

Yukon Immunization Program Manual

Section 8 — Biological Products

Zoster Vaccine

November 2025



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Varicella Zoster Vaccine		SHINGRIX®	
Manufacturer	GlaxoSmithKline Inc	Biological classification	Non-live recombinant, AS01B adjuvanted.
INDICATIONS	SCHEDULE		
	Individuals aged 65–79 years ⓘ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Dose: 0.5 ml IM • 2nd Dose: 0.5 ml IM ⓘ 	
	Immunocompromised individuals aged 18+ years (see Table 1 for eligible conditions) ⓘ		
	<p>ⓘ Recommended interval: 2–6 months between Dose 1 and Dose 2.</p> <p>ⓘ ⓘ Minimum interval: A shortened interval of 1–2 months may be used only for immunocompromised individuals or those about to become immunosuppressed.</p>		

Table 1. Eligible Immunocompromised Conditions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary immunodeficiencies affecting innate, humoral, or T cell–mediated immunity • Hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) • Solid organ transplant (SOT) • Hematological malignancies • Solid tumour malignancies on immunosuppressive treatment • HIV infection • Chronic or ongoing immunosuppressive therapy, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Immunosuppressive chemotherapy or radiation therapy ○ Calcineurin inhibitors, cytotoxic medications, anti-metabolites ○ Immune effector cell therapies (e.g., CAR T cell therapy) ○ Biological response modifiers, targeted therapies, antibodies targeting lymphocytes/immune pathways (e.g., anti-CD20, anti-TNF-α, JAK inhibitors) ○ Long-term high-dose systemic corticosteroids (≥ 2 mg/kg/day, or ≥ 20 mg/day if > 10 kg, for ≥ 14 days) 	

CONTRAINDICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of hypersensitivity to SHINGRIX® or any ingredient in the formulation/component of the container. • Individuals under 18 years of age. • Do NOT immunize persons with active herpes zoster (HZ) with HZ vaccine.
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Varicella Zoster Vaccine		SHINGRIX®
PRECAUTIONS & SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay immunization for individuals with severe acute illness until recovery. • Vaccine may be considered ≥ 1 year after an episode of HZ. • Clients who have previously received LZV (Zostavax®) should receive a complete 2-dose series of RZV (Shingrix®), administered on or after one year following their LZV dose. • Shingrix®) can be administered 8 weeks after live varicella vaccine • Not indicated for prevention of primary varicella infection, or treatment of HZ or postherpetic neuralgia (PHN). • Authorized for use in ages 50+ in the general population, not publicly funded for this indication in the Yukon. 	
PREGNANCY AND LACTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No data on use in pregnant individuals • Consult YIP for individualized recommendations based on risk vs benefit. 	
INTERCHANGEABILITY	None	
RECONSTITUTION AND DILUTION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Withdraw entire contents of adjuvant suspension vial into a sterile syringe. 2. Add entire contents into lyophilized powder vial. 3. Shake gently until completely dissolved. 4. Draw up entire content for administration. 	
ADMINISTRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred site: IM injection into the deltoid muscle of the upper arm. • Do not inject into the gluteal area or anywhere near major nerves or blood vessels. 	
CONCURRENT ADMINISTRATION WITH OTHER VACCINES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be given concomitantly or at any time before or after other inactivated or live vaccines. • Use a separate needle and syringe for each vaccine and inject at different anatomical sites. 	
SEROLOGICAL TESTING	Serological testing is not recommended before or after immunization.	

Varicella Zoster Vaccine		SHINGRIX®
VACCINE COMPONENTS	<p>Per 0.5 mL dose after reconstitution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 mcg varicella zoster virus (VZV) glycoprotein E (gE). • AS01B adjuvant system: 50 mcg Quillaja saponaria Molina, fraction 21 (QS-21), 50 mcg 3-O-desacyl-4'-monophosphoryl lipid A (MPL), 1 mg dioleoyl phosphatidylcholine (DOPC), 0.25 mg cholesterol. • Additional excipients: disodium phosphate anhydrous, potassium dihydrogen phosphate, dipotassium phosphate, polysorbate 80, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, sucrose, sodium chloride, water for injection. 	
APPEARANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconstituted: opalescent, colourless to pale brownish liquid • Lyophilized powder: white 	
BLOOD/ BLOOD PRODUCTS	Does not contain human blood/blood products.	
BOVINE/ PORCINE PRODUCTS	Does not contain bovine or porcine products.	
LATEX		
EXPECTED REACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local: Mild to moderate pain, redness, swelling at the injection site • Systemic: Myalgia, fatigue, headache, chills, fever, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain 	
STORAGE AND HANDLING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store SHINGRIX® and diluent at +2°C to +8°C. • Protect from light. • Administer immediately after reconstitution to minimize potency loss. • Discard reconstituted vaccine if not used within 30 minutes 	
REFERENCES AND RESOURCES		
<p>National Advisory Committee on Immunization Statements Canadian Immunization Guide Shingrix Product Monograph</p>		