



## Infection report

Volume 10 Number 16 Published on: 6 May 2016

### Shingles vaccine coverage report, England, September 2015 to February 2016

*Provisional cumulative vaccine coverage estimates show 46.0% coverage for both the routine 70 year old and the 78 year old catch-up cohorts. Compared with February 2015, coverage was lower by 2.7% for the routine cohort and by 2.1% for the catch-up cohort.*

#### Introduction

This report describes the first six months (September 2015 to February 2016) of the third year of the herpes zoster (shingles) vaccination programme in England, comparing cumulative vaccine coverage estimates with the 2014/15 and 2013/14 programmes [1,2]

In this year of the programme (1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016) shingles vaccine is routinely offered to patients aged 70 years old on 1 September 2015 (born between 2 September 1944 and 1 September 1945) and to a catch-up cohort comprised of adults aged 78 years old on 1 September 2015 (born between 2 September 1936 and 1 September 1937). GPs may continue to offer immunisation to anyone who was eligible for shingles vaccine in the first two years of the programme but has not yet been vaccinated, up until their 80th birthday. This includes people aged 71, 72 or 79 on 1 September 2015 [3,4].

As a live viral vaccine, the shingles vaccine is contraindicated for individuals with severe immunosuppression and pregnant women. It is essential to assess the eligibility of individuals prior to offering the shingles vaccine and ensure that those who can benefit are not excluded. Further information on shingles vaccine eligibility is available in the "Immunisation against infectious disease" book (the [Green Book](#)) [5].

#### Methods

GP practice level shingles vaccine coverage data are automatically uploaded via participating GP IT suppliers to the ImmForm\* website on a monthly basis. These data are then validated and analysed by PHE to check data completeness, identify and query any anomalous results and describe epidemiological trends. The automated monthly surveys measure the proportion vaccinated in two ways:

- vaccine **coverage** – the total number of patients aged 70 or 78 years on 1 September 2015 **who have ever received the vaccination** (numerator) as a proportion of the number of patients registered aged 70 or 78 years on 1 September 2015 (denominator)
- vaccine **uptake** – the total number of patients aged 70 or 78 years on 1 September 2015 **who received the vaccination between 1 September 2015 and 31 November 2015** (numerator) as a proportion of the number of patients registered aged 70 or 78 years on 1 September 2015 (denominator)

\* ImmForm is the system used by Public Health England to record vaccine coverage data for some immunisation programmes and to provide vaccine ordering facilities for the NHS.

This report describes vaccine **coverage** of each eligible cohort for England and by NHS England area team (AT). Vaccine coverage estimates by NHS England Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are presented in an [appendix](#) associated with this report.

## Participation and data quality

These cumulative data are provisional and should be interpreted with caution. Due to problems uploading data, coverage estimates for September and October 2015 (figures 1 and 2) include data from three of four IT suppliers, representing 61.5% GP practices.

In January 2016, one of four IT suppliers captured data from fewer GP practices, reducing the overall percentage reporting to 93.2% GP practices, compared to 96.0% in December 2015. Reporting returned to previous levels in February 2016.

## Results

In total shingles vaccine coverage data was available for 7308/7669 (95.3%) GP practices in February 2016. This ranged by AT from 88.3% of practices in Merseyside, to 99.4% of practices in West Yorkshire (see table).

By the end of February 2016, 46.0% of the 70 year old routine cohort was vaccinated, (compared to 48.7% in February 2015 and 50.5% in February 2014); as well as 46.0% of the 78 year old catch-up cohort (compared to 48.1% in February 2015) (see figures 1 and 2).

Coverage by Area Team ranged from 39.1% (Essex) to 51.6% (Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral) for the routine 70 year old cohort, and from 38.6% (Essex) to 50.5% (Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral) for the 78 year old catch-up cohort (see table).

