



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Dear Immunisation Provider,

MAY UPDATE ON THE SUPPLY OF SHINGRIX®

Pursuant to the communications about reduced Shingrix® supply sent on 23 April, we wish to advise you that as of today all Shingrix® vaccine supplied to Western Australia (WA) has been distributed to WA providers. We expect more Shingrix® to arrive sometime in the next two weeks and are awaiting confirmation from the Commonwealth on exact delivery dates. In the meantime, we have removed Shingrix® from the Onelink ordering template.

Since the start of the program, we have distributed almost 150,000 doses of Shingrix® in WA and according to the AIR, approximately 120,000 doses (80%) have been administered to patients.

I would like to reiterate that this shortage is temporary and that we will have sufficient supply soon.

The Commonwealth government have shared the following information about Shingrix®:

- The Australian Government welcomes the demand for the shingles vaccine, Shingrix, which has exceeded the initial forecasts we agreed with states and territories.
- Over 1.1 million doses have been reported to AIR since 1 November, less than six months since the program started.
- The department is working with the vaccine supplier, GSK to bring in additional vaccine to meet the high demand being experienced across the country. We expect this additional vaccine to arrive over the next two months.
- The first of this new boost of Shingrix vaccine should start arriving with immunisation providers in mid-May. It is likely that some parts of Australia will experience a few weeks of temporary supply reductions.
- The department is in regular contact with all jurisdictions to manage the supply of Shingrix and will continue to revise forecasts in order to meet demand.
- Shingrix is part of the National Immunisation Program (NIP) and the supply will be ongoing so that all eligible people are able to get vaccinated.

We apologise for the inconvenience and will communicate with you again once supply is restored.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo-Anne Morgan".

Jo-Anne Morgan
MANAGER, IMMUNISATION PROGRAM
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL DIRECTORATE

8 May 2024