

Shingles catch-up vaccination programme

Service specification

June 2013

Service specification for Shingles catch-up programme in England

Introduction

1. This catch-up programme is directed at GP practices delivering vaccination and immunisation services in England.
2. This catch-up programme has been agreed between NHS Employers (on behalf of NHS England) and the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) of the British Medical Association (BMA). The service requirements are included at Annex 1.

Background

3. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommended that routine shingles vaccination should be added to the adult programme for patients aged 70. A catch-up programme was also recommended for patients aged 71 to 79 years.
4. From April 2013, routine shingles vaccination for patients aged 70, but not yet 71, was introduced on 1 September 2013 as part of the 2013/14 General Medical Services (GMS) contract changes. The catch-up programme has now been agreed by NHS Employers and the GPC for 12 months, effective from September 2013. It will initially be rolled out to all registered patients aged 79 years on 1 September 2013.
5. It is anticipated that the catch-up programme will involve vaccinating 306,000¹ patients (in England) over a 12 month period.

Duration and patient cohort

6. The programme will run for 12 months, from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014.
7. GP practices will be required to vaccinate, on an opportunistic basis, all patients who attain the age of 79 on 1 September 2013. There is no requirement for practices to operate active call and recall, but instead offer vaccination to eligible patients when they access GP services.
8. The programme may be extended in-year, to patients aged 78 years, subject to vaccine supply and advice from Public Health England (PHE). Further details will be announced by NHS England and Public Health England in due course.
9. GP practices will be required to record all administered doses on ImmForm.

¹ Based on ONS Statistics.

Vaccine

10. Zostavax® (marketed by Sanofi Pasteur MSD) is the only licensed vaccine for the prevention of shingles in Europe. The license is for the use of adults aged 50 years and over. It contains a live strain of the virus and is supplied in a pre-filled syringe.
11. A dose of 0.65ml of Zostavax® is to be administered to each qualifying patient for this programme.
12. Zostavax® can be administered at the same time as seasonal flu.
13. The vaccine has been centrally procured and GP practices will be able to order vaccines online via the ImmForm service.

General Practice Extraction Service (GPES) extraction

14. GPES will extract data on a monthly basis from October 2013 relating to the number of patients on the practices registered list, who attain the age of 79 on 1 September 2013 and who are recorded as being vaccinated against shingles during the period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014.
15. The following codes will need to be used to enable Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS) to calculate payment based on the GPES extract:

Table 1: Shingles Read codes

	Read v2	Read CTV3	SNOMED CT
Herpes zoster vaccination	65FY.	XaZsM	859641000000109
Herpes zoster vaccination contraindicated	8I2r.	Xaa9i	868531000000103
Herpes zoster vaccination declined	8IEI.	Xaa9j	868551000000105
No consent for herpes zoster vaccination	68Nv.	Xaa9l	868601000000108

16. The data on number of patients extracted by GPES is known as the monthly count.
17. The GPES extraction will be run monthly and provide a non-cumulative count restarting at the beginning of each month i.e. the extraction for September 2013 will include all counts of shingles vaccination from 1 September to 30 September 2013. The first GPES extraction will be run in October 2013.

