

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.