



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/SG

JUL 25 2011

FROM: HQ USAF/SG3  
1780 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1780

SUBJECT: Varicella (Herpes) Zoster Vaccine Update – Recommendations and Usage

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) working group on zoster vaccine for adults has reviewed the recent Food and Drug Administration licensure update on Zostavax,<sup>®</sup> the epidemiology of shingles, and supply issues around VZV containing vaccines (both for children and adults). The working group decided not to change the existing age-based recommendation for Zostavax.<sup>®</sup> The age group for which zoster vaccine is recommended by the ACIP remains those 60 years old and older.

Immunizations clinics may administer the zoster vaccine within the FDA license and product insert for those 50 to 59 years old, provided a provider has issued a prescription to the individual for that vaccine. If supplies of zoster vaccine are limited, preference should be for those within the ACIP recommended ages of 60 years old and older.

My POC for this memorandum is Col Philip Gould, AFMSA/SG3PM, 1780 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330-1780, (703) 588-6470, DSN 425-6470, or e-mail: philip.gould@pentagon.af.mil.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James D. Collier".

JAMES D. COLLIER  
Colonel, USAF, MC, CFS  
Assistant Surgeon General, Health Care Operations  
Office of the Surgeon General