

# Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) summary

The [full CMI](#) on the next page has more details. If you are worried about using this medicine, speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

### 1. Why am I being given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF contains the active ingredient human zoster immunoglobulin. Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is used for the prevention of chickenpox and shingles in people who are susceptible to virus infection and who come into contact with an infected person.

For more information, see Section [1. Why am I being given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#) in the full CMI.

### 2. What should I know before I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

Do not use if you have ever had an allergic reaction to Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF or any of the ingredients listed at the end of the CMI.

**Talk to your doctor if you have any other medical conditions, take any other medicines, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.**

For more information, see Section [2. What should I know before I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#) in the full CMI.

### 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Some medicines may interfere with Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF and affect how it works.

For more information, see Section [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#) in the full CMI.

### 4. How will I be given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

- Your doctor will determine the dose(s) of Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF that you are to receive. Your doctor will give you the injection. It will be injected into the muscle.

More instructions can be found in Section [4. How will I be given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#) in the full CMI.

### 5. What should I know after I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

<b>Things you should do</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you are using Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF.</li></ul>
<b>Driving or using machines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No effects on ability to drive and use machines have been observed.</li></ul>
<b>Looking after your medicine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Store at 2°C to 8°C (Refrigerate. Do not freeze). Keep the bottle in the outer carton in order to protect from light.</li><li>Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.</li></ul>

For more information, see Section [5. What should I know after I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#) in the full CMI.

### 6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention. Side effects are very uncommon after injection with Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF. However, some pain, redness and stiffness may be apparent at the injection site. This may occur after any large injection into a muscle. Occasionally mild fever, chills, drowsiness or discomfort may be felt and an itchy rash may develop.

For more information, including what to do if you have any side effects, see Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#) in the full CMI.

# Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF

Active ingredient: *Human zoster immunoglobulin*

## Consumer Medicine Information (CMI)

This leaflet provides important information about using Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF. **You should also speak to your doctor or pharmacist if you would like further information or if you have any concerns or questions about using Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF.**

Where to find information in this leaflet:

- [1. Why am I being given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#)
- [2. What should I know before I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#)
- [3. What if I am taking other medicines?](#)
- [4. How will I be given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#)
- [5. What should I know after I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?](#)
- [6. Are there any side effects?](#)
- [7. Product details](#)

## 1. Why am I being given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF contains the active ingredient human zoster immunoglobulin.

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is made from human plasma (the liquid component of blood) collected by Australian Red Cross Lifeblood. Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF contains protein substances called antibodies which can provide protection against the virus causing chickenpox and shingles.

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is used for the prevention of chickenpox and shingles in people who are susceptible to virus infection and who come into contact with an infected person. It is particularly given to those whose ability to fight infection is weakened.

## 2. What should I know before I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

### Warnings

You must not be given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF if:

- you are allergic to human zoster immunoglobulin, or any of the ingredients listed at the end of this leaflet.  
Always check the ingredients to make sure you can use this medicine.
- you have a history of allergy to human immunoglobulin products (allergic reactions may include skin rash, face swelling, wheezing or breathing difficulties).

- you have been told you have antibodies to immunoglobulin A (IgA).

**Check with your doctor if you:**

- have previously been advised that you have immunoglobulin A (IgA) deficiency
- suffer from a blood disorder or blood clotting problem
- have any other medical conditions
- have allergies to any other medicines or if you have ever had an allergic reaction to an injection.

### Vaccinations

Please inform your doctor if you have had any vaccinations within the last two weeks or are planning to have a vaccination. Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF may impair the effect of some virus vaccines such as measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox for a period of at least 6 weeks, and up to 3 months. After receiving this medicine, a period of 3 months should be allowed before vaccination with some virus vaccines. In the case of measles vaccine, this effect may last for up to 1 year. Therefore, your vaccinating doctor should check the effectiveness of the measles vaccination.

During treatment, you may be at risk of developing certain side effects. It is important you understand these risks and how to monitor for them. See additional information under Section [6. Are there any side effects?](#)

### Pregnancy and breastfeeding

Check with your doctor if you are pregnant or intend to become pregnant.

Talk to your doctor if you are breastfeeding or intend to breastfeed.

### Virus safety

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is made from human plasma (the liquid component of blood) collected by Australian Red Cross Lifeblood. When products are made from human blood and injected into you, it is possible that viruses or other substances could be present in the product and cause an illness. These could be viruses such as hepatitis, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), or human parvovirus B19 and theoretically the Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) agent. There could also be other infectious agents some of which may not yet have been discovered.

