

Shingles treatment continues to evolve

New research shows promise in preventing eye complications

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ANCHOR LEDE

Shingles.

It's a word that stings just coming out of your mouth. And it's certainly an illness you want to avoid.

There are time-tested treatments for the disease that's associated with chickenpox – namely an effective vaccine.

Tim Ditman of OSF HealthCare has more.

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Doctor Fred Burke with OSF says the virus can lie dormant and get activated later in life, causing a rash that can last for three to five weeks. We treat it with antiviral medication.

Catching the disease *early* is key because there can be complications, including redness and swelling in the eyes.

\*\*\*SOT\*\*\*

Dr. Fred Burke

OSF HealthCare emergency department physician

**"We consult an ophthalmologist because the person may also need steroids. It's good to treat this quickly because it can lead to vision loss." (:10)**

I'm Tim Ditman.

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ANCHOR TAG

Burke recommends you get the chickenpox and shingles vaccine when you reach the right age.