

Shingles Vaccine



There are currently two Shingles Vaccines available.

Zostavax is the Shingles Vaccine that has been on the market since 2006. It is recommended for individuals age 60 and up. Zostavax reduces the risk of developing shingles by 51%.

Shingrix is a new Shingles Vaccine that is recommended for individuals age 50 and up. It is a series of two Vaccines spaced 2 to 6 months apart. It is recommended to get Shingrix even if you have already received the Zostavax Vaccine. Two doses of Shingrix is more than 90% effective at preventing shingles.

For more information, visit the CDC website at www.CDC.gov/shingles/



Will my insurance cover the Shingrix Vaccine?

It may, but you should check with your insurance company because each plan is different. For individuals on Medicare, check with your Medicare Part D Plan (the plan you use at the pharmacy) as this is the part of Medicare that may cover it. Individuals with Private Insurance should check with their plan as well. Make sure to ask specifically about Shingrix, some plans may cover Zostavax but not Shingrix.

Reasons why it may not be covered:

1. You have not met your deductible. If it is a covered service and you have not met your deductible, your insurance may pay after your deductible is met.
2. Your insurance company has a preferred provider such as a pharmacy. Even if the vaccine is not covered at the Health Department, it may be covered elsewhere. Make sure to ask your insurance company if they have a preferred provider.
3. Your insurance formulary hasn't updated yet. Since the Shingrix vaccine just came out, your insurance company may have yet to add it to their list of covered services. This may not update until next year.
4. You have already received the Zostavax Vaccine.

