



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

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December 6, 2010

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

**Re: Revisions to the Communicable Disease Control Manual –  
Chapter 2, Immunization Program**

**Please note the following revisions to the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program:**

**(1) Section IIA, IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULES**

- Section reposted with correction of pagination error.

**(2) Section III, IMMUNIZATION OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS**

- Section reposted after removal of a “Draft” watermark on a revised page.

**(3) SECTION VII, BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**

**Table of Contents**

- Corrected page 18a to follow page 18 in the TOC

**Page 17, “Hepatitis B Vaccine Pre-Exposure (RecombivaxHb®)**

- Corrected the numbering for “Indications” and “Initial Series”

**Administrative Circular 2010:24**

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**EPIDEMIOLOGY SERVICES**  
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### **Pages 24 & 25, “Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Gardasil®):”**

Following a decision at the Communicable Disease Policy Committee on November 30, 2010, the following changes have been made for a “catch up” schedule for girls 13 years of age and younger who did not receive HPV vaccine in Grade 6:

- New indication (2): Girls  $\leq 13$  years of age who did not receive their HPV vaccine in Grade 6 will be immunized using the “extended dose” schedule (two doses 6 months apart and a 3<sup>rd</sup> dose 60 months later). The age indication is for commencement of the extended dose series; the extended dose series is used even though the age of presentation for subsequent doses may be  $> 13$  years of age.
- Indications renumbered
- Indication (4) revised to “Other females born in 1994 or later,  $\geq 14$  years of age, and who missed receiving or completing a vaccine series while in grade 6 or 9 in BC
- Footnote ❶ revised: “Females born in 1994 and later who are unimmunized or incompletely immunized remain eligible for HPV vaccine. However, only girls in grade 6 or girls who missed the HPV vaccine in grade 6 and are  $\leq 13$  years of age at series commencement will receive HPV vaccine according to the extended dose schedule. At the discretion of local health authorities, immunization may take place in health units, rather than the school setting.”
- “Contraindications:” revised wording to “The vaccine should not be given during pregnancy because safety of receipt of HPV vaccine during pregnancy has not been adequately studied. Women who become pregnant before series completion should defer immunization until no longer pregnant. In pregnant women who are inadvertently vaccinated, there is no need to consider any intervention except reassurance, as the vaccine has not been associated with teratogenicity.”
- New footnote ❷: “Merck Frosst Canada Ltd. Maintains a Pregnancy Register to monitor fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to GARDASIL® vaccine. Patients and health care providers are encouraged to report any such exposure during pregnancy by calling 1-800-567-2594. See product monograph for more details.

### **Page 46, “Recommendations for Pneumococcal Immunization with 13-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine (PCV13) and 23-valent pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (PPV23) for Children at High Risk of Pneumococcal Disease:”**

- Recommendations updated for consistency with changes for completing a pneumococcal series; high risk children 24 to 59 months of age with no or incomplete PCV13 vaccine series would receive 1 dose of PCV13.

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

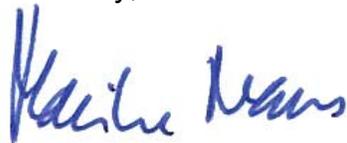
Table Contents	Dated November 2010
Page 17	Dated November 2010
Pages 24 & 25	Dated September 2010
Page 46	Dated June 2010

**Please insert the following pages in the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program, Section VII:**

Table of Contents	Dated December 2010
Pages 17, 24, 25 & 46	Dated December 2010

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Karen Pielak, Nurse Epidemiologist, or Cheryl McIntyre, Associate Nurse Epidemiologist, at telephone (604) 707-2510, fax (604) 707-2516 or by email at [karen.pielak@bccdc.ca](mailto:karen.pielak@bccdc.ca) or [cheryl.mcintyre@bccdc.ca](mailto:cheryl.mcintyre@bccdc.ca)

Sincerely,



Dr. Monika Naus,  
Medical Director, Immunization Program and  
Associate Medical Director, Epidemiology Services  
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc: Ministry of Health Services:

Dr. Perry Kendall  
Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Eric Young  
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