



JUL 22 2014

1006291

Dear Health Authority Chief Executive Officers:

Re: Policy Communiqué 2014-02 / Carbapenemase Producing Organism Surveillance Protocol and Outbreak Management

Attached to this letter is Ministry of Health (the Ministry) Policy Communiqué 2014-02, (the Policy) which establishes provincially-consistent surveillance and outbreak management practices relating to Carbapenemase Producing Organisms (CPOs), a family of bacteria with a high genetic resistance to broad spectrum antibiotics.

The centerpiece of the Policy is the *Surveillance Protocol for CPOs in British Columbia*, a comprehensive guidance document developed by the Provincial Infection Control Network, the BC Centre for Disease Control and the Ministry in collaboration with medical microbiologists, epidemiologists, infectious disease and infection prevention control experts from across BC.

Please contact Ms. Teri Collins, Executive Director, Quality Assurance, by telephone or email at: (250) 952-1274 or Teri.Collins@gov.bc.ca, if you have any questions about these materials.

Thank you for your continued support of a provincially-coordinated, evidence-informed approach to preventing and controlling health care associated infections in BC.

Sincerely,

Steve Brown
Deputy Minister

pc: Dr. Lynn Stevenson, Associate Deputy Minister, Deputy Minister's Office
Mr. Doug Hughes, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Services Policy
and Quality Assurance Division
Dr. Perry Kendall, Provincial Health Officer
Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC Centre for Disease Control
Dr. Linda Hoang, BC Centre for Disease Control
Dr. Judy Isaac-Renton, Provincial Infection Control Network of BC
Mr. John Andruschak, Vice President,
Lower Mainland Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Ms. Teri Collins, Executive Director, Quality Assurance, Ministry of Health
Mr. Brian Sagar, Director, Patient Safety & Care Quality
Health Authority Directors of Infection Control

Attachments