 3. Prior to this date, dose 3 given at less than 24 weeks of age would be considered valid.

Please remove page numbers: Table of contents, 12, 14, 17-19 dated May 2017
Please add new page numbers: Table of contents, 12, 14, 17-19 dated October 2019

Part 2 – Immunization of Special Populations

Specific Immunocompromising Conditions

Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (HSCT)

- Content related to zoster vaccines has been added.

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- Table 1: *Worksheet for Immunization of Adult Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HSCT) Recipients (those 18 years of age and older)* has been revised as follows:
 - Hepatitis B:
 - Due to a supply shortage, the RECOMBIVAX HB® Dialysis formulation of hepatitis B vaccine will not be available for the foreseeable future. As such, the table has been revised to accommodate a 4-dose Engerix®-B schedule. Content has been added to Footnote C to provide direction when RECOMBIVAX HB® or RECOMBIVAX HB® Dialysis (40 mcg/mL) products are used for all doses in a series.
 - If *any* dose in the series is given as Engerix®-B, a 4-dose series is recommended. This is a change from the previous recommendation that the number of doses in a mixed product series was dependent on the product used for the first dose only.
 - Meningococcal Quadrivalent Conjugate (Men-C-A, C, Y, W-135)
 - The first dose of Men-C-A, C, Y, W-135 was moved from the 2nd visit to the 1st visit to accommodate the total volume of vaccines at each visit.
- Table 2: *Worksheet for Immunization of Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant (HSCT) Recipients (those under 18 years of age)* has been revised as follows:
 - Hepatitis B:
 - For those 16 years of age and older, if *any* dose in the series is given as Engerix®-B, a 4-dose series is recommended. This is a change from the previous recommendation that the number of doses in a mixed product series was dependent on the product used for the first dose only.
 - A maximum volume of 2 mL for the deltoid sites may be considered for those assessed to have adequate muscle mass.

Please remove page numbers: 1-6 dated March 2017, August 2018 and June 2019

Please add new page numbers: 1-6 dated October 2019

Chronic Kidney Disease

- The *Hepatitis B Vaccine Program for Chronic Kidney Disease Clients* dosing table, footnote C has been revised to indicate that if *any* dose in the series is given as Engerix®-B, a 4-dose series is recommended. This is a change from the previous recommendation that the number of doses in a mixed product series was dependent on the product used for the first dose only.

Please remove page numbers: 1-3 dated June 2019

Please add new page numbers: 1-3 dated October 2019

Adults with Malignant Neoplasm

Content related to zoster vaccines has been updated.

Please remove page numbers: 1 & 2 dated June 2017
Please add new page numbers: 1 & 2 dated October 2019

Candidate for or Recipient of Solid Organ or Islet Cell Transplant

Content related to zoster vaccines has been updated.

Please remove page number: 2 dated August 2017
Please add new page number: 2 dated October 2019

Part 4 – Biological Products

Hepatitis Vaccines

Hepatitis B Vaccine Higher Dose Schedule

- Footnote B has been revised to indicate that if *any* dose in the series is given as Engerix®-B, a 4-dose series is recommended. This is a change from the previous recommendation that the number of doses in a mixed product series was dependent on the product used for the first dose only.

Please remove page number: 1 dated January 2018
Please add new page number: 1 dated October 2019

Hepatitis B Vaccine Program for Chronic Kidney Disease Clients

- Footnote C has been revised to indicate that if *any* dose in the series is given as Engerix®-B, a 4-dose series is recommended. This is a change from the previous recommendation that the number of doses in a mixed product series was dependent on the product used for the first dose only.

Please remove page number: 1 dated June 2019
Please add new page number: 1 dated October 2019

Appendices

Appendix A: Informed Consent

- The College of Registered Nurses of BC has been updated to the BC College of Nursing Professionals.

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- Recommendations related to the deferral of immunization when there are differences between parents who both have the authority to consent to their child's immunization have been revised to indicate that the consent of one presenting parent provides the authority to proceed with immunization of the child, and deferral is no longer generally recommended. Consultation with a Program Manager or Risk Management Consultant for further direction in this general circumstance is recommended.
- Content related to the documentation of vaccine refusals has been revised for clarity, indicating that refusals are reasons provided for declining immunization that are not due to medical contraindications. Additionally, refusals should not impact the future offer of immunizations, including for children of parents who have documented their intention not to vaccinate their child under section 6(e)(ii) of the [Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation, B.C. Regulation 146/2019](#).

Please remove page numbers: entire old section dated June 2016
Please add new page numbers: entire new section dated October 2019

Supporting Documents

Immunogenic Components of Selected Vaccines

- The table has been revised to include the immunogenic components contained in a number of additional vaccines.
- Information for the following vaccines has been removed from the table: Meningitec®, Menomune®, Quadracel® and Pneumo 23®.
- Links to Non-Immunogenic Components of Vaccines and Part 4 – Biological Products have been included.

Please remove page numbers: 1-2 dated May 2009
Please add new page numbers: 1-5 dated October 2019

Non-Immunogenic Components of Vaccines

- Minor revisions have been made to bring the content up to date.
- Links to Immunogenic Components of Selected Vaccines and Part 4 – Biological Products have been included.

Please remove page number: 1 dated May 2009
Please add new page number: 1 dated October 2019

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Christine Halpert, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2555 / email: christine.halpert@bccdc.ca) or Stephanie Meier, Public Health Resource Nurse, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



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Communicable Diseases & Immunization Service
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