## Discussion

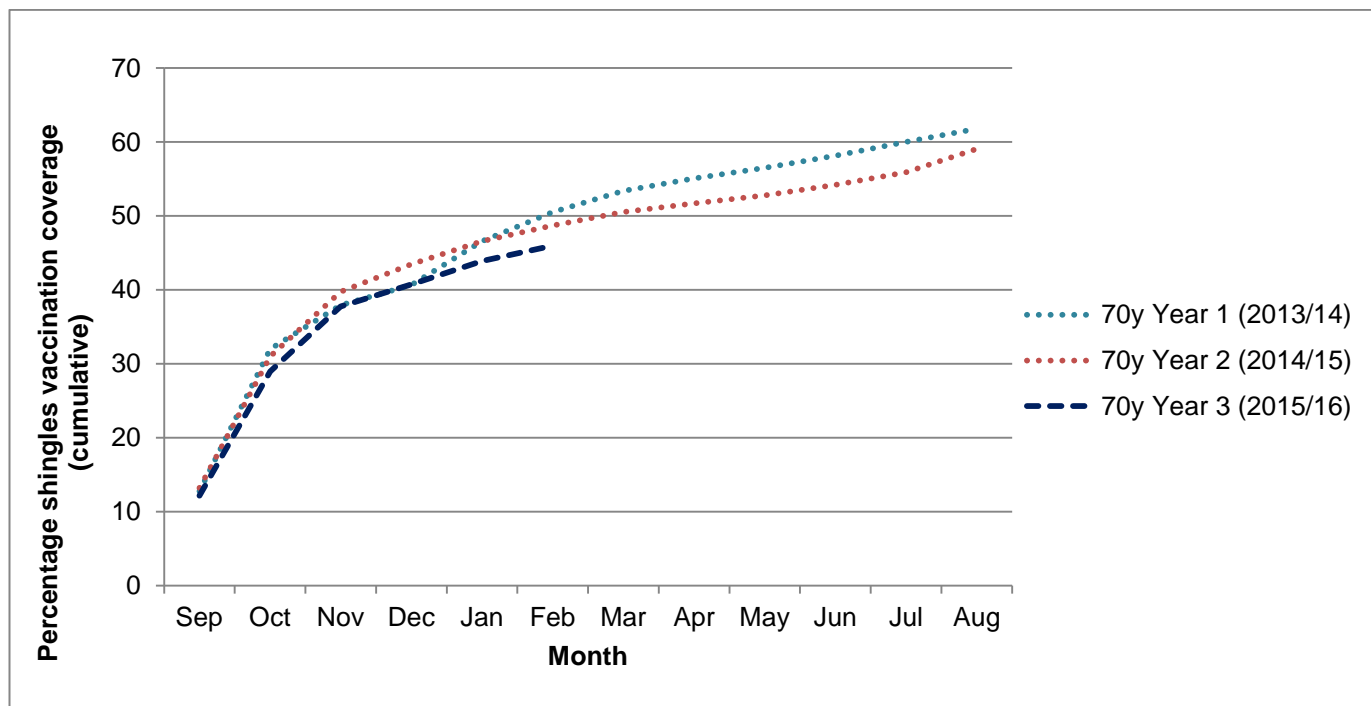
Provisional cumulative shingles vaccine coverage estimates to the end of February 2016 indicate a decline in coverage of 2.7% for the routine cohort compared to February 2015. Coverage for the 78 year old catch-up cohort also dropped, by 2.1% compared to February 2015. Whilst these data are to be interpreted with caution due to partial GP IT supplier participation and data quality, it is important that GPs continue to offer the shingles vaccine to eligible patients in order to prevent the significant burden of disease associated with shingles among older adults in England.

Further provisional cumulative coverage data will be published on a quarterly basis, with the finalised annual coverage data due to be published in autumn 2016.

