March 31 2017

To: All Health Care Practitioners including Hospital Obstetrical & Pediatric Departments

Subject: Increase in dosage of Recombivax HB vaccine for infants and children

Dear colleagues:

The Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health would like to inform you of the change to the New Brunswick Routine Immunization Program pertaining to the dosage for Hepatitis B vaccine. This change aligns with the recent update in the Canadian Immunization Guide-

- The dosage of Recombivax HB® for infants (of HB-negative mothers) to children less than 11 years of age has been changed from 0.25mL to 0.5mL.

As of April 1st, 2017, all New Brunswick infants and children less than 11 years of age who require the primary immunization series for Hepatitis B vaccine will receive the increase to 0.5ml for each dose of the 3 dose series.

At this time there is no evidence indicating that infants and children who have been immunized with the lower dosage of 0.25ml will require booster doses; therefore if the primary series of Hepatitis B has been initiated with the 0.25ml dose (1\textsuperscript{st} and/or 2\textsuperscript{nd} dose), the series should be completed by providing 0.5ml for the remaining dose/doses.

Sincerely,

Shelley Landsburg
Director, Communicable Disease Control Branch