

LIMITED SHINGRIX SUPPLY

The Immunization Program received notification on June 30th that CDC had implemented a limit on the availability of Shingrix (RZV) to state programs, including Vermont, due to a nationwide manufacturer shortage of the vaccine. The number of Shingrix doses available to Vermont is based on historic use of Zostavax (ZVL) vaccine and unfortunately falls far short of the current demand. The Immunization Program's goal is to equitably distribute vaccine during this period, but the number of doses allotted to each practice is very limited.

UPDATE:

Based on information from the manufacturer of Shingrix (GlaxoSmithKline), an increased supply is anticipated in 2019. In the meantime, the Vermont Immunization Program is working with CDC to increase the allocation to the state.

CDC recently addressed providers' most frequently asked question when considering the shortage:

Q: What is the clinical guidance during the Shingrix delay?

A: Shingrix is the preferred shingles vaccine. You and patients should make every effort to ensure that two doses are administered within the recommended interval. If more than 6 months have elapsed since the first dose, administer the second dose when possible. Do not restart the vaccine series, and do not substitute Zostavax (zoster vaccine live) for the second dose of Shingrix. Read the report [here](#)

VFC/VFA COMPLIANCE SITE VISITS 2018/2019

As the new grant cycle begins, Vaccines for Children (VFC) and Vaccines for Adults (VFA) compliance site visits are being scheduled by the public health specialists assigned to your area. They are looking forward to meeting with practice staff and will provide assistance with meeting the VFC/VFA program requirements and recommendations. If you are unsure who is your public health specialist, please follow this [link](#) to review the map.

VFC/VFA RE-ENROLLMENT CHANGED TO JANUARY 2019

CURRENT ENROLLMENT EXTENDED SIX MONTHS

The annual re-enrollment period for the Vaccines for Children and/or Adults (VFC/VFA) programs has been changed from June to January. The current enrollment period is being extended an additional six months. Re-enrollment will occur during January 2019, with the deadline Feb 1, 2019.

- Beginning January 2019, the re-enrollment period for VFC/VFA practices has been extended by CDC to 24 months. One caveat - CDC requires that a Provider Profile form must be submitted annually.
- Reenrollment will continue to be conducted online through Survey Gizmo. and will only be sent to the vaccine contact at each enrolled practice. Reenrollment is required in order to receive state-supplied vaccine.

IMMUNIZATION QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (IQI)– AFIX

Immunization Quality Improvement (AFIX) is being scheduled now. To review your practice's immunization rates and identify strategies to improve immunization rates, please contact your Local Health Office and ask for the immunization nurse (AKA "Designee").

REMINDER: DATA LOGGERS

If you received newly recalibrated data loggers, please make sure you mail back old (expired) data loggers using the pre-paid envelope provided. Send any questions regarding recalibration of data loggers to ahs.vdhimmunizationprogram@vermont.gov.

RESOURCES: PINK BOOK UPDATE

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*, more commonly referred to as the *Pink Book*, every few years. The most recently published version was the 13th Edition, released in 2015. On July 1, 2018 the CDC released a series of updates to the Appendices. To view a complete list of updates and clarifications since the 13th edition's publication; other parts of the book; or to learn more about the book and its contents visit the Pink Book section of the CDC's website: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html> . The entire book can be printed or referenced online. Hard copies are also available for purchase from the site.

RESOURCES: HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE PURPLE BOOK?

The Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society recently announced the availability of a new edition of The Vaccine Handbook App. This mobile App for iOS devices contains the 2018 (7th) edition of *The Vaccine Handbook: A Practical Guide for Clinicians* (also known as "*The Purple Book*"), by Dr. Gary S. Marshall, professor of pediatrics at the University of Louisville School of Medicine.

This comprehensive guide provides information related to each vaccine and the disease it prevents including vaccine recommendations, immunology, development and history, infrastructure, standards, implementation, special circumstances and vaccine safety concerns. It is available free of charge from the Apple iTunes App Store (purchase of the print edition is not required). The App may be found by searching the App Store for "The Vaccine Handbook App" or clicking on the following link: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/the-vaccine-handbook-app/id1043246009?mt=8>.

Additional information about The Purple Book is available through the publisher, Professional Communications, Inc. at <https://pcibooks.com/books/view/49>.