



Date: April 13, 2018

Administrative Circular: 2018:04

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

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual,
Chapter 2: Immunization, Part 1 – Immunization Schedules, Part 2 – Immunization
of Special Populations, Part 4 – Biological Products, Supporting Documents -
History of Immunization in BC**

Part 1 – Immunization Schedules

Vaccine Abbreviations and Vaccines

- Updated to include RotaTeq® and to remove 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

2. Routine Schedules

- **2.1 Schedule A**
 - Updated to include a third dose of rotavirus vaccine at 6 months of age for RotaTeq®.
 - Footnote C revised to specify that all doses should be administered by 8 months plus 0 days of age rather than 8 months less 1 day and that if any dose in the series is RotaTeq® or the product is unknown, a total of 3 doses of vaccine should be administered.

3.1 Minimum Intervals Between Vaccine Doses Table

- Updated to include minimum intervals for both rotavirus vaccines.
- Footnote M revised to specify that all doses should be administered by 8 months plus 0 days of age rather than 8 months less 1 day and that if any dose in the series is RotaTeq® or the product is unknown, a total of 3 doses of vaccine should be administered.

**Please remove page numbers: 2, 5, 13 & 14 dated May & October 2017
Please add new page numbers: 2, 5, 13 & 14 dated April 2018**

Page 1 of 4

Part 2 – Immunization of Special Populations

Referral Forms

Referral Form for Rotavirus Vaccination

- The form has been revised to indicate that it is to be used for clients with a suspected or known immunocompromising condition.
- Contraindications to rotavirus vaccine have been removed. This content has been removed to include only conditions for which a referral is required.

Please remove page number: 1 dated May 2016

Please add page number: 1 dated April 2018

Specific Immunocompromising Conditions

Candidate For or Recipient of Solid Organ or Islet Cell Transplant

- *Table 1: BC Children’s Hospital Multi-organ Transplant Clinic Accelerated Immunization Schedule for Children Expected to be Transplanted Before 18 Months of Age* has been revised to include a third dose of rotavirus vaccine at 4 months of age for RotaTeq®.
- *Table 2: BC Children’s Hospital Multi-organ Transplant Clinic Routine Immunization Schedule for Children Expected to be Transplanted After 18 Months of Age* has been revised to include a third dose of rotavirus vaccine at 6 months of age for RotaTeq®.
- Footnote added on each of the preceding tables to specify that if any dose in the series is RotaTeq® or the product is unknown, a total of 3 doses of vaccine should be administered.

Please remove page numbers: 3 & 4 dated October 2017

Please add page numbers: 3 & 4 dated April 2018

Part 4 – Biological Products

Rotavirus Vaccines

- Beginning in May 2018, BC will transition from ROTARIX® to RotaTeq® as the rotavirus vaccine used in the infant immunization program.
- RotaTeq® and ROTARIX® vaccines are now on separate biological product pages as they have different schedules and during the transition both products may be available.
- INDICATIONS: revised to remove statement related to ROTARIX® vaccine being the product used in the publicly funded program in BC.
- DOSES AND SCHEDULE:
 - Footnotes revised to indicate that the first dose of either rotavirus vaccine is to be administered by 20 weeks less one day of age with the final dose administered by 8 months plus 0 days.
 - Footnote inserted to provide direction when the first dose of rotavirus vaccine is inadvertently administered at ≥ 20 weeks.

- **ADMINISTRATION:** revised content related to the administration of rotavirus vaccine prior to injectable vaccines. An additional reference has been included as a footnote.
- **CONTRAINDICATIONS:**
 - Bullets 2 and 5 have been combined into one bullet as they are both related to intussusception.
 - Bullets 3 and 4 have been revised to eliminate duplicate content and distinguish diagnosed Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) from other known or suspected immunocompromising conditions.
- **SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**
 - Content related to the administration of rotavirus vaccine to infants hospitalized in the NICU has been revised.
 - Added content indicating that there are no restrictions on the timing of oral polio virus and rotavirus vaccines.
- **ADVERSE EVENTS:** minor revisions have been made to the intussusception content.

Please remove:

- **the Biological Products page for Rotavirus Vaccine page numbers:1-3 dated March 2017**

Please add:

- **the Biological Products page for Rotavirus Vaccine (ROTARIX®) page numbers: 1-3 dated April 2018; and**
- **the Biological Products page for Rotavirus Vaccine (RotaTeq®) page numbers: 1-3 dated April 2018**

Please also remove the Table of Contents for Part 4 – Biological Products dated October 2017 and replace with the enclosed updated Table of Contents dated April 2018.

Supporting Documents

History of Immunization in BC

- “Rotavirus Vaccine” updated to indicate that RotaTeq® replaces ROTARIX® as the vaccine routinely given to infants.

Please remove page number: 19 dated May 2017

Please add page number: 19 dated April 2018

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Christine Halpert, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2555 / email: christine.halpert@bccdc.ca) or Katharine Chilton, Public Health Resource Nurse, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2522 / email: katharine.chilton@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,



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pc:

BC Ministry of Health:
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