Dear Pharmacist,

We have seen an increase in mumps infections in our region over the past several months. **Those most likely to get mumps are children and adults born after 1970 who are unimmunized, or have only received 1 dose of MMR.** Since a second dose of MMR vaccine was not added to the routine BC immunization schedule until 1996, and is not routine in many countries **some young adults born in Canada or travelling from other countries may not be fully protected.**

While the BC Centre for Disease Control in general recommends one dose of MMR vaccine for protection against mumps, two doses of MMR are required to provide complete immunity to measles. Therefore, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority recommends 2 documented doses of MMR vaccine for persons born 1970 and later in order to be fully protected.

Please use all appropriate opportunities to offer MMR vaccine to clients born after 1970. MMR vaccine is funded for anyone who has not received two documented doses of MMR in the past.

To receive Pharmacist Updates by email please contact us at: vchregistrationcdc@vch.ca