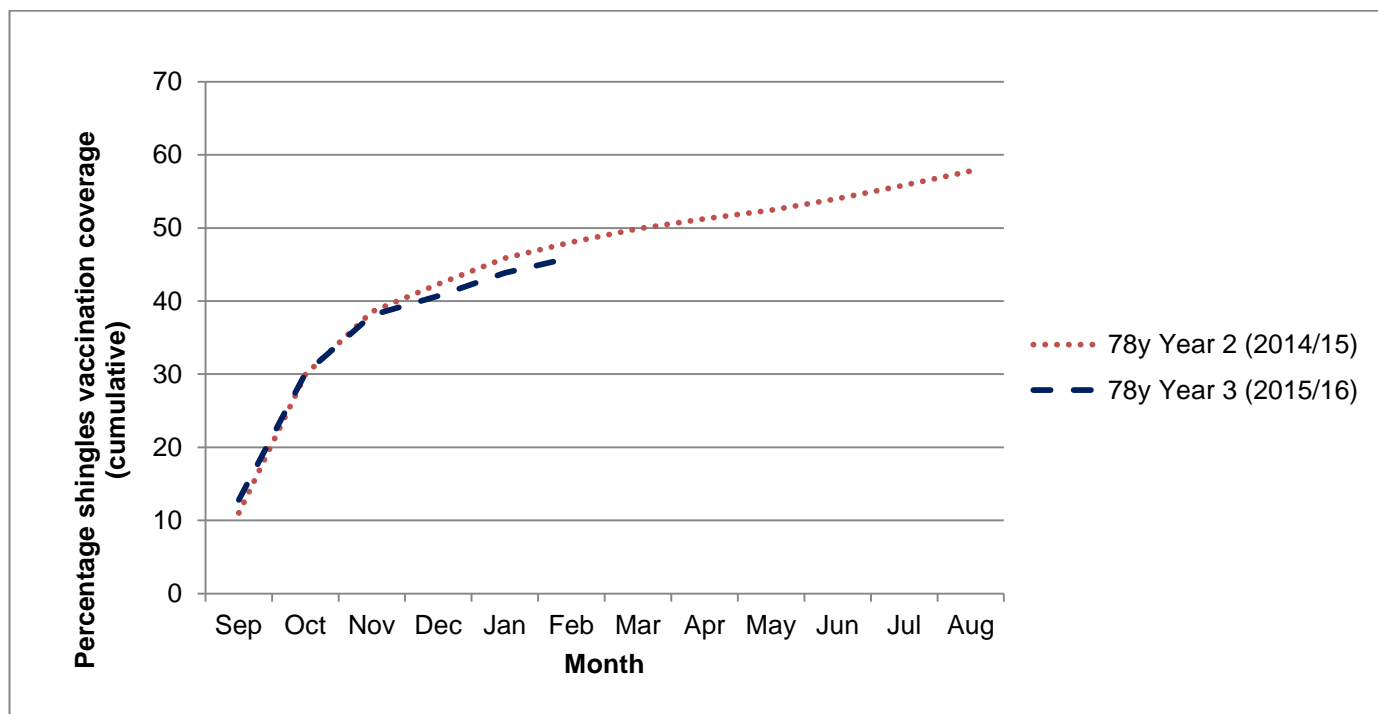
## References

1. Public Health England. *Shingles vaccine coverage report, England, September 2014 to February 2015* HPR 9(14) 2015; Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/herpes-zoster-shingles-immunisation-programme-2013-to-2014-provisional-vaccine-coverage-data>.
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4. NHS England. *Who's eligible for the shingles vaccine in 2015/16 and beyond?* 2015; Available from: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/463490/Shingles\\_table\\_GP\\_poster\\_04\\_web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/463490/Shingles_table_GP_poster_04_web.pdf).
5. Public Health England. *Shingles (herpes zoster): the green book, chapter 28a*. The Green Book 2014 9 October 2015.

**Figure 1. Monthly cumulative shingles vaccine coverage for the routine cohort (70 year old) for September to February 2016, compared to 2013/14 and 2014/15 data, England**



**Figure 2. Monthly cumulative shingles vaccine coverage for the catch-up cohort (78 year old) for September to February 2016, compared to 2014/15 data, England**



NB: Coverage data for the 2013/14 catch-up cohort are not shown as they were a different age cohort (79 years of age)

## Cumulative shingles vaccine coverage to end February 2016 by age cohort and Area Team, England

Area Team (code)	Percent of practices reporting data in February 2016	Percent coverage in routine cohort (70 year olds)	Percent coverage in catch-up cohort (78 year olds)
Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral (Q44)	97.0	51.6	50.5
Durham, Darlington and Tees (Q45)	96.5	48.5	47.3
Greater Manchester (Q46)	90.2	46.8	45.5
Lancashire (Q47)	96.9	46.8	47.4
Merseyside (Q48)	88.3	43.9	45.1
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear (Q49)	97.3	49.7	49.1
N Yorkshire and Humber (Q50)	98.2	44.7	45.4
S Yorkshire and Bassetlaw (Q51)	96.2	46.7	45.9
W Yorkshire (Q52)	99.4	45.4	45.6
Arden, Herefordshire and Worcestershire (Q53)	94.3	48.7	48.6
Birmingham and Black Country (Q54)	93.6	43.9	43.4
Derbyshire and Notts. (Q55)	99.2	49.3	47.1
East Anglia (Q56)	96.8	48.4	48.5
Essex (Q57)	98.4	39.1	38.6
Hertfordshire and the S Midlands (Q58)	97.1	46.5	46.7
Leicestershire and Lincolnshire (Q59)	98.0	49.6	46.1
Shropshire and Staffordshire (Q60)	91.1	47.5	49.6
Bath, Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire (Q64)	98.4	48.7	48.4
Bristol, N Somerset, Somerset and S Gloucestershire (Q65)	93.7	48.6	50.1
Devon, Cornwall and Scilly Isles (Q66)	93.3	44.6	45.3
Kent and Medway (Q67)	90.8	45.9	46.0
Surrey and Sussex (Q68)	97.2	44.8	46.3
Thames Valley (Q69)	94.8	48.1	49.3
Wessex (Q70)	96.8	45.2	45.8
London (Q71)	94.7	39.5	40.2
<b>ENGLAND</b>	<b>95.3</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>46.0</b>