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# VACCINE POINTS

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“Vaccine Points” is a bi-monthly communication distributed by the Hawaii Department of Health to all participating Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers.

Test your vaccine knowledge.

Question: A child without a documented history of chickenpox, but who has had physician diagnosed shingles, should receive a varicella vaccination series. True or False?

Answer: False

Shingles, a painful vesicular rash typically appearing in a dermatomal distribution of one or two sensory-nerve roots, is caused by the reactivation of the varicella-zoster virus (VZV), the same virus that causes chickenpox. A diagnosis of herpes zoster by a healthcare provider is considered by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to meet criteria for evidence of immunity to varicella. A child with physician diagnosed shingles does not need a varicella vaccination series.

Sources:

Prevention of Varicella Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP): <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5604.pdf>

Immunization Action Coalition/Ask the Experts/Varicella: [https://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts\\_var.asp](https://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_var.asp)

