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Munarhiliqiyikkut Inuuhiriknirmullu
Department of Health and Social Services
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux

Memo

To: Program Directors, Supervisors of Community Health Programs, Regional Communicable Disease Coordinators, Pharmacist,Territorial Supervisor of Drug Distribution

cc: Regional Directors, Directors of Population Health

From: Dr. Maureen Baikie

Re: Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) Vaccine

Date: November 9, 2012

As you all know, in June 2012 the BCG vaccine made by Sanofi Pasteur was voluntarily recalled due to problems with their manufacturing facility. The Government of Nunavut, in collaboration with Health Canada, is pleased to report that we have acquired access to *Freeze-Dried Glutamate BCG Vaccine*, which is manufactured in Japan.

The vaccine was accessed through the Special Access Program (SAP), which allows for medications distributed in other countries to be given in Canada. As this product is part of SAP, it requires specific reporting to Health Canada on individuals vaccinated and any adverse or unexpected events from the vaccine. Each vial of the vaccine must be accounted for using the BCG Vaccine Reporting Form, and a copy must be faxed weekly to the regional CDC contacts listed on the form.

Please review the new Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) Immunization Protocol (attached), and the Japan BCG package insert, as information and guidelines have been updated.

Likewise, a BCG Fact Sheet has been developed to aid in education and to assist in the provision of informed consent for parents and legal guardians.

We greatly appreciate the work that has been done in the past months by Health Care Providers in addressing the BCG recall, and the work that will continue in catching up those infants who have not yet received the vaccine.

Thank you,

Dr. Maureen Baikie
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