



Health and Social Care Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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From Steve Brine MP

Letter by email to
Rt Hon Victoria Atkins MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

27 November 2023

Dear Victoria

It is a welcome development that the shingles vaccine is now being offered to anyone who turns 65 years old after 1 September 2023. However, the Committee is confused as to why this does not mean that everyone who is 65 to 79 years old is now eligible. The NHS England website states that:

*"If you turned 65 before 1 September 2023, you'll be eligible for the shingles vaccine when you turn 70."*¹

We would appreciate an explanation for this decision, and sight of any research and information used to make the decision to exclude the group of people who turned 65 before 1 September 2023 from accessing the shingles vaccine until they turn 70.

Yours sincerely

Steve Brine MP
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee

¹ NHS England, [‘Shingles Vaccine’](#), accessed 21 November 2023