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Notice of Regulation Change

This notice is to inform health care practitioners that on July 27, 2018, Part 5 of the Health Act Communicable Disease Regulation 4/83, Treatment of Baby's Eyes at Birth was repealed (see [Repeal of Regulation 4/83](#)).

For practitioners, this means that treatment of baby's eyes at birth is no longer mandatory. However, voluntary treatment is still recommended. Women and pregnant people should be screened for gonorrhea and chlamydia in the first trimester, targeted screening is recommended in each trimester for women with ongoing risk factors. Parents should be educated on the signs and symptoms of ophthalmia neonatorum infection.

For more information, see Perinatal Services BC guideline [Prevention and Management of Ophthalmia Neonatorum](#).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Henry", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Bonnie Henry
MD MPH FRCPC
Provincial Health Officer

May 16, 2019

Date