



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

Clinical Prevention Services
Provincial STI Services
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Date: August 22, 2016

Administrative Circular: 2016:13

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 (CDC) Manual – Chapter 5:
Sexually Transmitted Infections: Section 2: HIV/AIDS**

**Please note the following changes to the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) Manual –
Chapter 5: Sexually Transmitted Infections: Section 2: HIV/AIDS**

**(1) HIV/AIDS – Updated. Please discard and replace the following sections with
*Guidelines for Testing, Follow up, and Prevention of HIV (August 2016):***

- ***HIV Pre and Post Test Guidelines (September 2011)***
- ***HIV Laboratory Testing: A Resource for Health Professionals (June 2010)***
- ***HIV-1, HIV-2 Counselling and Follow Up Policy (October 2007)***

Changes in *Guidelines for Testing, Follow up, and Prevention of HIV (2016)* include:

- Recommendations that are aligned with the Ministry of Health strategic framework: [*From Hope to Health: Towards and Aids Free Generation.*](#)
- Testing window periods updated to reflect the fourth-generation HIV screening test currently used in BC.
- Reference to point of care HIV testing.
- Information regarding acute HIV infection, including information on how to order HIV RNA qualitative nucleic acid amplification testing (NAAT) to detect acute HIV infection.
- Updates to the section on follow up of new HIV diagnoses to align with current practice, including the practice of urgent follow up of HIV diagnoses in the acute stage of infection.
- Addition of a new section, *Prevention of HIV Acquisition and Transmission*, to describe strategies to prevent HIV infection and to highlight the societal, structural, community, and behavioral factors influencing HIV infection, as described in the PHO Report “HIV, Stigma, and Society”¹

¹ British Columbia. Provincial Health Officer. (2014) HIV, Stigma and Society: Tackling a Complex Epidemic and Renewing HIV Prevention for Gay and Bisexual Men in British Columbia. Provincial Health Officer’s 2010 Annual Report. Victoria, BC: Ministry of Health. Available at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/reports-publications/annual-reports/hiv-stigma-and-society.pdf>.

**Please remove the following sections from the CDC Manual: Chapter 5: Section 2:
HIV/AIDS:**

- *HIV Pre and Post Test Guidelines* -September 2011 (pp.1-27)
- *HIV Laboratory Testing: A Resource for Health Professionals* – June 2010 (pp. 1-11)
- *HIV-1, HIV-2 Counselling and Follow Up Policy* – October 2007 (pp.1-28)

**Please insert the following updated section to the CDC Manual: Chapter 5: Section 2:
HIV/AIDS:**

- *Guidelines for Testing, Follow up, and Prevention of HIV* – August 2016 (pp.1-50)

Please contact Dr. David Moore (David.Moore@bccdc.ca) or Cheryl Prescott, BCCDC Senior Practice Leader, Clinical Prevention Services (p): 604-707-5651 (Cheryl.Prescott@bccdc.ca) or Monica Durigon, BCCDC Nurse Educator Clinical Prevention Services, (p): 604-707-2435 (Monica.Durigon@bccdc.ca) for questions or if further information is required.

Please note BCCDC will host a webcast presentation to review changes to the HIV/AIDS section of Chapter 5 (CDC Manual) on **November 1, 2016 from 9:30AM – 1030AM**. Please contact [PHSA Webcasting Services](#) to register for the live session, or refer to the [PHSA Webcast Catalogue](#) under the *BCCDC* tab to view the recording at a later date.

Sincerely,



David Moore, MDCM, MHSc, FRCPC
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BC Centre for Disease Control

pc: BCCDC:

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