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Shingles (Herpes Zoster)

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Signs & Symptoms

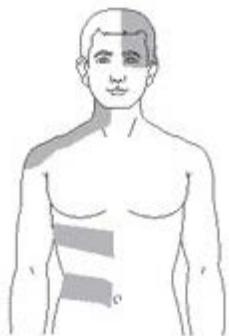


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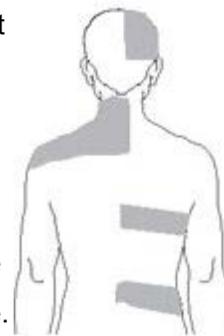
Español: [Signos y síntomas](#)

Shingles is a painful rash that develops on one side of the face or body. The rash forms blisters that typically scab over in 7 to 10 days and clears up within 2 to 4 weeks.

Before the rash develops, people often have pain, itching, or tingling in the area where the rash will develop. This may happen anywhere from 1 to 5 days before the rash appears.



Most commonly, the rash occurs in a single stripe around either the left or the right side of the body. In other cases, the rash occurs on one side of the face. In rare cases (usually among people with weakened immune systems), the rash may be more widespread and look similar to a chickenpox rash. Shingles can affect the eye and cause loss of vision.



Other symptoms of shingles can include

- Fever
- Headache
- Chills
- Upset stomach

Related Links

[Medline Plus](#)

[NIH SeniorHealth](#)

[AgePage on Shingles](#)

[Immunization Action Coalition](#)

Chickenpox Q&As



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1600 Clifton Road Atlanta, GA 30329-4027 USA
800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636), TTY: 888-232-6348

[Email CDC-INFO](#)

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