



**BC Centre for Disease Control**  
AN AGENCY OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY

October 11, 2005

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

**Re: Simian B Virus**

Guidelines have been developed for the prevention of Simian B Virus infection. Simian B virus infection can be acquired by the bite of apparently healthy macaque monkeys, or by exposure of injured skin or mucous membranes to infected saliva or macaque monkey cell cultures. Human illness is extremely rare but highly fatal.

In the past year, as BCCDC (Epidemiology and Virology Services) have provided consultation for several of these types of exposures, it was deemed appropriate to issue these guidelines. Also, such exposures may become increasingly common as people travel to "exotic" destinations and have contact with monkeys.

Following the section on Rabies, please insert the following in the Communicable Disease Control Manual – Chapter I: Management of Specific Diseases:

Simian B Virus  
Table of Contents and Pages 1 – 7

Dated September 2005

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Andrea Derban, Vaccine Educator, by phone at: (604) 660-6061, or fax: (604) 660-0197 or by email at: [andrea.derban@bccdc.ca](mailto:andrea.derban@bccdc.ca)

Sincerely,

David Patrick  
Director  
Epidemiology Services  
BC Centre for Disease Control

DMP/kka

**Administrative Circular: 2005\_11**

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