



# Trends in Vaccinations by Medicare Part D Beneficiaries

Mirchandani K<sup>1</sup>, Sharma M<sup>1</sup>, Aparasu RR<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Complete HEOR Solutions (CHEORS), Chalfont, PA, USA,  
<sup>2</sup>University of Houston College of Pharmacy, Houston, TX

## KEY POINTS

- Shingles and Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap/Td) vaccines were frequently administered to older adults between 2013-2022, emphasizing the need to expand vaccination outreach for other vaccines

### References

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For any questions please email: [manvi.sharma@cheors.com](mailto:manvi.sharma@cheors.com)

Contact us:

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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## BACKGROUND

- Older adults are at an increased risk for vaccine-preventable diseases due to age-related immune decline and a high prevalence of chronic conditions; however, vaccination rates remain suboptimal<sup>1</sup>
- Vaccination is critical for preventing infection-related morbidity and mortality in older adults
- Despite recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and expanded access to vaccination services, uptake among Medicare beneficiaries remains low<sup>2</sup>
- Understanding vaccine utilization trends among Medicare beneficiaries is essential for identifying gaps, informing policy, and optimizing preventive healthcare strategies

## OBJECTIVE

- To assess the multi-year utilization trends of vaccines among Medicare Part D beneficiaries aged ≥ 65 in the United States (US)

## RESULTS

- During the ten-year study period (2013-2022), a total of 24.8 million vaccines were received by Medicare beneficiaries
- Number of vaccinations increased from 1.6 million in 2013 to 3.5 million in 2022, a rise of 127%
- Utilization of vaccinations increased substantially in 2019 and 2020, with about 4 million vaccinations each year
- Vaccination for Shingles was the highest, rising from 1.3 million (4.51%) in 2013 to 2.5 million (5.92%) in 2022, with particularly high vaccination in 2019, reaching about 3.7 million (9.55%) vaccinations
- Tdap vaccination increased from 229,968 (0.80%) in 2013 to 885,559 (2.06%) in 2022, a rise of 285%
- Similarly, vaccination for Hepatitis increased from 15,273 (0.05%) to 60,578 (0.14%) over the same period, with a notable rise observed in 2019 (184,235 (0.48%))
- Typhoid vaccines increased from 6,509 (0.02%) in 2013 to 15,375 (0.04%) in 2022 (Refer to Figure 1)

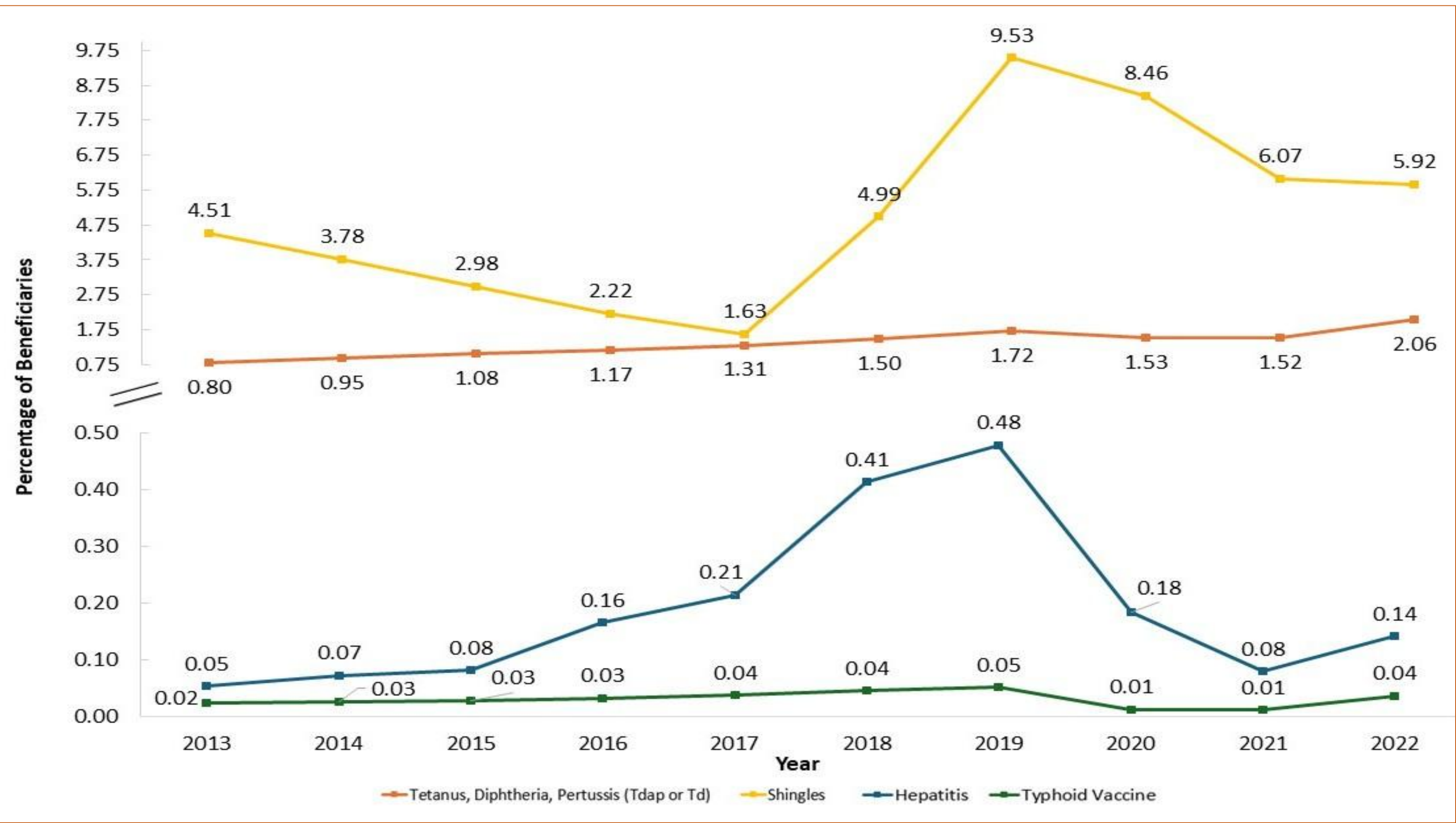
## CONCLUSION

- Shingles and Tdap vaccines were frequently administered to older adults, emphasizing the need to expand vaccination outreach for other vaccines
- Future research should explore the impact of these vaccination trends on health outcomes and healthcare resource utilization

## METHODS

- **Study Design:** Retrospective, cross-sectional study
- **Data Source:** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Medicare Provider Utilization and Payment Data: Part D Prescriber public use files
- **Study Population:** Medicare Part D beneficiaries aged ≥ 65 in the US
- **Study Period:** 2013-2022
- **Vaccines:** The following vaccines covered by Medicare Part D were assessed:
  - Chicken Pox, Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (HIB), Hepatitis A & B, Hepatitis A Virus, Hepatitis B Virus, Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Japanese Encephalitis, Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR), Meningococcal, Poliomyelitis, Rabies, Shingles, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap/Td), Typhoid, and Yellow Fever
- **Statistical Analysis:** Descriptive statistics, i.e., number and percentage of beneficiaries receiving vaccines, and graphical trends in vaccination were reported

Figure 1: Percentage of beneficiaries receiving vaccines covered by Part D between 2013 and 2022



## LIMITATION

- This dataset includes vaccines billed under Part D, potentially excluding beneficiaries who received vaccines through other programs or coverage sources (e.g., Medicare Part B, state-funded programs)