Subject:       Shingles (Zoster) Vaccine*

Updated:       September 8, 2009

Department(s): Utilization Management

Policy:        Live attenuated Varicella-Zoster Virus vaccine for prevention of herpes zoster is reimbursable under Plans administered by QualCare, Inc.

Objective:     To provide proper and consistent reimbursement and to delineate criteria for coverage of a specific vaccine.

Procedure:     A single dose of live attenuated Varicella-Zoster Virus vaccine (CPT 90736) is covered for adults 60 years of age and older, whether or not the individual has had a prior episode of herpes zoster.

References

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommended adult immunization schedule---United States, 2009. MMWR 2008;57(53) Q-1 – Q-4 (Jan 9, 2009)


Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommendations for the Use of Zoster Vaccine. *CDC Morbid Mortal Weekly Rep* (scheduled for publication June 2007)


Quirk M. Routine shingles vaccine for US adults over 60. *Lancet Infec Dis* 2006;6(12):761 (Dec)


----- FDA Licenses New Vaccine to Reduce Older Americans’ Risk of Shingles. *FDA News* May 26, 2006


*Consistent with Summary Plan Description (SPD). When there is discordance between this policy and the SPD, the provisions of the SPD prevail.*