



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
SINGAPORE**

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**INCLUSION OF SHINGLES VACCINE AND UPDATES TO PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE IN THE NATIONAL ADULT IMMUNISATION SCHEDULE**

This circular informs all healthcare institutions and establishments on changes to the National Adult Immunisation Schedule (NAIS) based on the recommendations of the Drug Advisory Committee (DAC) and the Expert Committee on Immunisation (ECI), as follows:

- a. inclusion of shingles vaccine; and
- b. updates to pneumococcal vaccines.

**Inclusion of shingles vaccine to the NAIS**

2. A shingles vaccine (recombinant herpes zoster vaccine (RHZV), marketed by GSK as Shingrix) will be newly included in the NAIS for persons aged 18 years or older who are at increased risk of developing shingles and associated complications. RHZV will be recommended to the following groups:

- All persons aged 60 years or older; and
- Persons aged 18 years or older with immunocompromising conditions.

3. Two doses are recommended at an interval of 2-6 months. Further details of RHZV recommendations are available in Annex A.

**Updates to pneumococcal vaccines in the NAIS**

4. A 20-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV20, marketed by Pfizer as Prevenar 20) will be included in the NAIS. PCV20 will be recommended for persons aged 18 years or older who are at increased risk of developing severe pneumococcal disease.

5. The recommended groups for PCV20 are as follows:
  - All persons aged 65 years or older;
  - Persons aged 18 years or older with any of the following conditions:
    - chronic medical conditions, comprising:
      - chronic pulmonary disease
      - chronic cardiovascular disease
      - chronic liver disease
      - diabetes mellitus
    - cochlear implants or cerebrospinal fluid leaks;
    - anatomic or functional asplenia;
    - immunocompromising conditions;
    - chronic kidney disease.

6. One dose of PCV20 is recommended for the groups above. Further details of PCV20 recommendations are available in **Annex B**.

### **Vaccination subsidy eligibility and use of MediSave**

7. With the inclusion of RHZV and PCV20 on the NAIS and the Subsidised Vaccine List (SVL), subsidies under the Vaccination and Childhood Developmental Screening Subsidy Scheme (VCDSS) will apply **from September 2025**. MediSave use for RHZV and PCV20 will also be extended to adults in the recommended groups under the NAIS, expected to be ready **from mid-2026**. More details will be shared in a separate financial circular.

### **Changes to the NAIS**

8. More details on the recommendations for RHZV and PCV20 and an updated table for the NAIS will be provided in another circular nearer to the implementation date.

9. Please disseminate this circular to the relevant staff for their attention. For clarification on this circular, please email [moh\\_info@moh.gov.sg](mailto:moh_info@moh.gov.sg).



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## Annexes

|                       |                                                             |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Annex A</u></b> | Summary of RHZV recommendations to be included in the NAIS  |
| <b><u>Annex B</u></b> | Summary of PCV20 recommendations to be included in the NAIS |

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**Annex A****Summary of RHZV recommendations to be included in the NAIS**  
*(From September 2025)*

| Vaccine                                         | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Additional information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Recombinant herpes zoster vaccine (RHZV)</b> | RHZV is recommended for persons aged 18 years or older who are at increased risk of developing shingles and associated complications, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All persons aged 60 years or older;</li><li>• Persons aged 18 years or older with immunocompromising conditions</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two doses are recommended at an interval of 2-6 months.</li><li>• For persons with immunocompromising conditions, the interval can be shorter at 1-2 months if earlier protection is desired.</li><li>• For persons aged 60 years or older, all persons are recommended for RHZV regardless of medical condition.</li><li>• For persons aged 18-59 years, only those with immunocompromised conditions are recommended for RHZV.</li><li>• Detailed information on examples of immunocompromised conditions will be provided in another circular prior to the implementation date.</li></ul> |

**Annex B****Summary of PCV20 recommendations to be included in the NAIS**  
*(From September 2025)*

| Vaccine                                                 | Recommendations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Additional information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>20-valent Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV20)</b> | <p>PCV20 is recommended for persons aged 18 years or older who are at increased risk of developing severe pneumococcal disease, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All persons aged 65 years or older;</li><li>• Persons aged 18 years or older with any of the following conditions:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ chronic medical conditions, comprising:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ chronic pulmonary disease</li><li>▪ chronic cardiovascular disease</li><li>▪ chronic liver disease</li><li>▪ diabetes mellitus</li></ul></li><li>○ cochlear implants or cerebrospinal fluid leaks;</li><li>○ anatomic or functional asplenia;</li><li>○ immunocompromising conditions;</li><li>○ chronic kidney disease.</li></ul></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One dose is recommended regardless of age or condition.</li><li>• For persons aged 65 years or older, all persons are recommended for PCV20 regardless of medical condition.</li><li>• For persons aged 18-64 years, only those with certain medical conditions are recommended for PCV20.</li><li>• Detailed recommendations on PCV20, including for persons who have previously received PCV13 and/or PPSV23 will be provided in another circular prior to the implementation date.</li></ul> |