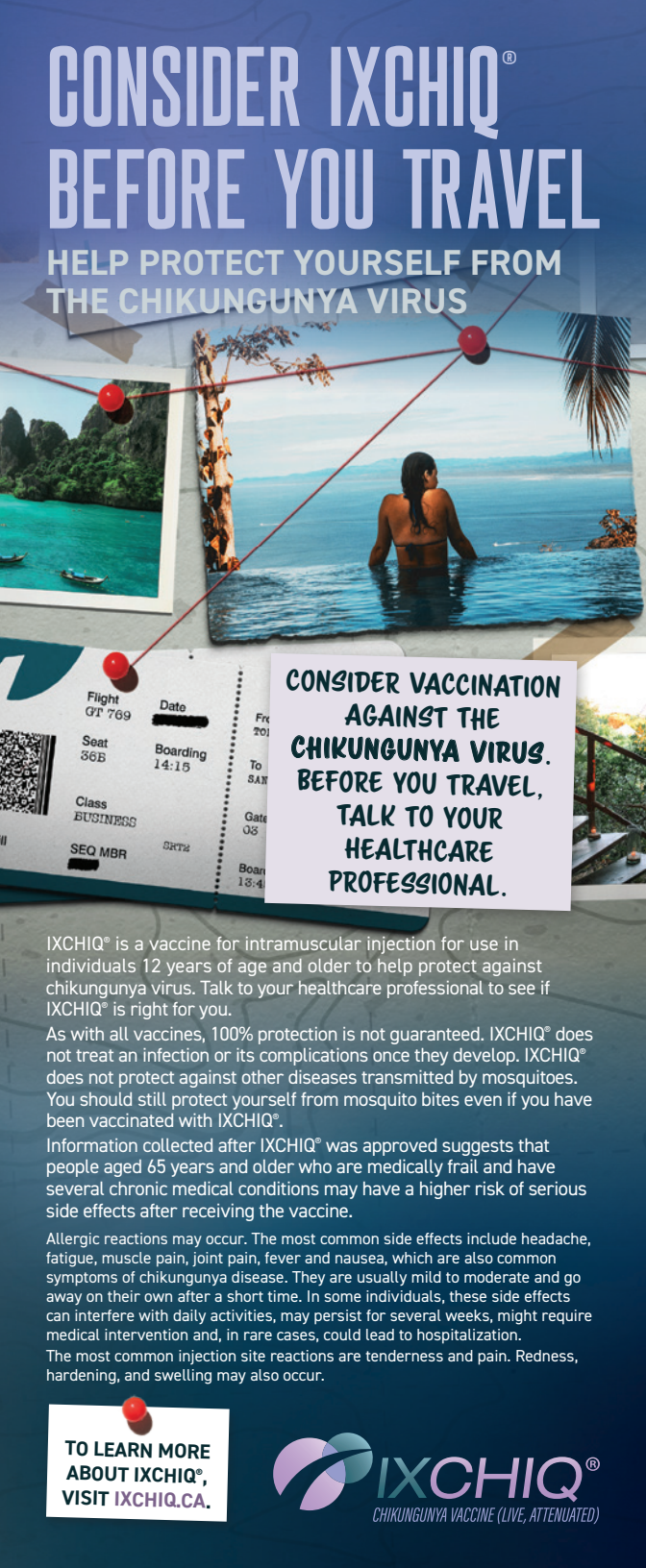


# CONSIDER IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup> BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

HELP PROTECT YOURSELF FROM  
THE CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS



**CONSIDER VACCINATION  
AGAINST THE  
CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS.  
BEFORE YOU TRAVEL,  
TALK TO YOUR  
HEALTHCARE  
PROFESSIONAL.**

IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup> is a vaccine for intramuscular injection for use in individuals 12 years of age and older to help protect against chikungunya virus. Talk to your healthcare professional to see if IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup> is right for you.

