

Protecting the Longevity Boom: Adult Immunisation in **Thailand**

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Fold a vaccination check into older-adult health screenings.**
Nearly 1 million Village Health Volunteers can extend reach to older adults, and the 2027 health screening campaign plan can add a vaccination check.^{1,2}
- 2 Route recommended adult vaccines through the National Vaccine List.**
Thailand's Advisory Committee on Immunisation Practice already recommends shingles vaccination from age 50 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccination from 75, and the route into funded access opened in March 2026.³
- 3 Extend the influenza budget to cover every eligible older adult.**
The National Health Security Office prepared 4.57 million doses in 2025 against more than 20 million eligible people, and the fiscal 2028 budget could help close that gap.⁴

IMPACT OF THESE CHANGES

19x1

Adult Vax Return
on Investment ⁱ

30-60%

Reduced Risk of
Heart Attack ⁱⁱ

3-6

Lost Work Days
Prevented by
Adult Vax ⁱⁱⁱ



WHY IT MATTERS

Vaccinating older adults reduces hospital admissions, keeps older adults and their caregivers healthy and independent, and helps manage non-communicable diseases that are common later in life.

CURRENT POLICY LANDSCAPE

Thailand's Advisory Committee on Immunisation Practice recommends adult vaccines, the Subcommittee on the Development of the National Vaccine List assesses them with the Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program, and a listed vaccine draws funding under universal health coverage.⁵ A faster vaccine listing route opened in March 2026, and the fiscal 2028 budget cycle begins in May 2027.⁶ Village health volunteers already reach older adults in rural and remote areas and can support access and awareness activities.⁷

KEY FINDINGS

1

Older adults make up most influenza deaths.

Eighty-three percent of influenza-associated deaths in Thailand are among people over 65.⁸

2

The cost is already being paid.

RSV cost Thailand an estimated 6.2 billion baht in 2023, and vaccines are paid for privately.⁹

3

Expand disease surveillance.

RSV and shingles were added to the notifiable list in September 2026, but rely on limited sentinel surveillance.¹⁰

DISEASE & VACCINE SNAPSHOT*

DISEASE	CASES (RECENT)	AVAILABILITY	NATIONAL RECOMMENDATION/ FUNDING
RSV	Not notifiable	Available 2024	Recommended 75+; at-risk 50-74; not funded
COVID-19	45,415 (2025)	Available 2021	Generally free through public health channels, depending on supply
Influenza	1,194,342 (2025)	Seasonal, despite year-round risk	Recommended 65+; free through the NHSO
Shingles	Not notifiable	Available 2025	Recommended 50+; not funded

ABOUT AP-CHAAI

The Asia-Pacific Consortium for Healthy Aging and Adult Immunization (AP-CHAAI) is a network of healthy aging and economics experts working with global partners to close the data and policy gaps that keep preventive care from delivering its full value. ap-chaai.org



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*Data in the disease burden and vaccine snapshot table is AP-CHAAI's estimate based on publicly available and verifiable government sources. Data relies on sentinel surveillance and the true burden is likely higher.