

SHINGLES (Herpes Zoster)

- IMMUNIZATION:** None
- INCUBATION PERIOD:** Highly variable - months to years - as a latent form (reactivation) of chicken pox.
- SYMPTOMS:** Grouped vesicular lesions that appear along one to three sensory dermatomes (nerve paths) with mild to severe pain. In immunocompromised persons, lesions can become generalized and result in vesicular complications.
- PERIOD OF COMMUNICABILITY:** As long as lesions are wet, not scabbed, generally one week after onset of lesions.
- MODE OF TRANSMISSION:** Direct contact with secretions of lesions of persons without history of chicken pox and/or are immunodeficient.
- SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:** Exclusion only if lesions cannot be covered and only until lesions are crusted.
- No exclusion necessary if environment is controlled and no one is susceptible to chicken pox.
- CONTACTS/FOLLOW-UP:** No recommendations for generally healthy susceptible children/adults.