

# ZOSTAVAX® II SHINGLES VACCINE SUPPLY LIMITED UNTIL JUNE

## Update to York Region health care providers as of March 11, 2019

Due to higher demand, the supply of Zostavax® II shingles vaccine available from the Ontario Government Pharmaceutical and Medical Supply Service (OGPMSS) is limited and may not be replenished until June 2019. As such, York Region Public Health may not be able to fill all orders of this vaccine for the next several months. An allocation plan has been developed by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) in coordination with local public health units to manage the current supply.

In accordance with the MOHLTC's plan, York Region Public Health recommends that health care providers in York Region prioritize unimmunized individuals that are currently 70 years of age turning 71 before the end of June. Zostavax® II is publicly funded for adults 65 to 70 years of age, and individuals that turn 71 years of age during the shortage will be ineligible to receive publicly funded vaccine when supplies are replenished.

York Region Public Health will be following up directly with health care providers who are ordering Zostavax® II to ensure the vaccine is being prioritized to individuals turning 71 before June 30, 2019.

As a reminder, Shingrix® vaccine also provides protection from shingles, though it is not publicly funded (see table below for a comparison of the two vaccines available in the Canadian market that protect against shingles). The National Advisory Committee on Immunization preferentially recommends Shingrix® for individual 50 years of age and older without contraindications, including for those people who have previously been vaccinated with Zostavax® II or experienced shingles.

If you have any questions, please call York Region Public Health's Vaccine Inventory team at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74033 or email [vaccineinventory@york.ca](mailto:vaccineinventory@york.ca).

An update will be provided to health care providers when further information is received regarding the supply replenishment.

### Shingles Vaccine Options:

Information	Vaccine	
	Zostavax® II	Shingrix®
Vaccine Type	Live vaccine (contraindicated for immunocompromised people)	Non-Live recombinant subunit vaccine
Publicly Funded	Yes (adults 65-70 years)	No
Recommended Schedule	1 dose	2 doses (2 to 6 months apart)
Short Supply	Yes (public supply limited at present)	Yes (somewhat limited supply on the private market)

### PUBLIC HEALTH

520 Cane Parkway  
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 8T5  
1-877-464-9675  
Fax: 905-895-6066  
[york.ca/vaccineinventory](http://york.ca/vaccineinventory)

