



BC Centre for Disease Control
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Immunization Programs and Vaccine
Preventable Diseases Service
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Date: June 14, 2016

Administrative Circular: 2016:09

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 Program,
Section IA-Introduction & Section IB-Informed Consent**

Section IA-Introduction

11.0 History of Immunization in BC:

Tables have been updated to reflect changes to the BC Immunization Program.

**Please remove page numbers: 21-40 dated May 2009-June 2014
Please add new page numbers: 21-40d dated June 2016**

Section IB-Informed Consent

Entire section reviewed and updated. Key revisions include:

- **3.0 General Definitions**
 - 'Vaccine series' definition has been revised to indicate 2 or more doses of vaccine, and vaccine product information has been removed.
- **4.0 Step By Step Process For Obtaining Informed Consent**
 - **Step 1: Determine Authority to Provide Informed Consent**
 - **Parents**
Clarity added regarding the situation in which **both** parents refuse the urgent administration of post-exposure immunoprophylaxis: consult with the responsible MHO, and the final decision to bring the matter to the attention of the Regional Director of Child Protection rests with the MHO.
 - **Mature Minors**
Content added regarding mature minor consent in accordance with the Infant Act, as well as more specific direction regarding the application of mature minor consent in school based immunization programs.

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Other Custodial Caregivers

Revised from “Other Representative(s)” and further clarity added to this group of individuals.

Other Individuals

Revised from “Delegated Authority” and further clarity added to this group of individuals.

- **Step 2: Assess Capability to Give Informed Consent**
Information added under Mature Minors
- **Step 7: Document Consent or Refusal**
 - All references to a particular clinical information system (e.g. Panorama, Paris) have been removed.
 - Further detail added to documentation standards, including that for mature minor consent. Content regarding refusals has been revised to indicate that refused vaccines should be reoffered, at a minimum, at the child’s 2nd, 4th, 10th and 13th birthdays.
- **6.0 Consent for School-Based Immunization Programs**
 - Content added regarding clinical information system generated personalized immunization consent forms.
- **7.0 Immunization of Adults Assessed as Incapable of Giving or Refusing Informed Consent**
 - All information related to adults incapable of giving or refusing consent has been moved to subsection 7.0 and further details added in order to clarify the process.

Please remove: the entire Section IB, including the Table of Contents
Please insert: the revised Section IB, including the Table of Contents, dated June 2016

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Christine Halpert, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC at telephone (604) 707-2555, fax (604) 707-2515 or by email at christine.halpert@bccdc.ca

Sincerely,



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pc: BC Ministry of Health:
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