As with all vaccines, 100% protection is not guaranteed. IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup> does not treat an infection or its complications once they develop. IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup> does not protect against other diseases transmitted by mosquitoes. You should still protect yourself from mosquito bites even if you have been vaccinated with IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup>.

Information collected after IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup> was approved suggests that people aged 65 years and older who are medically frail and have several chronic medical conditions may have a higher risk of serious side effects after receiving the vaccine.

Allergic reactions may occur. The most common side effects include headache, fatigue, muscle pain, joint pain, fever and nausea, which are also common symptoms of chikungunya disease. They are usually mild to moderate and go away on their own after a short time. In some individuals, these side effects can interfere with daily activities, may persist for several weeks, might require medical intervention and, in rare cases, could lead to hospitalization.

The most common injection site reactions are tenderness and pain. Redness, hardening, and swelling may also occur.

**TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup>,  
VISIT [IXCHIQ.CA](http://IXCHIQ.CA).**

**IXCHIQ<sup>®</sup>**  
CHIKUNGUNYA VACCINE (LIVE, ATTENUATED)

# WHAT IS CHIKUNGUNYA DISEASE?

## CHIKUNGUNYA IS A POTENTIALLY LIFE-ALTERING DISEASE CAUSED BY THE CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS.

- The name “chikungunya” comes from the word for “becoming contorted” in the African Kimakonde language, and describes the stooped appearance of those who suffer from **persistent joint pain** related to this disease.
- It is caused by the chikungunya virus and is mainly transmitted by **infected daytime-active mosquitoes**.
- **Most infected people will develop symptoms, the most common being fever and severe pain in multiple joints.**
  - The symptoms of chikungunya usually last for a few days but can linger and **last weeks, months** or even **years**.
- **There is no specific treatment** for chikungunya disease. Supportive care mainly involves helping relieve symptoms of fever and joint pain.



WHILE MOST PEOPLE RECOVER FULLY FROM CHIKUNGUNYA, SOME CASES CAN LAST FROM MONTHS TO YEARS



The chikungunya virus has become **more frequent** and **widespread** across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. It has been reported in **119 countries** and territories (prior to 2025).

From January to September 2025 alone, there were about **263,592 suspected cases**, **181,679 confirmed cases**, and **155 deaths** related to chikungunya reported worldwide.



**Dengue** and **Zika** have similar symptoms to chikungunya, making diagnosis challenging.

AS MANY AS  
**85%**

As many as **85%** of those infected with chikungunya virus develop symptoms.

Symptoms include fever and debilitating, severe joint pain, which is frequent and varies in duration; other symptoms include joint swelling, muscle pain, headache, nausea, fatigue and rash.

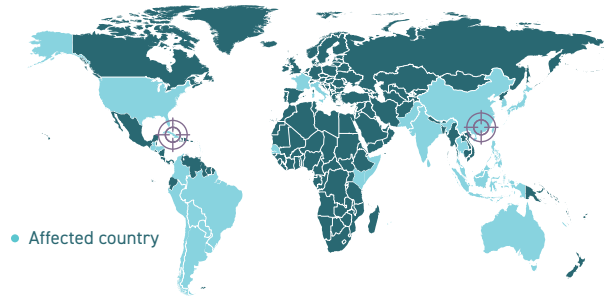
UP TO  
**43%**

Chikungunya disease follows acute and chronic phases, with **up to 43%** of infected patients developing the chronic form of the disease. Chronic chikungunya is characterized by **joint pain, fatigue, and potentially debilitating effects** (e.g., depression, mood and sleep disorders) that can **last from months to years, and some may never fully recover**.

# AT-RISK AREAS

- Chikungunya is a global health threat with more than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the world's population estimated to live in areas at risk of the disease.
- **As of mid-July 2025, the countries reporting the highest number of chikungunya cases are:**
  - **Brazil (185,553)**
  - **Argentina (2,836)**
  - **Bolivia (4,721)**
  - **Peru (55)**

## GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS DISEASE CASES (JANUARY–SEPTEMBER 2025)



Adapted from the World Health Organization (2025).

