

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Date:** 6/13/16

**Release Date:** For Immediate release

**End Date:** 6/30/16

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**Re:** Shingles Vaccine

If you are an adult born before 1984, odds are you had chickenpox as a child. But did you know that the chickenpox virus (**varicella-zoster virus (VZV)**) stays dormant in your body? Without warning, this dormant virus can come back later in life in the form of shingles. Shingles can cause a painful rash anywhere on your body, but often appears as a stripe of blisters wrapping around either the left or right side of your upper body. Some people have complications with this disease. Call your doctor if you think that you might have shingles.

The risk for shingles increases as you get older. There is no cure for shingles, but the vaccine can help prevent the disease. The Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) recommends that adults age 60 years and older get a zoster vaccine to prevent shingles. If you are uninsured or underinsured and age 60 or older, you may qualify for a zoster vaccine at reduced- cost at GCHD. Check with your doctor or call GCHD to get your zoster vaccine.

Besides regular clinic hours at the Burton Branch as listed below, GCHD hosts offsite immunization clinics throughout Genesee County and Flint. To learn more about Genesee County Health Department's

Off-site immunizations clinics, visit [gchd.us](http://gchd.us) or call 810.237.4588. The Health Department's Burton Branch

Immunization clinic hours are:

- Walk in service: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:00 to 11:00 am. Please call before you arrive as the clinic may close early due to client volume.
- By appointment only: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm.
- Evening clinic: Thursday, 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Genesee County Health Department's Burton Branch is located at G-3373 S. Saginaw Street, Burton. Call 810.237.4540 to make an appointment. Genesee County Health Department, Your Health. Our Work.

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