



NWT Clinical Practice Information Notice

UPON RECEIPT: (1) PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS BELOW
(2) FILE THIS NOTICE IN YOUR CLINICAL PRACTICE INFORMATION BINDER FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

The following clinical practice has been approved for use in the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services system, and has been distributed to:

Hospitals Community Health Centers Public Health Units Doctors' Offices Social Services Offices Other: _____

The information contained in this document is a Departmental:

Policy Standard Protocol Procedure Guidelines

Title: Enhancement of the Varicella Program

Effective Date: October 01, 2005


Statement of approved clinical practice: The NWT Advisory Committee recommends that all adolescents in Grade 9 be screened for previous chickenpox disease or immunization and those who still are susceptible to the disease be immunized where appropriate.

The mortality from chickenpox in Canada is estimated 1 per 33,000 cases, with highest mortality in adulthood, followed by infants under 1 year and adolescents. Five per cent of the population is estimated to be susceptible to varicella after 12 years of age (Ratman, 1999).

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization also recommends universal varicella protection for all susceptible populations. Offering screening and immunization in grade 9 will facilitate the delivery of this program.

Attachment: Revised NWT Immunization Schedule

This clinical practice is approved.


(signature)

October 11, 2005

Assistant Deputy Minister Chief Medical Officer of Health Director, Child & Family Services Director, Adoptions