First Nations Health Benefits Shingrix® Coverage

The Shingrix® Vaccine is covered for First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) clients aged 60 years old and above. Shingrix® (DIN 02468425) is listed on FNHA’s Supplementary Drug Formulary that adjudicates through Pacific Blue Cross (PBC).

Coverage Criteria for Shingrix®:

- FNHA client is 60 years old or older.
- Lifetime limit of two doses.

Assessing Shingrix® Appropriateness:

Pharmacists may assess the appropriateness of Shingrix® for patients and determine if the intended use qualifies as a Schedule II product (https://www.bcpharmacists.org/readlinks/call-schedule-2-vaccine-explained) or if it requires a prescription.

If the Shingrix® vaccine is dispensed as a Schedule II product, the pharmacist must document the following:

- Patient Name
- Date
- Name of drug and strength
- Indication
- Quantity
- Dosing instructions
- Name and signature of pharmacist initiating the treatment

Processing the Shingrix® claim

Each dose of Shingrix® should be claimed separately at or around the time of administration.
Submitting the Claim for Shingrix® as a Schedule II Product

- Process the claim through PharmaNet using your College of Pharmacists of British Columbia (BC) ID in the prescriber field. Refer to the FNHA Pharmacy Fee Supplement for documentation requirements for pharmacist initiated non-prescription drugs.
- Claims for Shingrix® DIN 02468425 should be submitted with your usual and customary drug cost and dispensing fee.
- Submit the drug claim using DIN 02468425 through Pharmacare and then to PBC as a secondary payor. Please see the PBC Provider Guide for how to set up the client’s plan and billing Information.

Submitting the Claim for Pharmacist Administration of Shingrix®

- Pharmacies in BC: Please refer to the PharmaCare Policy Manual Section 8.10: Pharmacist administration of drugs and vaccines for claiming a fee for administering the vaccine.

Exceptional Requests

Requests for exceptional coverage for clients who do not meet the above criteria are reviewed on a case-by-case basis:
- Provider must complete the FNHA Shingrix® Exception Request Form and fax: 1-888-299-9222 for review.
- Decision will be sent to submitting provider and the client’s pharmacy.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding a case, please call the FNHA Health Benefits at 1-855-550-5454.

Working with the local First Nations Health Service Organizations

Most First Nations communities run public health immunization programs and have staff who are certified immunizer(s), such as a community health nurse (CHN).

The FNHA is encouraging First Nations Health Service Organizations to work with their local community pharmacies to support Shingrix® vaccination for Elders aged 60 and above. This may include in-person visits to the pharmacy; providing the client’s vaccine to a nurse for injection; or in some cases, by invitation for a pharmacist to participate in a vaccine clinic in the First Nations’ community.

In cases where the pharmacist is dispensing Shingrix® to the client for an injection administered by a community health nurse, the pharmacist, and nurse should determine a process that meets their regulatory and program requirements, and maintains cold chain (e.g., avoids having the client or nurse hold the vaccine for extended amounts of time).