

August 30, 2007

ATTN: **Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices**

Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators

Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

Re: Influenza Vaccine for the 2007-2008 Season

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) "Statement on Influenza Vaccination for the 2007-2008 Season" has been published in the Canada Communicable Disease Report (CCDR) July 1, 2007 Volume 33 ACS-7 and is available at: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/ccdr-rmtc/07vol33/acs-07/index_e.html

Two vaccine brands will be supplied to British Columbia for the upcoming public campaign. These vaccines are both trivalent, inactivated, split-virus preparations. One is manufactured by GSK (Fluviral® S/F), and the other by sanofi pasteur (Vaxigrip®).

The influenza vaccines to be marketed in Canada for the 2007-2008 season will contain: A/Solomon Islands/3/2006 (H1N1)-like virus, an A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2)-like and a B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like virus.

In the event that redistribution of influenza vaccine is required, please keep the insulated shipping cartons in which your initial order was shipped. Health Authorities that find they have a surplus of vaccine should promptly notify BCCDC Biological's desk by fax 604-775-2718. The biologicals desk will advise you regarding the management of the surplus vaccine.

Administrative Circular # 2007:13



Last Season 2006-2007 Vaccine:

Do not use the formulation from 2006-2007 for the 2007-2008 influenza vaccination campaign. Do not destroy any vaccines locally. All influenza vaccine remaining from the previous year's program should be returned to the BCCDC as soon as possible upon BCCDC authorization. For instruction on completing the Field Return form, please contact the BCCDC Biological's desk at 604-660-5692.

Please note the following changes to the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program, Section VII - Biological Products:

Page 31: Influenza

- "Pregnant women in their 3rd trimester" are now listed in category (1) "people at high risk." Previously had been listed under category (2) "People capable of transmitting influenza to those at elevated risk for complications of disease."
- Revised wording of 2nd bullet under indication (2): "Household contacts (including children) of people at high risk whether or not they have been immunized."

Pages 32, 33, and 34: Influenza

 Re-dated to August 2007 to reflect recommendations for the 2007/2008 influenza season.

Please remove and destroy the following from the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program, Section VII - Biological Products:

Pages 31, 32, 33, and 34

Dated May 2007

Insert the following replacement pages in the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program, Section VII - Biological Products:

Pages 31, 32, 33, and 34

Dated August 2007

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Karen Pielak, Nurse Epidemiologist, Epidemiology Services, BC Centre for Disease Control at 604-660-6061 or karen.pielak@bccdc.ca

Sincerely,

David Patrick, Director Epidemiology Services

BC Centre for Disease Control

DMP/sk

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