To reduce the risk of this happening, extra steps are taken when manufacturing this product. Strict controls are applied to the selection of blood donors and donations. The product is specially treated to remove and kill certain viruses. These special treatments are considered effective against viruses known as enveloped viruses such as HIV, hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C virus, and the non-

enveloped viruses, hepatitis A virus and human parvovirus B19. Additionally, the product contains specific antibodies which can provide some protection against human parvovirus B19. Despite these measures, the risk of viral and other agent's infectivity cannot be totally eliminated.

Vaccines are available against some of these viruses and your doctor will be able to help you decide whether it is worthwhile having any of those vaccines.

### 3. What if I am taking other medicines?

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicines, including any medicines, vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket or health food shop.

**Some medicines may interfere with Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF and affect how it works.**

**Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure about what medicines, vitamins or supplements you are taking and if these affect Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF.**

### 4. How will I be given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

#### How much will I be given

Your doctor will determine the dose(s) of Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF that you are to receive. Your doctor will give you the injection. It will be injected into the muscle. If a large volume of product is required, you may receive more than one injection.

#### When will Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF be given

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF should be used for the prevention of chickenpox and shingles in people who are susceptible to virus infection and who come into contact with an infected person.

#### If too much Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is given

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is administered under medical supervision only. An overdose is therefore very unlikely to occur.

The consequences of overdose are not known.

### 5. What should I know after I am given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF?

#### Things you should do

##### Call your doctor straight away if you:

- have any concerns about being given this medicine.

Remind any doctor, dentist or pharmacist you visit that you have been given Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF.

#### Driving or using machines

**Be careful before you drive or use any machines or tools until you know how Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF affects you.**

No effects on ability to drive and use machines have been observed.

### Looking after your medicine

You will probably not need to keep any bottles of Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF at home. However, if you have to keep this medicine at home:

- Store at 2°C to 8°C (Refrigerate. Do not freeze).
- Keep the bottle in the outer carton in order to protect from light.

**Keep it where young children cannot reach it.**

### Getting rid of any unwanted medicine

If you no longer need to use this medicine or it is out of date, take it to any pharmacy for safe disposal.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date.

### 6. Are there any side effects?

All medicines can have side effects. If you do experience any side effects, most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

See the information below and, if you need to, ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any further questions about side effects.

Reactions are very uncommon after injection with Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF. However, some pain, redness and stiffness may be apparent at the injection site. This may occur after any large injection into a muscle.

#### Less serious side effects

Less serious side effects	What to do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• pain, redness and stiffness where the injection was given</li><li>• mild fever</li><li>• chills</li><li>• drowsiness</li><li>• discomfort</li><li>• itchy rash.</li></ul>	<b>Speak to your doctor if you have any of these less serious side effects and they worry you.</b>

**Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice anything else that may be making you feel unwell.**

Other side effects not listed here may occur in some people.

#### Reporting side effects

After you have received medical advice for any side effects you experience, you can report side effects to the Therapeutic Goods Administration online at [www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems](http://www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems). By reporting side effects, you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

**Always make sure you speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you decide to stop taking any of your medicines.**

## 7. Product details

This medicine is only available with a doctor's prescription.

### What Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF contains

<b>Active ingredient (main ingredient)</b>	Human zoster immunoglobulin
<b>Other ingredients (inactive ingredients)</b>	Glycine

**Do not take this medicine if you are allergic to any of these ingredients.**

### What Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF looks like

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is a clear, colourless, viscous (thick) solution which may be slightly shiny. It is available in glass bottles.

Each bottle of Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is a sterile solution containing 160 mg/mL blood proteins of which at least 98% is immunoglobulins. It also contains 22.5 mg/mL glycine.

**NOTE: Supplies of suitable plasma for the production of Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF are scarce. If you are recovering from shingles or chickenpox you are urged to enrol as a voluntary blood donor.**

AUST R 61219.

### Who distributes Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF

#### Manufacturer

Zoster Immunoglobulin-VF is manufactured in Australia by:

CSL Behring (Australia) Pty Ltd

ABN 48 160 734 761

189-209 Camp Road

Broadmeadows VIC 3047

#### Distributor

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood

This leaflet was prepared in May 2025.