**RISK LEVEL : HIGH**

- **Chikungunya virus outbreak in Guangdong Province, China** (as of August 26, 2025) and **Cuba** (as of September 26, 2025)
  - A total of **16,452 locally transmitted cases** have been reported in **Guangdong Province, China** (as of September 27, 2025)
  - A total of **51,217 cases** have been reported in **Cuba** (as of January 3, 2026)
  - The CDC issued a **Level 2 Health Alert Network Health Advisory** to warn clinicians, travellers, and public health authorities to **practice enhanced precautions**.

A SURGE IN CANADIAN CHIKUNGUNYA INFECTIONS HAS BEEN LINKED TO THE VIRUS ENTERING INTO THE CARIBBEAN AND EXPANDING INTO THE AMERICAS (2014–2015).



**EQUIP YOURSELF FOR YOUR NEXT TRIP – PERSONAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES, INCLUDING VACCINATION, MAY HELP PROTECT YOU AGAINST THE CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS.**

## MY PLAN OF ACTION

### HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF?

#### Prevention may help you along your trip abroad

Given that the disease caused by the chikungunya virus is spread by the bite of infected mosquitoes, the first step is to take personal protective measures, before and during your trip:



- A proven method of protection against the chikungunya virus is vaccination.



- Personal protective measures are also recommended to avoid mosquito bites:
  - Insect repellants
  - Bed nets
  - Clothing - light-coloured, loose clothes (long pants with long-sleeved shirts)



- It's important to plan accordingly and visit a vaccination clinic or speak to a healthcare professional at least 4 weeks before travelling.



## ABOUT IXCHIQ®

### IXCHIQ® IS THE FIRST CHIKUNGUNYA VACCINE IN CANADA

- IXCHIQ® is a vaccine for intramuscular injection for use in individuals 12 years of age and older to help protect against chikungunya virus.
- IXCHIQ® works by stimulating your immune system to make substances known as antibodies which fight the chikungunya virus. Once vaccinated, if a person comes into contact with chikungunya virus, their body can fight off the virus.
- Following **one single dose** of IXCHIQ®, it usually takes **two to four weeks** to help protect you against the chikungunya virus.

The cost of IXCHIQ® may be covered by your private insurance. To find out if you are covered, contact your insurance provider and give the drug identification number (DIN) below.

**DIN 02548984**



## ABOUT IXCHIQ®

### HOW AND WHEN TO TAKE IXCHIQ®



IXCHIQ® is given by a healthcare professional as an injection in the upper arm muscle in individuals 12 years of age and older.



Vaccination with IXCHIQ® involves one single dose prior to travelling.



Consult your healthcare professional at least 4 weeks before your trip since it usually takes **2 to 4 weeks** to help protect you against the chikungunya virus following vaccination.



You should still protect yourself from mosquito bites even if you have received the IXCHIQ® vaccine.

### SIDE EFFECTS

The most common side effects include headache, fatigue, muscle pain, joint pain, fever and nausea, which are also common symptoms of chikungunya disease. They are usually mild to moderate and go away on their own after a short time. In some individuals, these side effects can interfere with daily activities, may persist for several weeks, might require medical intervention and, in rare cases, could lead to hospitalization.

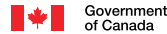
The most common injection site reactions are tenderness and pain. Redness, hardening, and swelling may also occur.

