Policy 2.7 - Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFIs)

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide standards to all those who administer vaccine (public funded or non public funded) and/or who care for clients who may have experienced an adverse event following immunization (AEFI).

Preamble: An AEFI is an untoward medical occurrence in a vaccinee that follows immunization which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with the administration of the vaccine. The adverse event may be an unfavorable and/or unintended sign, abnormal laboratory finding, symptom or disease.

Reporting of an AEFI ensures public confidence of vaccine safety in Canada and is a legal requirement in NB of all health care professionals. Schedule A under *Reporting and Diseases Regulation 2009-136*, identifies the requirements for health care professionals to report adverse reactions to a vaccine or other immunizing agents within regulated timeframes to the Regional Medical Officer of Health(RMOH) or a person designated by the Minister.

Guidelines for reporting of an AEFI are outlined in Standard 3.8- *Reporting Adverse Events Following Immunization in New Brunswick*.

Policy: All health care providers in New Brunswick who administer vaccines(public funded or non public funded) and/or care for clients who may have had an AEFI are required to report the event in writing to Regional Medical Officer of Health **within one week** of event identification.