

ATAGI recommendation for the use of Shingrix in immunocompetent adults aged ≥ 50 years

Immunocompetent adults aged ≥ 50 years are recommended to receive Shingrix recombinant herpes zoster (HZ) vaccine for the prevention of HZ and associated complications (*Strong Recommendation*)

Justification

- Shingrix is highly efficacious in preventing HZ and post-herpetic neuralgia in immunocompetent individuals aged ≥ 50 years.
- The panel considers the high efficacy of Shingrix against HZ and post-herpetic neuralgia to outweigh the increase in non-serious adverse events; there is little to no difference in serious adverse events compared with placebo.

Implementation considerations

- Shingrix remains highly efficacious against HZ up to 4 years post vaccination, with immunogenicity data suggesting protection may persist for longer.
- Given that the incidence of HZ and HZ-related complications increases with age and the duration of longer term protection beyond 4 years is uncertain, decision-making should take into consideration that early vaccination from age 50 years may result in insufficient protection later in life when the risk of HZ and HZ-related complications is higher.
- Before vaccination, vaccine providers should counsel recipients regarding expected local and systemic reactogenicity, and the importance of completing the two-dose schedule for an adequate level and duration of protection.
- Shingrix will be available in limited supply on private prescription only.

Note: NCIRS is conducting GRADE in support of ATAGI and making pilot results available on the NCIRS website. Please read this document as a supplement to the [ATAGI statement on the clinical use of zoster vaccine in older adults](#).