

June 12, 2018

Updates to the Manitoba HPV Immunization Program

Please review Manitoba's HPV vaccine eligibility criteria as there are many notable changes, particularly with respect to immunocompromised people (congenital &/or acquired immune deficiencies including HIV), incarcerated males born during or after 2000 as well as individuals diagnosed with recurrent respiratory papillomatosis (RRP)

(<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/vaccineeligibility.html>).

Effective immediately, Manitoba is transitioning from Gardasil®4 to Gardasil®9.

Gardasil®9 is a 9-valent HPV vaccine that provides protection against genital warts, cervical and anogenital cancers, as well as certain cancers of the head and neck. Gardasil®4 and Gardasil®9 (both Merck) are equivalent in terms of safety however, Gardasil®9 provides protection against the 4 HPV types contained in both vaccines (6, 11, 16 and 18) in addition to 5 more high-risk types (31, 33, 45, 52 and 58).

Immunocompetent adolescents up to 15 years of age should continue to receive 2 doses with a minimum interval of 6 months between doses. For those 15 years of age and older, a 3 dose schedule is recommended at 0, 2 and 6 months, unless the first dose of vaccine was administered before the age of 15. **Immunocompromised individuals including immunocompetent HIV-infected individuals** born during or after 1997 should continue to receive 3 doses at months 0, 2 and 6.

Whenever possible, the same HPV vaccine should be used to complete a vaccine series. However, if Gardasil®4 is unavailable, Gardasil®9 should be used to complete the vaccine series. **Please avoid any Gardasil®4 wastage wherever possible.** The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) concludes that at this time, there is insufficient evidence to recommend re-immunization with Gardasil®9 among all individuals who have previously completed a Gardasil®4 immunization series.

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility or clinic.

Sincerely,

"Original signed by"

Richard Baydack, PhD
Director
Communicable Disease Control

"Original signed by"

Tim Hilderman, MD FRCPC
Medical Lead, Vaccines
Communicable Disease Control