



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Management of the Shortage of Shingrix Vaccine

The United States continues to face a shortage of Shingrix (recombinant zoster vaccine), the preferred shingles vaccine. Ordering limits and intermittent shipping delays are anticipated to continue into 2020, and possibly beyond.

The recommended vaccination series for Shingrix involves 2 doses administered to persons 50 years of age and older with a 2-6 month interval between doses. Given that the demand for Shingrix has dramatically exceeded supply, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has recommended that priority be given to patients due for their second dose of Shingrix. Thus, completion of the two-dose series is emphasized over the number of patients receiving the vaccine. In general, first doses in the series should not be administered until you suspect all the patients in the region have received their second dose.

If you are out of Shingrix and a patient needs a second dose, vaccinefinder.org may be helpful for patients to locate other providers who have Shingrix.

If more than 6 months have elapsed since the first dose, administer the second dose as soon as possible. Do not restart the vaccine series, and do not substitute the less effective Zostavax (live attenuated vaccine) for the second dose of Shingrix.

For more information about the Shingrix shortage, please visit www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/shingles/hcp/shingrix/faqs.html.

This notice is also available online at www.slopublichealth.org.

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