



May 24, 2005

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

Re: Meningococcal Disease Control Guidelines

Please note the following revisions to the above guidelines:

Page 2, Section 3.0 “Epidemiology:”

- Reports data for 2004

Page 2, Section 4.0 “Definitions:”

- Definitions for confirmed and probable cases have been revised to be consistent with the 2005 National Case Definitions.

Page 5, Subsection 6.1 “Chemoprophylaxis of close contacts:”

- Third paragraph regarding chemoprophylaxis of close contacts of meningococcal disease – list now includes primary meningococcal pneumonia (in addition to invasive meningococcal disease and primary meningococcal conjunctivitis).

Page 6, Subsection 6.1 “Chemoprophylaxis of close contacts:”

- New bullet: “recent reports suggest that sexual contacts of persons diagnosed with meningococcal urethritis should receive chemoprophylaxis.”

Page 7, Table 1: Chemoprophylactic Agents:

- For rifampin – additional points under “contraindications” regarding:
 - prematurity
 - presence of jaundice
 - receipt of ritonavir/saquinavir
- For rifampin – additional points under “counseling/side effects” regarding:
 - Pregnancy
 - Efficacy of the contraceptive patch
 - Warfarin

Administrative Circular # 2005:05





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Page 17, Section 13.0 “Meningococcal Case Report Form:”

- Addition of risk factor information to be collected – notably sharing of joints and gay/bisexual.

Pages 18, 19, and 20:

- Contraindications and precaution for the use of rifampin, as noted above.

Pages 20, 21, and 22:

- Addition of the risk factor of sharing joints.

Please delete and destroy the following pages from the Communicable Disease Control Manual – Chapter I Management of Specific Diseases:

Meningococcal Disease
Table of Contents
Pages 1 – 20

Dated October 2004

Insert the following pages in the Communicable Disease Control Manual – Chapter I Management of Specific Diseases:

Meningococcal Disease
Table of Contents
Pages 1 – 22

Dated May 2005

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Karen Pielak, Nurse Epidemiologist, @ telephone (604)660-3382, fax (604)660-0197 or by email karen.pielak@bccdc.ca

Sincerely,

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DMP/kka





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