

Varicella and Herpes Zoster Vaccines

Introduction

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**World Health
Organization**

Varicella and Herpes Zoster Vaccines

SAGE Working Group (WG)

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Varicella and Herpes Zoster Vaccines WG

Terms of Reference

The SAGE Working Group (WG) on Varicella and Herpes Zoster Vaccines (established in May 2012) was tasked with reviewing the evidence, identifying information gaps and formulating proposed recommendations related to the use of varicella and herpes zoster vaccines in order to update the current (1998) varicella vaccine WHO position paper for SAGE review. Specifically, the WG reviewed the:

- data regarding the global prevalence and burden of disease caused by varicella and herpes zoster according to country development status
- issues related to varicella and herpes zoster disease surveillance
- safety, effectiveness and immunogenicity profile of varicella and herpes zoster vaccines and duration of protection following immunization
- cost-effectiveness of varicella and herpes vaccines in particular in low and low-middle income countries
- changes in the epidemiology of herpes zoster with the introduction of the childhood varicella vaccination
 - In population groups who received the vaccine
 - Potential impact of the varicella vaccination program to increase the incidence of herpes zoster