



Scottish Vaccine Update

Health Protection Scotland

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Shingles vaccine programme 2017/18

The CMO letter CMO(2017)13 from Scottish Government, available [here](#) detailed the arrangements for the 2017/18 Shingles (Herpes Zoster) vaccination programme.

The programme will run from 1 September 2017 until 31 August 2018. The programme is principally aimed at people:

- Aged 70 years (routine programme)
- Aged 76 years (catch up programme)

In line with previous years, those who were eligible for the programme from the start (and who did not previously take up the offer of vaccination) can still be vaccinated. This includes those aged 71-74 (inclusive) and 77 to 79 (inclusive) – see table below for further detail on dates of birth. Vaccine should not be offered to anyone aged over 80, even if they have previously been eligible, as efficacy of the vaccine declines with age.

The table below summarises edibility for the programme in 2017/18.

Age on 1 September 2017	Patient's date of birth is	
69 or under	02/09/1947 or later	Ineligible
70	02/09/1946 to 01/09/1947	New routine cohort
71	02/09/1945 to 01/09/1946	Mop up cohort from previous years – to be offered vaccine
72	02/09/1944 to 01/09/1945	
73	02/09/1943 to 01/09/1944	
74	02/09/1942 to 01/09/1943	
75	02/09/1941 to 01/09/1942	Ineligible
76	02/09/1940 to 01/09/1941	New catch up cohort
77	02/09/1939 to 01/09/1940	Mop up cohort from previous years – to be offered vaccine
78	02/09/1938 to 01/09/1939	
79	02/09/1937 to 01/09/1938	
80	02/09/1936 to 01/09/1937	Ineligible

Zostavax® is a live vaccine and is contraindicated in some patients including those with immunosuppression. An easy to use tool has been created to help healthcare practitioners with eligibility and screening for contraindications. The screening tool is designed to help healthcare practitioners identify patients who may be contraindicated for shingles vaccine



and does not replace clinical judgement. If there is any doubt to the person's suitability then do not vaccinate and seek further advice. This tool can be accessed [here](#).

Other training materials have been produced for healthcare professionals by NES in partnership with Health Protection Scotland. These are available [here](#) on the NES website.

To help raise awareness of the programme an online ready reckoner tool for members of the public to check their eligibility for the shingles vaccine according to date of birth is available. This appears on the Immunisation Scotland website [here](#).

Zostavax® should be ordered through NHS vaccine holding centres using the ordering system required by each NHS Board. GP practices and vaccine holding centres must liaise closely to ensure sufficient vaccine availability prior to the scheduling of immunisation appointments.

Please ensure that stock with the shortest expiry date is used first to preserve this expensive vaccine. This may not always be the most recently delivered.

Change to InterVax BCG vaccine recommendations

The supply of BCG vaccine for the UK programme remains fluid due to on-going manufacturing issues with the UK licensed supply from AJVaccines. However, there is currently sufficient stock of Intervax BCG vaccine to open ordering more widely to all eligible groups, including Occupational Health teams. Please see the following link for the full list of eligible groups and updated advice, published July 2017 [here](#).

Please note that future supply remains uncertain and further restrictions could be implemented at short notice.

Global shortage of hepatitis A vaccine and dose sparing recommendations

Ongoing global shortages of hepatitis A vaccines are impacting UK supply.

Issue 59 of Scottish Vaccine Update available [here](#) contained information on vaccine recommendations and advice on dose sparing options for hepatitis A vaccines.

Global shortage of hepatitis B vaccine

There is a global shortage of hepatitis B vaccine which is currently impacting severely on the UK supply. The situation is particularly critical during August but there is likely to still be some limitations on supply until early 2018.

To ensure that stock is available for those individuals at highest and most immediate risk of exposure to hepatitis B, Public Health England (PHE) in consultation with colleagues from Scotland and other devolved administrations have developed temporary recommendations to support clinicians undertaking an individual risk assessment. These temporary recommendations are available [here](#).

PHE and Department of Health (DH) have also been working with both manufacturers of UK licensed hepatitis B vaccine to institute ordering restrictions according to customer type based on an agreed assessment of the proportion of vaccines used by those customers for individuals in the highest priority groups. As a consequence, some services may not be able to order any stock and others will have limits applied to their orders. A mechanism is in place to allow for exceptional orders if an individual risk assessment indicates an urgent need. Individuals for whom pre-exposure vaccination is deferred should be offered advice on how to minimise risk of exposure, and on the action to take if a significant exposure occurs. Sexual health and travel clinics, in particular, should offer advice on risk reduction. The [TRAVAX](#) and [Fit for Travel](#) websites provide advice for travellers.

