

## Help protect yourself.

Talk to your doctor or healthcare professional today about getting the shingles vaccine.

Learn more at  [www.zostavax.ca](http://www.zostavax.ca)

ZOSTAVAX® does not protect everyone, so some people who get the vaccine may still get shingles. However, if you develop shingles despite being vaccinated, ZOSTAVAX® can help reduce the intensity and duration of pain.

ZOSTAVAX® is indicated for the prevention of herpes zoster (shingles) and for immunization of individuals 50 years of age or older. ZOSTAVAX® cannot be used to treat existing shingles or the pain associated with existing shingles. If you get shingles even though you have been vaccinated, see your healthcare provider promptly.

ZOSTAVAX® should not be used if you: are allergic to any of the components of the vaccine, including gelatin or neomycin; have a blood disorder or any type of cancer that weakens your immune system; have been told by your doctor that you have a weakened immune system as a result of a disease, medications, or other treatment; have active untreated tuberculosis; are pregnant.

Women of childbearing age should take the necessary precautions to avoid pregnancy for 3 months following vaccination. Like all vaccines, ZOSTAVAX® can have side effects. In studies, the most common side effects were at the injection site and included redness, pain, swelling, hard lump, itching, warmth, and bruising. Headache and pain in the arm or leg were also reported. Additional side effects reported in general use with ZOSTAVAX® include allergic reactions, which may be serious and may include difficulty in breathing or swallowing, and fever. If you have an allergic reaction, call your doctor right away. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist for a more complete list of side effects for ZOSTAVAX®.

**References:** 1. Data on file, Merck Canada Inc. Product Monograph. ZOSTAVAX®, 2011. 2. Oxman MN. Clinical manifestations of herpes zoster. In: Arvin AM, Gershon AA, eds. Varicella-zoster virus virology and clinical management. Cambridge Press; 2000:246-75. 3. Clinical Manifestations: Chickenpox. In: Mandell G, Bennett J, Dolin R, eds. Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases, 6<sup>th</sup> ed, vol 2. Philadelphia: Elsevier; 2005. 4. Drolet M et al. The impact of herpes zoster and postherpetic neuralgia on health-related quality of life: a prospective study. CMAJ 2010;182:1731-6. 5. McElhaney JE. Herpes zoster: a common disease that can have a devastating impact on patients' quality of life. Expert Rev Vaccines 2010;9(3 Suppl):27-30. 6. Pavan-Langston D. Ophthalmic zoster. In: Arvin AM, Gershon AA, eds. Varicella-zoster virus virology and clinical management. Cambridge Press; 2000: 276-98. 7. Tummalala MK et al. Clinical immunology: immune senescence and the acquired immune deficiency of aging. In: Fillet HM, Rockwood K, Woodhouse K, eds. Brocklehurst's Textbook of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Saunders Elsevier; 2010: 82-90.

# ZOSTAVAX®

[zoster vaccine live, attenuated (Oka/Merck)]



Merck Canada Inc., Kirkland, Quebec

Drug Identification Number (DIN): 02315939

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It is estimated that nearly one in 3 people will experience shingles in their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>

And the risk increases after the age of 50.<sup>1</sup>



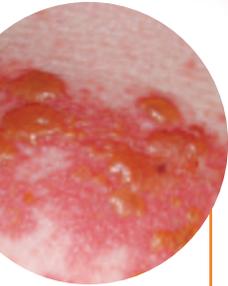
# Will You Be The One?

# What do you know about shingles?



## Did you know...

**that the painful rash caused by shingles can occur at any time, with no warning?<sup>1</sup>**



**For most people, the pain from shingles resolves as the rash heals, but for others, it can last for months or even years<sup>2</sup>**

For some people, the shingles pain can:

- be excruciating<sup>3</sup>
- lead to anxiety and depression<sup>4,\*</sup>
- result in a loss of mobility and independent living<sup>5,\*</sup>

Herpes zoster of the eye affects an estimated 10% to 25% of all cases<sup>6</sup>



## If you're over 50 years old, you're at increased risk

The same virus that causes chickenpox also causes shingles. The virus stays in your body and can later become active again as shingles.<sup>1</sup> As you get older, your immune system weakens and your chance of developing shingles goes up.<sup>7</sup>

It doesn't matter how healthy you feel – shingles can strike when you least expect it.<sup>1</sup>

**You can help protect yourself against shingles by getting vaccinated.**



## Don't Wait!

**Talk to your doctor or healthcare professional today about getting the shingles vaccine.**

Learn more at



[www.zostavax.ca](http://www.zostavax.ca)

**ZOSTAVAX<sup>®</sup>**

[zoster vaccine live, attenuated (Oka/Merck)]

The only vaccine indicated for the prevention of shingles in individuals 50 years of age or older.

\*ZOSTAVAX<sup>®</sup> is indicated for the prevention of shingles. It cannot be used to reduce or treat the complications associated with active shingles.