

## Immunizations Recommended for Health Care Workers

### **Hepatitis B** (may be abbreviated as HB or written as engerix, recombivax, or twinrix)

**Recommendation:** Hepatitis B vaccine is recommended for health care workers who may be exposed to blood or body fluids through percutaneous injuries like a needle stick, bites or splashes. Individuals are considered immune if they have completed a series of hepatitis B vaccine and one documented laboratory test that shows they have developed sufficient antibodies. Laboratory testing for anti-HBs in the absence of a documented complete vaccine series is not acceptable proof of immunity.

### **Influenza**

**Recommendation:** All health authority employees, members of the Medical Staff (physicians), residents, volunteers, students, contractors, and vendors must be vaccinated annually against influenza or wear a surgical/procedure mask during influenza season when in patient care areas in accordance with B.C.'s Influenza Prevention Policy.

### **Tetanus/Diphtheria** (may be abbreviated as TD, DTaP, Tdap, Tdap-IPV or written as boostrix, adacel)

**Recommendation:** Tetanus/Diphtheria booster dose recommended every 10 years.

### **Polio** (may be abbreviated as IPV, Tdap-IPV, TD/IPV or written as imovax)

**Recommendation:** Polio booster dose recommended for health care workers who may be exposed to feces (stool), 10 years after primary series.

### **Measles** (may be abbreviated as MMR, MR or written as rubeola)

**Recommendation:** Born on or after January, 1 1957, proof of 2 live measles immunizations given at least 4 weeks apart on or after the first birthday, laboratory evidence of immunity or a history of lab confirmed measles disease. Persons born before 1957 have likely had the disease and are considered immune.

### **Mumps** (may be abbreviated as MMR)

**Recommendation:** Born on or after January 1, 1957, proof of acute case of mumps diagnosed by a physician **with lab confirmation of acute disease**, or 1 dose of live mumps-containing immunization if born between 1957 and 1969 (inclusive), or 2 doses of live mumps-containing immunization if born on or after January 1, 1970 given at least 4 weeks apart on or after the first birthday. Persons born before 1957 have probably been infected naturally and can be considered immune.

### **Rubella** (may be abbreviated as MMR, MR or written as German measles)

**Recommendation:** Proof of 1 dose of rubella containing immunization regardless of age, or laboratory evidence of immunity.

### **Varicella also known as chickenpox** (may be abbreviated as Var, MMRV or written as varilrix or varivax)

**Recommendation:** Proof includes lab confirmed varicella or herpes zoster (shingles) after 12 months of age or 2 doses of varicella-containing immunizations given at least 4 weeks apart on or after the first birthday. Self-reported history of varicella or physician diagnosed varicella is adequate only if disease occurred before 2004.

### **Tuberculosis (TB)**

**Recommendation:** Baseline TB screening upon first hire in BC (TB skin test or Chest X-Ray within previous 6 months unless TB risk identified) and repeated only with Provincial Workplace Health Call Centre & Infection Prevention and Control confirmed exposure.