Dear VFA Provider,

As you may be aware, there are currently ordering limits and intermittent shipping delays for VFA AND private supply of GlaxoSmithKline’s Shingrix vaccine (Recombinant Zoster vaccine) due to high demand. Until demand can be met, it is particularly important to educate patients about the importance of completing the series. The CDC reminds us of proven strategies to help patients receive all their needed vaccinations on time, including Shingrix:

✓ Implement a vaccine reminder and recall system using phone, e-mail, or text messages to contact patients when you have Shingrix supply. Prioritize patients due for their second dose of Shingrix.

✓ If you are out of Shingrix and a patient needs a second dose, refer the patient to another provider in the community (e.g., a pharmacy) that has Shingrix so the patient can complete the series. Your local health department (https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Local-Health-Department.aspx) or vaccine finder (https://vaccinefinder.org) can help identify other immunization providers.

✓ Be sure to enter your patients’ current vaccination information into your California Immunization Registry (http://cairweb.org/). This will ensure that every provider can access your patients’ immunization record, and it may help facilitate patient reminders to complete the Shingrix series.

✓ As supply becomes less constrained, be sure to notify eligible patients so they can come in to get their first dose of Shingrix.

Timely series completion is key to the success of any vaccination program and critical to ensuring patients receive the full benefit of their vaccinations.