Payment and validation

18. GP practices will receive an item of service (IOS) payment of £7.64 in respect of each registered patient, who attains the age of 79 on 1 September 2013 and who is vaccinated during the 12 month period from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014.
19. GP practices will only be eligible for payment for this service in circumstances where all of the following requirements have been met.
 - a. The GP practice is contracted to provide vaccine and immunisations as part of Additional Services.
 - b. All patients in respect of whom payments are being claimed were on the GP practices registered list at the time the vaccine was administered.
 - c. The GP practice administered the vaccine to all patients in respect of whom payment is being claimed.
 - d. All patients in respect of whom payment is being claimed were within the cohort (as specified in paragraph 7) at the time the vaccine was administered.
 - e. The GP practice did not receive any payment from any other source in respect of the vaccine (should this be the case, then NHS England may reclaim any payments as set out in the paragraphs 25.1 and 25.2 of the Statement of Financial Entitlements²).
 - f. The GP practice submits the claim within six months³ of administering the vaccine (NHS England may set aside this requirement if it considers it reasonable to do so).
20. NHS England area teams will offer this service to GP practices. GP practices who agree to participate will be required to indicate acceptance on the system to enable the Calculating Quality Reporting Service (CQRS) to support payment for this programme.
21. CQRS will calculate the monthly payments based on the number of patients on the practices registered list, who attain the age of 79 on 1 September 2013 and who are recorded as being vaccinated against shingles during the 12 month period (1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014). The code being used to identify payment will be the 'herpes zoster vaccination given' code providing the qualifying criteria of age and time are met.

² DH. NHS Primary Medical Services Directions 2013. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nhs-primary-medical-services-directions-2013>

³ Only applicable if CQRS is not being used.

2013/14 Shingles catch-up programme

22. Payment will be made based on the monthly count multiplied by £7.64:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{monthly} \\ \text{payment} \end{array} = \begin{array}{l} \text{number of patients, in the} \\ \text{monthly count, who have been} \\ \text{recording as having received the} \\ \text{shingles vaccination within the} \\ \text{qualifying criteria} \end{array} \times \text{£7.64}$$

23. The first GPES extraction will be run in October 2013 (providing the monthly counts for completed vaccination for September 2013) and on a monthly basis thereafter. Payments will be made within the month following.
24. NHS England is responsible for post payment verification. This may include auditing claims of practices to ensure that they meet the requirements of this service, NHS England may make use of the additional information extracted by GPES on complete and incomplete vaccinations.
25. Administrative provisions relating to payments under this service are set out in the Annex 2.

Annex 1: Service requirements for shingles catch-up programme

GP contractors providing this service will:

1. On an opportunistic basis vaccinate all registered patients who attain the age of 79 on 1 September 2013 with one dose of Zostavax® between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014. GP practices are not required to operate active call or recall for this programme.
2. Take all reasonable steps to ensure that the medical records of patients receiving the shingles vaccination are kept up to date with regard to the immunisation status and in particular, includes:
 - a. Any refusal of an offer of immunisation
 - b. Where an offer of immunisation is accepted:
 - I. details of consent to the immunisation (including persons that have consented on the patient's behalf and that person's relationship to the patient must also be recorded)
 - II. the batch number, expiry date and title of the vaccine
 - III. the date of administration
 - IV. where other vaccines are administered in close succession (for example influenza), the route of administration and the injection site of each vaccine
 - V. any contra-indication to the vaccination or immunisation
 - VI. any adverse reactions to the vaccination or immunisation
3. Ensure that all healthcare professionals who are involved in administering the vaccine have:
 - a. referred to the clinical guidance in the Green Book, the safest way to protect individuals and communities from infectious diseases
 - b. the necessary experience, skills and training, including training with regard to the recognition and initial treatment of anaphylaxis.
4. Ensure all orders of vaccine are in line with national guidance, including adherence to any limits on stocks to be held at any one time. The vaccine for this programme will be centrally supplied and can be ordered online ImmForm as per other centrally supplied vaccines.
5. Ensure all vaccines are stored in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All refrigerators in which the vaccines are stored should have a maximum/minimum

2013/14 Shingles catch-up programme

thermometer and readings are to be taken and recorded from that thermometer on all working days.

6. Ensure that services are accessible, appropriate and sensitive to the need of all patients. No eligible patient shall be excluded or experience particular difficulty in accessing and effectively using this service due to their race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion and/or age.

