



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: July 12, 2022

Administrative Circular: 2022:29

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,
Appendix A – Informed Consent for Immunization**

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- 4. *Step By Step Process for Obtaining Informed Consent* has been updated as follows:
 - Step 1: Determining Authority to Provide Informed Consent - A link to a [Question & Answer](#) document has been added to support immunization providers when there is disagreement between Parents/Guardians who both have the authority to consent to their child's immunization. A public-facing version of the Q&A will be added to the Immunizebc website: immunizebc.ca/when-parents-disagree
 - Step 7: Document Consent or Refusal
 - Content has been added to indicate that documentation of mature minor consent or refusal should include a notation or alert if the child wishes for their immunization record to remain confidential (i.e., not accessible to their parent/guardian). Such a notation/alert in the child's chart indicates that additional steps should be taken to ensure patient confidentiality, and the immunization record should only be released to the child.
 - Content has been added under *Effective Period for Consent* to indicate that healthcare provider judgement should be used to determine if consent needs to be re-obtained (e.g., when years have passed since consent was obtained, unclear if consent was previously obtained according to the standard of practice outline in Appendix A: Informed Consent for Immunization, change in custodial arrangement).
- 6. *Consent for School-Based Immunization Programs* – Content has been added to strengthen the recommendations to support the privacy rights of mature minors when distributing personalized immunization consent forms (containing immunization records), with suggested strategies for consideration.

Please remove entire section: dated October 2019, March 2021 & September 2021
Please add new section: dated July 2022

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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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Medical Director
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