



BC Centre for Disease Control

Epidemiology Services  
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September 11, 2002

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

**Re: Influenza Vaccine for the 2002-2003 Season**

Attached, please find information, administrative documents and policies for the upcoming influenza immunization campaign.

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has issued two statements related to influenza vaccine for the 2002-2003 season. This includes a general Statement on Influenza Vaccination for the 2002-2003 season published in the Canada Communicable Disease Report (CCDR) on August 1, 2002 (Volume 28-ACS-5) and a Supplementary Update on Oculo-Respiratory Syndrome in Association with Influenza Vaccination published in CCDR on September 1, 2002 (Volume 28-ACS-6).

The only vaccine to be supplied to British Columbia for the upcoming public campaign is a trivalent, inactivated, split-virus preparation (Fluviral®) manufactured by Shire Biologics. Fluviral® contains the following strains:

A copy of the Fluviral® package insert for 2002-2003 is enclosed FYI.

A/Panama/2007/99 (H3N2) – like  
A/New Caledonia/20/99 (H1N1) – like  
B/Hong Kong/330/2001, a new strain for the 2002-2003 vaccine

**A. Eligibility, Administration, Dosage, Reinforcement Doses, Contraindications, Adverse Events**

Please refer to the Immunization Program Manual pages 54 and 55 (dated September 2002) for details. These pages have been revised to include details related to this season's vaccine.

**Administrative Circular: 2002:11**



**F. Health Care Worker Influenza Immunization Policy**

Enclosed is an updated version of the Health Care Worker Influenza Immunization Policy. Please replace previous versions with this most current document dated September 2002. Changes include reference to update of influenza immunization for newly admitted or transferred residents who were unimmunized or whose immunization status is unknown any time during the influenza season. Emphasis has also been placed on the role of the Medical Health Officer in determining whether illness in a facility constitutes an outbreak of influenza.

An updated version of the Health Care Worker Influenza Immunization Policy Questions and Answers is also enclosed. Recommendations for persons who experienced ORS have been updated.

**G. Letter to Persons Who Experienced ORS following Influenza Vaccine**

A one-page information sheet to guide decision-making around re-vaccination of persons who experienced ORS following influenza vaccination is also included.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Danuta Skowronski Physician Epidemiologist, Epidemiology Services, BC Centre for Disease Control Society at 604-660-5693 or [danuta.skowronski@bccdc.ca](mailto:danuta.skowronski@bccdc.ca)

Sincerely,

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DMP/kka

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