Annex 2: Administrative provisions relating to payments under the shingles catch-up programme

1. Payments under this service are to be treated for accounting and superannuation purposes as gross income of the GP practice in the financial year.
2. The amount calculated as payment for the financial year falls due on the last day of the month following the month during which the GP practice provides the information specified at paragraph 18 of this service specification.
3. Payment under this service, or any part thereof, will be made only if the GP practice satisfies the following conditions:
 - a. the GP practice must make available to NHS England any information under this service, which NHS England needs and the GP practice either has or could be reasonably expected to obtain,
 - b. the GP practice must make any returns required of it (whether computerised or otherwise) to the Exeter Registration System or CQRS, and do so promptly and fully; and,
 - c. all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.
4. If the GP practice does not satisfy any of the above conditions, NHS England may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any, or any part of, an amount due under this service that is otherwise payable.

Provisions relating to GP practices that terminate or withdraw from this service prior to 31 August 2014 (subject to the provisions below for termination attributable to a GP practice split or merger)

5. Where a GP practice has entered into the shingles catch-up service but its primary medical care contract subsequently terminates or the GP practice withdraws from the service prior to 31 August 2014, the GP practice is entitled to a payment in respect of its participation if such a payment has not already been made, calculated in accordance with the provisions set out below. Any payment calculated will fall due on the last day of the month following the month during which the GP practice provides the information required.
6. In order to qualify for payment in respect of participation under this service, the GP practice must provide NHS England with the information specified at paragraph 18 (of this service specification) before payment will be made. This information should be provided in writing, within 28 days following the termination of the contract or the withdrawal from the enhanced services agreement.

7. The payment due to GP practices that terminate or withdraw from the service agreement prior to 31 August 2014 will be based on the number of vaccination given, prior to the termination or withdrawal.

Provisions relating to GP practices who merge or split

8. Where two or more GP practices merge or are formed following a contractual split of a single GP practice and as a result the registered population is combined or divided between new GP practice(s), the new GP practice(s) may enter into a new or varied agreement to provide the shingles catch-up service.
9. The service agreements of the GP practices that formed following a contractual merger, or the GP practice prior to contractual split, will be treated as having terminated and the entitlement of those GP practice(s) to any payment will be assessed on the basis of the provisions of paragraph 5 of this annex.
10. The entitlement to any payment(s) of the GP practice(s), formed following a contractual merger or split, entering into the agreement for the shingles catch-up service, will be assessed and any new arrangements that may be agreed in writing with the NHS England will commence at the time the GP practice(s) starts to provide such arrangements.
11. Where that agreement is entered into and the arrangements commence within 28 days of the new GP practice(s) being formed, the new arrangements are deemed to have commenced on the date of the new GP practice(s) being formed. Payment will be assessed in line with paragraph 18 (of this service specification) as of this commencement date.

Provisions relating to non-standard splits and mergers

12. Where the GP practice participating in the service is subject to a split or a merger and:
 - a. the application of the provisions set out above in respect of splits or mergers would, in the reasonable opinion of NHS England, lead to an inequitable result; or,
 - b. the circumstances of the split or merger are such that the provisions set out in this section cannot be applied,

NHS England may, in consultation with the GP practice or GP practices concerned, agree to such payments as in NHS England's opinion are reasonable in all circumstances.

Queries process

Queries should be directed as follows:

1. Queries relating to Business Rules/coding queries should be sent to the HSCIC via enquiries@ic.nhs.uk. Where required, the HSCIC will work with other key stakeholders to respond.
2. Policy, clinical and miscellaneous queries should be sent to:
 - NHS Employers for NHS England area teams via GMS@nhsemployers.org
 - GPC for general practice via info.gpc@bma.org.uk

If there are queries which cross the above areas, the recipient will liaise with the other relevant parties in order to resolve/respond. In addition, where a query has been directed incorrectly, the query will be redirected to the appropriate organisation to be dealt with.

NHS Employers

www.nhsemployers.org
gmscontract@nhsemployers.org

British Medical Association

www.bma.org.uk
info.gpc@bma.org.uk

NHS England

www.england.nhs.uk

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