



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

April 29, 2011

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

**Re: Revisions to Communicable Disease Control Manual:
Chapter 1 – Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies
Chapter 2 – Immunization Program**

Numerous edits were made throughout Chapter 1 – Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies to update the references and make it easier to read. Two content area changes were made:

**Page 1, Chapter 1 – Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies, Section 2.0
“Definitions”**

We removed the following wording from the definition of “Direct contact”: “This currently includes touching bare skin, which could have breaks that are not visible to the eye.”

**Page 9, Chapter 1 – Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies, Section 4.2
“Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (RPEP)”**

The recommendation has changed from 5 doses to 4 doses of rabies vaccine in the post-exposure prophylaxis of an immunocompetent person.

In order to remain consistent with the revised guidelines, changes were also made to the Immunization Program Section VII Biological Products:

Administrative Circular 2011:05

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Pages 57, 58 and 61, Chapter 2 – Immunization Program, Section VII

The recommendation has changed to provide only 4 doses of rabies vaccine on days 0 – 3 – 7 – 14 to unimmunized immunocompetent individuals.

Please remove and destroy the following from the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1 – Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies

Table of Contents

Pages 1 to 28

Dated February 2009

Please insert the following in the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1- Management of Specific Diseases, Rabies

Table of Contents

Pages 1 to 28

Dated April 2011

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

Page 57

Dated January 2009

Page 58

Dated June 2009

Page 61

Dated April 2010

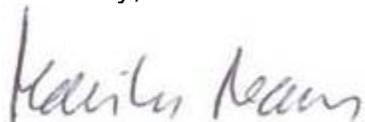
Please insert the following in the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 2 - Immunization Program, Section VII

Pages 57, 58 and 61

Dated April 2011

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Eleni Galanis, Physician Epidemiologist (604-707-2558; eleni.galanis@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



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

pc: Ministry of Health Services

Dr. Perry Kendall
Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Eric Young
Deputy Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Bob Fisk
Medical Consultant
Non-Communicable Disease

Craig Thompson
Director, CD Prevention – Immunization

Warren O'Briain
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