

## [PKIDs Immunization Videos - Shingles](#)

(Note: Except when noted, the speaker is shown on the screen. There is music playing softly in the background through most of the video.)

(Image of couple)

Wife: It started with pain in my husband's eye. He said he felt like there was something in his eye. I asked him to put his head back so that I could see in the light, and when I touched his head, he actually grabbed my arm, and he said it felt like somebody was stabbing him, which drove us to the emergency room.

(Image of eye)

Wife: They couldn't find anything wrong, and they were sending us home. One of the doctors came by and said, "You know, it could be a virus."

(Image of emergency room sign)

Wife: The pain got worse and worse and worse so we went to the emergency room of the eye hospital. They looked at him and they said "Can you draw a line down the middle of your head, and if you touched one side is it painful, and if touched the other side is it okay?" And it was, it was just like a straight line down the middle. And they said it was shingles.

Doctor: Shingles is a reactivation of chickenpox. After you are infected with chickenpox, the virus lives on in your nerve cells. When the virus reactivates in the nerve cell...

(Image of shingles rashes)

Doctor: ...it shows up then as a rash in certain patterns — the pattern that the nerve hits the skin.

Wife: I had never known anyone who had shingles in their eye. He had no rash. There was no fever.

Doctor: People can sometimes get it just in a certain pattern in their face or just in a certain pattern in their back—so painful it's hard to imagine.

(Image of medication and a key ring)

Wife: So they gave us antiviral medication and sent us home and his eye got progressively worse.

(Video clip of twitching eye)

Wife: The pressure in his eye was up so high to a point where he was close to losing his eye...

(Image of inflamed cornea)

Wife: ...and inflammation in the cornea was starting to break down the cornea.

Doctor: People are at risk for shingles if they've ever had chickenpox, and almost everyone has had chickenpox. When you're older, say over 50, you're at more risk for a reactivation also if you're under stress of any kind.

(Image series of emergency room entrance, eye examination, surgical procedure, medications)

Wife: So since this started, my husband has been through multiple emergency room visits, multiple eye specialists, eye surgeons, and he has been on steroids for four years now.

Doctor: Even after the rash fades, you can have ongoing pain. About 20 percent of people who have shingles have the ongoing pain.

Wife: He really doesn't have much vision in that eye, and there's not much hope of getting it back.

(Video clip of blurred vision, image of blurred eye chart)

Wife: He can see if it's day or night. He can see if something moves in front of him. But he can't see the big "E" on the eye chart.

Doctor: In the US, there are about one million cases of shingles each year.

Wife: He now holds books right up to his face and squints and squints the one eye when he's trying to read.

(Image series of husband examining a book, husband reading book)

Wife: My husband is a professor, so it does impact his work considerably. Most people don't know how much shingles can affect your life.

Doctor: There is a vaccine that greatly reduces a person's risk of getting shingles. Even if they do get shingles, there is much less likelihood that they'll have severe pain or that they'll have the ongoing pain.

Wife: If my husband had been vaccinated before this event, it's very likely that he wouldn't have gone through this at all.

Voiceover: Check with your provider to see if immunization is right for your family.

(Image: PKIDs.ORG Parents of Kids with Infectious Diseases)