



April 18, 2018

Dear Adult Safety Net (ASN) Providers,

Effective May 1, 2018, clinics enrolled in the ASN Program will be able to place orders for Shingrix[®], a Zoster vaccine available from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK). Also effective on May 1, 2018, Zostavax[®] (Zoster vaccine, Merck and Co., Inc.) will no longer be available on the ASN formulary.

On January 26, 2018, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for Herpes Zoster Vaccines. In the MMWR, the ACIP states that the use of Zoster Vaccine Recombinant (RZV), Adjuvated (Shingrix[®], GSK), is preferred over the use of Zoster Vaccine Live (ZVL) (Zostavax[®], Merck and Co., Inc.). The MMWR is available at this link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6703a5.htm>

Shingrix[®] (RZV) should be administered to adults age 50 years and older as a two-dose series (0.5 ml each), 2 to 6 months apart. Shingrix[®] should be injected intramuscularly in the deltoid region of the upper arm. However, it is not necessary to repeat vaccination if it is administered subcutaneously. See more information from the CDC about administering Shingrix[®] vaccine at this link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/shingles/hcp/shingrix/administering-vaccine.html>

Shingrix[®] (RZV) must be stored in the refrigerator. The vaccine should be administered immediately after reconstitution or, if necessary, stored in the refrigerator and used within 6 hours of reconstitution. Do not freeze Shingrix[®]. Shingrix[®] must be discarded if the vaccine has been frozen. See more storage and handling information on Shingrix[®] from the CDC at this link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/shingles/hcp/shingrix/storage-handling.html>

Your remaining inventory of Zostavax[®] (ZVL, Merck and Co., Inc.) may still be used to prevent shingles in healthy adults 60 years of age and older. Zostavax[®] can be administered if a patient requests immediate vaccination and Shingrix[®] is unavailable.



See more on the Shingrix® recommendation page available at this link:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/shingles/hcp/shingrix/recommendations.html>.

For additional details regarding the Shingrix® recommendations, dose information, storage and handling, and recommendation for adults who have received the Zostavax® vaccine please see the MMWR at this link:
<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6703a5.htm>
or the Shingrix® Information for Healthcare Professionals page available at this link:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/shingles/hcp/shingrix/index.html>

Thank you for your continued support of the ASN Program. If you have any questions, please contact your responsible entity listed below.

PINS Beginning With	ASN Contact	Phone Number
00	City of San Antonio	210-207-3965
01	HSR 1	806-783-6412
02, 03	HSR 2/3	817-264-4790
04 or 05 not in Hardin, Jefferson or Orange Counties	HSR 4/5N	903-533-5310
05 in Hardin, Jefferson or Orange Counties, 06	HSR 6/5S	713-767-3410
07	HSR 7	254-778-6744
00, 08	HSR 8	210-949-2067
09	HSR 9	432-571-4137
10	HSR 10	915-834-7924
11	HSR 11	956-421-5552
25	City of Houston	832-393-5188

Sincerely,

Nancy Ejuma

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Immunization Unit Director