

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