

South West Vaccination & Screening Team

Section 7a Bulletin


South West Collaborative
Commissioning Hub



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ICARS Newsletter

Please note the ICARS newsletter is now circulated fortnightly. The following issue will be included in next week's bulletin.

Measles and MMR email signatures

Please find attached a couple of Measles/MMR email signature banners. Please share widely.

To insert one of them in your email:

1. Open Outlook and click on the File tab.
2. Click Options and then choose Mail.
3. Scroll down to the Signatures section and click the Edit button.
4. Make your changes in the Signature Editor and then click OK.
5. Your changes will be saved automatically.

Shingles vaccination 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).

Please find enclosed Frequently Asked Questions document to support you with the upcoming shingles programme expansion.

Attached is also the UK Health Security Agency slide set with the details of the accessible and translated versions of the shingles leaflets and how these resources can be ordered.

If you have any questions about the FAQ or any queries about the shingles programme expansion please contact the NHSE SW Vaccinations and Screening Team via england.swicars@nhs.net

Flu HSCW Resources

You are now able to order posters and resources to support the winter vaccinations of Health and Social Care Workers. Resources can be ordered here: [NHS and Care posters | Health and social care workers winter vaccinations campaign 2023 | Campaign Resource Centre \(dhsc.gov.uk\)](#)

CHIS Letters

For all practices in Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Gloucestershire, BNSSG and BSW

Please be aware that CHIS are intending to write to parents of children currently in year 10 (about to enter year 11) over the coming weeks to advise them as to whether they are missing either a HPV, Men ACWY, Td/IPV or MMR vaccination, advising them where they can present to receive any missing vaccinations.

Further Information

If you have any questions or wish to provide feedback, please contact the SW Vaccination and Screening Team at england.swvast@nhs.net. Back issues of these bulletins and attachments are available on the NHS England website [here](#). **Please note that if there are no items for your information a GP Bulletin will not be circulated.**