

Dear Colleague

Shingles (Herpes Zoster) Immunisation Scheme – Year 3 DIRECTED ENHANCED SERVICE

Summary

1. This Circular provides guidance to NHS Boards and GP Practices for changes to the Shingles (Herpes Zoster) Immunisation Scheme programme in 2015-16
2. This circular also gives Directions to Health Boards on behalf of Scottish Ministers detailing the payment arrangements, **Annex A**, which must be made under the DES.
3. CMO letter SGHD/CMO (2015) 14 [http://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/cmo/CMO\(2015\)14.pdf](http://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/cmo/CMO(2015)14.pdf) was issued on 10 July 2015 and contains clinical arrangements for the changes to the Shingles (Herpes Zoster) Vaccination Programme in 2015-16

Background

1. The Shingles DES, reflecting advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) to improve the overall level of protection against vaccine-preventable diseases was introduced in 2013.
2. This circular provides details of Year 3 of the 2015-16 shingles immunisation programme including those eligible. Routine vaccinations are being offered to people aged 70 years old, and a catch-up immunisation programme for people aged 78 years.
3. This circular provides specific details of the Shingles Directed Enhanced Service (DES), including funding and payment arrangements, as agreed with the Scottish General Practitioners Committee (SGPC).

24 July 2015

Addresses

For Action

Chief Executives NHS Boards

GP Practices

NHS National Services Scotland

For information

Scottish General Practitioners
Committee

Primary Care Leads NHS Boards

Policy Enquiries to:

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4. The programme this year is for those who are aged 70 (routine) and 78 years old (catch-up) between the following dates 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016. In addition, to help use up existing vaccine stock, we have agreement that GPs can, if they wish, start to call up those eligible from **1 August 2015**. A letter will be issued to GP practices informing them of this decision.
5. It has also been agreed that during the 2015/16 programme, GP's can continue to vaccinate anyone who was eligible during the previous years' programmes but who did not take up the offer of vaccination. This means anyone who falls into the target groups below can be offered the vaccine:

Target groups ((see Green Book Chapter [- Shingles \(herpes zoster\): chapter 28a](#))

Year of Programme	Routine	Catch Up
2013-14 (Year 1)	70 year olds (born between 2 September 1942 and 1 September 1943 – both dates inclusive)	
2014-15 (Year 2)	70 year olds (born between 2 September 1943 and 1 September 1944 – both dates inclusive)	78 year olds (born between 2 September 1935 and 1 September 1936 – both dates inclusive); 79 year olds (born between 2 September 1934 and 1 September 1935 – both dates inclusive)
2015-16 (Year 3)	70 year olds (born between 2 September 1944 and 1 September 1945 – both dates inclusive)	78 year olds (born between 2 September 1936 and 1 September 1937 – both dates inclusive)

6. This decision will be subject to review for future years. It does not apply to anyone eligible who has since turned 80 years of age (and therefore outwith the programme).

Timing

7. The Shingles Immunisation, subject to vaccine availability, can be given throughout the year.

Reporting arrangements

8. Apart from monitoring uptake for payment purposes, it is important to provide timely data in the interest of patient safety, particularly in situations where the vaccination could be offered in more than one setting. GP practices will be required to provide Health Boards with reasonable immunisation data which will continue to inform the analysis of the changes in Shingles epidemiology, by age.

Claims for Payments

9. Practitioner Services Division will agree separate guidance with SGPC regarding claims including claim forms that will be provided to practices

Action

10. NHS Boards are requested to action this guidance and ensure that their primary medical services contractors are aware of it.

Enquiries

11. In the instance for any enquiries on this circular please contact Frank McGregor

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'FM', written over a horizontal dashed line.

Deputy Director, Primary Care Division

Payment Arrangements – Directions to Health Boards

The Scottish Ministers give the following Directions to Health Boards.

1. Contractors who have entered into an arrangement with a Health Board as part of that Health Board's Shingles Immunisation Scheme will be reimbursed in accordance with the paragraphs below.
2. Contractors providing the Shingles vaccination will be reimbursed, from date, 1 July 2015.
3. Payments applicable to GMS contracts for Shingles

- a flat rate of £7.67 will be paid per immunisation

As previously notified SGHSCD is meeting the vaccine purchase costs associated with this programme and **NHS Boards are meeting the delivery costs, including GP costs, from their baseline resources.**

Payment Verification

Prior to issuing payments in accordance with the above, Health Boards must require contractors and providers who have entered into an arrangement with a Health Board's Shingles Immunisation Scheme in terms of the DES Directions 2015 to sign a declaration to confirm that they are meeting the requirements of the DES Directions 2015.