Utilizing Expiring Vaccines for Adults (VFA): Zoster and PCV13 Vaccines  
- Recommended Strategies -

1. Check your 317 VFA vaccine inventory to identify short-dated vaccines.  
2. Place any short-dated vaccines towards the front of the vaccine storage unit to make sure that these doses are used first.  
3. Select and implement a strategy to use the vaccine before it expires. Below are strategy suggestions for your consideration.

**Recall strategy.** Outreach to UNINSURED patients needing the soon-to-expire vaccination to get them to come in to your clinic.  
   a. Identify the soon-to-expire vaccine.  
   b. Run a report from your practice electronic health record (EHR) or immunization registry of the VFA-eligible patients who are due for the soon-to-expire vaccine(s).  
   c. Decide whether to schedule routine appointments for vaccine administration, or hold a vaccination clinic for those patients.  
   d. Recall those patients using your clinic’s reminder-recall system. To improve the proportion of patients who are successfully recalled, consider waiving any patient fees or addressing any other access barriers.  

Examples:  
- **Zoster:** run a report of all active, uninsured, patients **60 years and older** who have no record of receiving a Zoster vaccine.  
- **PCV13:** run a report of all active, uninsured, patients **65 years and older** who have no record of receiving PCV13 vaccine.  
- **Stepwise:** Recall all active, uninsured, patients **65 years and older** who are overdue for EITHER the PCV13 vaccine and/or the Zoster vaccine, and then move on to the 60-65 year old active, uninsured, patients who are overdue for Zoster. Patients identified as overdue for PCV13 AND Zoster vaccine can receive both vaccines during the same visit.

**Routine visit strategy.** Focus on ANY patients coming in to the clinic for other reasons (but also need the soon-to-expire vaccine).  
   a. Identify the soon-to-expire vaccine. The steps below use Zoster as an example only.  
   b. During pre-visit planning, use your EHR or registry to identify any patient needing that vaccine. For Zoster, this would be patients 60 years and older who have no record of receiving a Zoster vaccine.  
   c. Set up a workflow depending on the patient’s insurance status  
      - **Uninsured** patients: immunize on site using VFA vaccine.  
      - **Medi-Cal** patients: immunize on site using health center-purchased vaccine, or refer to the patient’s network pharmacy. All routinely recommended adult immunizations, including Zoster vaccine, are included as a pharmacy benefit, whether the patient is in a managed care plan or the Fee for Service program.  
      - **Medicare** patients: Zoster is a covered pharmacy benefit under Medicare Part D. Patients with only Part B are considered underinsured, and are eligible for VFA vaccine.