Some people who have received IXCHIQ® have experienced rare serious side effects similar to complications that can occur with chikungunya virus, including:

- Atrial Flutter (abnormal heart rate)
- Rapid heart rate
- Aseptic meningitis (inflammation of the membranes covering the brain and spinal cord that is not due to a bacterial infection)
- Encephalopathy (brain dysfunction with symptoms such as confusion and impaired memory)
- Encephalitis (inflammation of brain tissue) that resulted in death



### RESOURCES WHEN CONSIDERING VACCINATION



#### STAY INFORMED

[canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/chikungunya.html](https://canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/chikungunya.html)

Learn about chikungunya, its causes, symptoms, risks, treatment and prevention.



#### FIND A VACCINATION CLINIC

[vaccines411.ca/en/vaccine-categories/travel](https://vaccines411.ca/en/vaccine-categories/travel)

**Vaccines411®** is an online vaccination clinic locator which also includes reliable immunization resources for Canadians to easily find the vaccination resources they need.



**People 65 years of age and older who are medically frail with multiple chronic (long-term) unstable medical conditions might have an increased risk for these types of serious side effects after receiving IXCHIQ®.**

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking IXCHIQ®. If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.

### ARE YOU READY?

**HELP PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST THE CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS. LEARN MORE BY SPEAKING TO YOUR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL, SUCH AS A DOCTOR, NURSE OR PHARMACIST, OR VISITING A VACCINATION CLINIC, BEFORE YOUR NEXT TRIP TO SEE IF IXCHIQ® IS RIGHT FOR YOU.**

TO LEARN MORE,  
VISIT [IXCHIQ.CA](https://ixchiq.ca)



Individuals with the following conditions should discuss vaccination with their physician: persons with any conditions impacting your overall fitness, and the stability of these conditions; persons allergic to a component of IXCHIQ®; persons with a bleeding disorder or a reduction in blood platelets; persons with a weakened immune system; persons with any illness with a fever (temp. >38.0°C); persons that take any medications.

You should not use IXCHIQ® if you have or may have an immunodeficiency or immunosuppression (e.g., from malignancies such as cancers arising from abnormal blood or bone marrow cells and solid tumors, recent chemotherapy, immunodeficiency from birth, long-term immunosuppressive therapy for chronic conditions such as autoimmune disorders or organ transplants, or HIV infection with immunocompromised state); you are allergic to any of the ingredients in the vaccine; you are pregnant – women of child-bearing potential should be advised to avoid pregnancy for one month following vaccination.

Severe reactogenicity or chikungunya-like adverse reactions may lead to a worsening of the general condition including a general feeling of discomfort and decreased appetite, worsening of preexisting diseases, confusional state, encephalopathy, or encephalitis leading to falls, hospitalization and death. Vaccinees should promptly seek medical attention if they experience, after vaccination, symptoms mentioned here.

For cases received post-marketing indicative of chikungunya-like adverse reactions, the most frequent symptoms reported in combination with fever were headache (51% of reports), arthralgia (41%), fatigue (38%) and myalgia (35%), pain (19%) and chills (19%).

As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment and supervision should always be available to treat rare cases of anaphylactic reactions following the administration of the vaccine. IXCHIQ® must never be injected into a vein or any blood vessel. As with any other vaccine, vaccination with IXCHIQ® may not result in protection in all cases. Like other intramuscular injections, this vaccine should not be administered intramuscularly to persons with thrombocytopenia, hemophilia or other bleeding disorders.

If you have a medically-confirmed weak immune system (immunodeficiency) or if you are taking medicines that can undermine the immune system (e.g., high-dose corticosteroids, drugs for rheumatoid arthritis or cancer drugs), IXCHIQ® should not be given as it is a live vaccine.

Talk to your healthcare professional without delay if you experience the following uncommon side effects: difficulty breathing, hoarseness or wheezing, hives, dizziness, weakness or fast heartbeat.

These are not all the possible side effects you may have when taking IXCHIQ®. If you have a troublesome symptom or side effect that is not listed here or becomes bad enough to interfere with your daily activities, tell your healthcare professional.

Visit [Valneva.ca](https://valneva.ca) to view the Consumer Information leaflet for IXCHIQ®.

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