It has been agreed that general practice will not be able to order any adult hepatitis B vaccine stock until further notice. NHS Board Vaccine Holding Centres will still be able to order hepatitis B vaccine for high priority patients as detailed in table 1 of the temporary recommendations.

A patient information leaflet has been developed by PHE to support clinicians communicating with patients who cannot receive vaccine. This leaflet is available [here](#).

Supply for paediatric vaccine has been protected to ensure that the programme for vaccinating infants born to hepatitis B infected mothers can continue. There should be no delay in providing vaccines to these children.

From 1st September 2017, in order to preserve scarce monovalent Hep B vaccine for the birth and 4 week doses, and to prevent delays in administering the 8 week doses, all high risk babies who have already received Hep B vaccine doses at birth and 4 weeks and who would normally receive pentavalent vaccine (DTaP/IPV/Hib) plus Energix B 10mcg or HBVaxPRO 5mcg at their 8 week appointment should now receive the hexavalent vaccine, Infranrix hexa® even if they were born before 1st August 2017.

Vaccine supply for non-routine programmes

Hepatitis A

Adult

GSK: Havrix® PFS singles and Havrix® PFS packs of 10 are currently unavailable and are unlikely to be available until 2018.

Sanofi Pasteur: limited supplies of Avaxim® are available. It is likely there will be order restrictions in place.

MSD: There will be restricted supplies of VAQTA® for the remainder of 2017.

Paediatric

GSK: Havrix® Paediatric singles will be unavailable until October 2017. There will be restricted supply of this vaccine for the remainder of 2017.

GSK: Havrix® Paediatric packs of 10 will experience supply constraints for the remainder of 2017.

MSD: VAQTA® Paediatric is unavailable until mid-September.

Hepatitis B

Adult

GSK: Engerix B® PFS singles will experience supply constraints until September, and will then be unavailable until early 2018.

GSK: Engerix B® PFS packs of 10 are currently unavailable until late 2017.

GSK: Engerix B® vials are available, however supplies are limited.

GSK: Fendrix® is available.

MSD: HBVAXPRO® 10µg is unavailable until the end of August.

MSD: HBVAXPRO® 40µg is unavailable until the end of August.

Paediatric

GSK: Engerix B® Paediatric singles will be unavailable in August and experience constrained supply for the remainder of 2017.

MSD: HBVAXPRO® 5µg is unavailable until the end of August.

Combined hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccine

GSK: Supplies of the adult presentation (Twinrix®) and paediatric presentation (Twinrix® Paediatric) will be constrained until late 2017.

GSK: Ambirix® is currently available.

Combined Hepatitis A and Typhoid

GSK: Hepatyrix® is unavailable until at least 2019.

Sanofi Pasteur: ViATim® is currently unavailable. Supplies are likely to become available from October.

Typhoid

GSK: Typherix® is unavailable until at least 2019.

Sanofi Pasteur: Typhim® is available with no order restrictions.

PaxVax: Vivotif® is available.

Rabies

GSK: Rabipur® is available.

Sanofi Pasteur: licensed Rabies Vaccine BP is out of stock. For more information contact Sanofi Pasteur.

PPV

MSD: Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (also known as Pneumovax 23) is experiencing supply constraints but more stock should become available in the months ahead.

Varicella Zoster vaccine

GSK: Varilrix® became available from mid-July.

MSD: VARIVAX® is currently available.

Diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis (inactivated) vaccine

Sanofi Pasteur: Revaxis® is available with no order restrictions.

Immunisation against infectious diseases – The Green book – is changing

Since 2013 the Green book has been a digital only publication. Healthcare professionals are advised to always use the digital version to ensure that they are using the latest clinical advice. However it is known, that many users still print out chapters for reference. Anyone who has viewed chapter 18 – Hepatitis B will note some formatting changes to improve the accessibility of the document have been made. Much of the formatting of the document has been inherited from when it used to be printed as a single book and is no longer relevant so Public Health England will be applying these minor formatting improvements to all the remaining chapters over the next twelve months. Please take a look at the page [here](#) where you will see two versions of the Hepatitis B chapter. This is mainly because of the introduction of the Hexavalent vaccine for babies born on or after 1 August 2017, but also allows you to compare the formatting from the previous version (for babies born up to and including 31 July 2017. For all indications other than for this latter group of babies, we recommend that you consult the new chapter that contains the most recent advice.

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If you want to receive issues of Scottish Vaccine Update as they are published please subscribe at: <http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/immvax/scottishvaccineupdate.aspx>.

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