

South West Vaccination & Screening Team

Section 7a Special Bulletin


South West Collaborative
Commissioning Hub



Issue 143b: 5th July 2023

This bulletin has been cascaded to:

- Trust Chief Executives – **please cascade within your Trust as required**
- ICB Chief Executives – **please cascade within your ICB as required**
- General Practices (Practice Managers and Immunisation Leads)
- Primary Care Networks
- NHSE SW Regional Director of Commissioning
- NHSE SW Regional Director of Primary Care & Public Health Commissioning
- NHSE SW Regional Head of Public Health Commissioning
- NHSE SW Screening & Immunisation Leads
- NHSE SW Regional Pharmacy Lead
- NHSE SW Regional Heads of Primary Care
- Directors of Public Health
- NHSE SW Health & Justice Commissioning Team – **please cascade to all Health & Justice healthcare providers**
- Health & Wellbeing Boards

Shingles Vaccine Programme Changes from 1 September 2023

The letter outlining the changes to the shingles vaccine programme from 1 September 2023 has been published [here](#). Based on the recommendation from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), those that can get the vaccine is being expanded to younger age groups so individuals, particularly those with a weakened immune system, can be protected at an earlier age to prevent more shingles cases. It means hundreds of thousands more people will be able to get protected against shingles each year.

The vaccine that is used in the programme is also changing. All newly eligible individuals will be offered two doses of the non-live vaccine Shingrix instead of the live vaccine Zostavax.

From 1 September 2023:

- Those aged 70-79 will still be able to get the shingles vaccine from their GP practice. They will either be offered one dose of Zostavax or two doses of Shingrix (6 to 12 months apart)
- All those aged 50 and over with a weakened immune system will be offered two doses of the Shingrix vaccine by their GP practice (8 weeks to 6 months apart).

- Those turning 65 and 70 will be offered two doses of the Shingrix vaccine (6 to 12 months apart) by their GP practice as they become eligible (eligibility will go down to 60 years old in September 2028).

Further Information

Back issues of these bulletins and attachments are available on the NHSE website [here](#).

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the Integrated Public Health Team at england.swvast@nhs.net