



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

Date: October 3, 2012

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 2012-2013 Season

The influenza vaccines approved in Canada for the 2012-2013 season will contain: an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus, an A/Victoria/361/2011 (H3N2)-like virus; and a B/Wisconsin/1/2010-like virus (B Yamagata lineage).

Vaccines that are publicly-funded in BC for the 2012-2013 season are VAXIGRIP®, FLUAD® and AGRIFLU®. Pages for vaccines commercially available in Canada, but not part of the province-wide public campaign have been added as references for community vaccine providers.

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

Influenza pages:

- Eligibility – Addition of:
 - Healthy children 6 to 59 months of age. Formerly this was limited to 6 to 23 months of age. Corresponding changes are:
 - Household contacts of healthy children 0 to 59 months of age
 - Those providing regular child care to healthy children 0 to 59 months of age, whether in or out of the home

Administrative Circular 2012:18

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS AND VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES SERVICES
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- All health care workers (including all health authority staff, accredited physicians and residents, volunteers, students, contractors, and vendors) who come into contact with patients at health care facilities including long-term care facilities. This includes independent health care practitioners and their staff in community settings. Health care workers have been eligible in prior years, but for clarity, this wording is consistent with the Influenza Protection Policy being launched in fall 2012.
- Note: vaccine for Aboriginal peoples (on and off reserve) was introduced in the 2010-2011 season, and has been extended for the 2012-2013 season.
- Safety Issues Applicable to Influenza Vaccines:
 - Egg Allergic Individuals: NACI advises that most persons with egg allergy may be safely vaccinated with inactivated influenza vaccine. A two-step graded dosing protocol has been added for immunization of individuals who are at higher risk for severe allergic reaction after eating eggs or egg-containing foods.
 - Febrile seizures following concomitant receipt of TIV and PCV13: This association has not been seen in Canada, and while the information on the US findings is provided herein, there is no specific advice about need to inform parents whose child is receiving influenza vaccine at the same visit as PCV13 about an elevated risk of febrile seizures; these may be associated with receipt of any vaccine that is associated with a fever in children susceptible to febrile seizures. A HealthLinkBC file on febrile seizures is available.

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

TOC, pages 1 & 2

Dated July 2012

Pages 31, 31a, 32, 33, 34, 34a, 34b, 34c, 34d

Dated September 2011

Pages 31b, 31c

Dated October 2011

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

TOC pages 1 & 2

Dated October 2012

Pages 31, 31a, 31b, 31c, 32a, 32b, 32c, 33a, 33b, 34a, 34b, 34c

Dated October 2012

Please note the following changes to the Communicable Disease Control manual, Chapter 2- Immunization Program, Section IIA, Immunization Schedules:

- Footnotes associated with influenza vaccine updated to include expanded eligibility for infants and children 6 to 59 months of age.

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

Pages 1-4

Dated August 2012

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

Pages 1-4

Dated October 2012

Please note the following changes to the Communicable Disease Control manual, Chapter 2- Immunization Program, Section IA, Introduction:

- Updated indications for influenza vaccine in 2011/2012 and 2012/2013

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

Pages 30 & 30a

Dated May 2009 and November 2010

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

Pages 30, 30a, 30b

Dated October 2012

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Andrea Derban, Clinical Nurse Specialist, at telephone (604) 707-2542, fax (604) 707-2515 or by email at andrea.derban@bccdc.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monika Naus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Monika Naus, MD MHS Sc FRCPC FACPM
Medical Director
Immunization Programs and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Service
BC Centre for Disease Control

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