



HERPES ZOSTER (SHINGLES) VACCINE



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

What is Herpes Zoster (Shingles)?

is a viral infection that causes a painful skin rash which appear on one side of the body or face. This occurs because of the reactivation of the varicella zoster virus, which is the virus that causes chickenpox. Once a person has chickenpox, the virus stays in their body. The virus can reactivate later in life and cause shingles.

Most people who develop shingles only have it one time during their life. However, you can have shingles more than once.

What are the symptoms of Herpes Zoster (Shingles)?

1. Itching or tingling sensation in areas where the rash will develop
2. Rash: often of fluid filled blister
3. Pain - Usually occur in a band on one side of the body, or clustered on one side of the face

What are the complications of Herpes Zoster (Shingles)?

1. Most common: long-term nerve pain (Post herpetic Neuralgia (PHN)) - Characterized by last longing severe pain after the rash has cleared.
2. Rarely: Lung infection (pneumonia), hearing problems, and brain inflammation (encephalitis)

Can Herpes Zoster (Shingles) be prevented?

Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine is recommended to prevent shingles and its complications.

Who is eligible to receive Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine?

People aged 50 years and older are eligible

Who should not receive Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine (Contraindication)?

1. People with hypersensitivity or anaphylactic reaction
2. People with acute herpes zoster illness
3. Pregnant and lactation women

Are there any side effects of Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine?

1. Swelling, pain, and redness at injection site are common after vaccination with zoster vaccine.
2. Other reactions such as fever, headache and fatigue may also occur, but, these are usually mild and resolved in few days.

How is the Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine administered?

Herpes Zoster (Shingles) vaccine is given intramuscularly as a 2-dose series, with the second dose administered 6 months after the first dose.

How can I get more information about the Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine and whom to contact for more enquiries?

For further inquiries or information about Herpes Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine, kindly contact the health care provider.