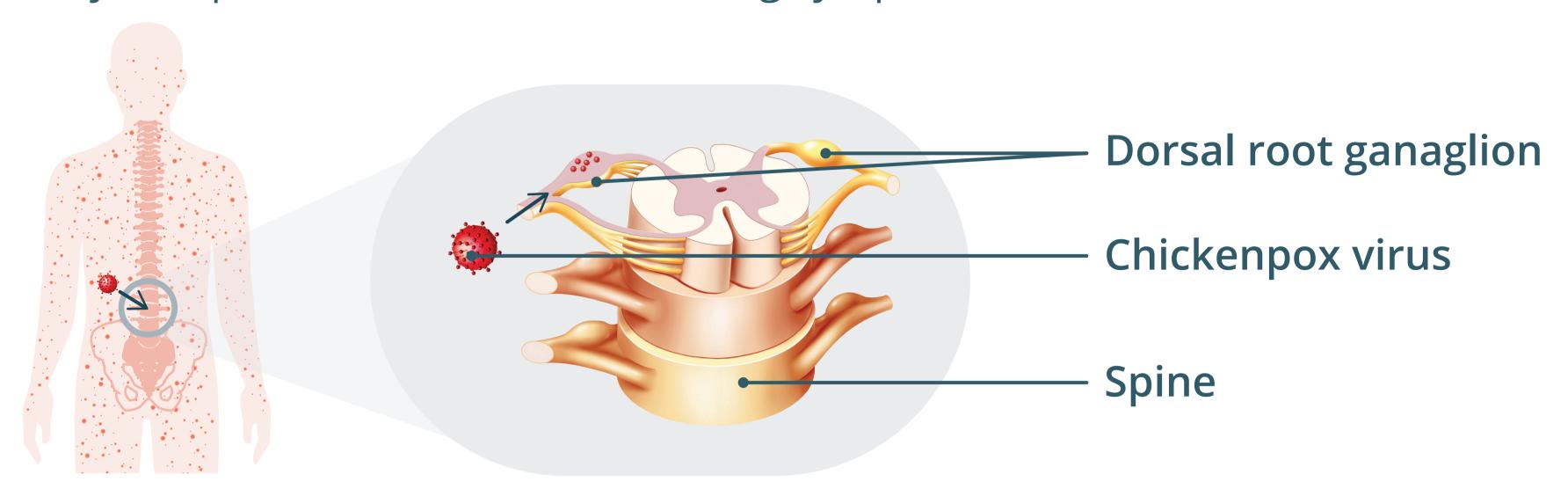
How shingles and chickenpox spread



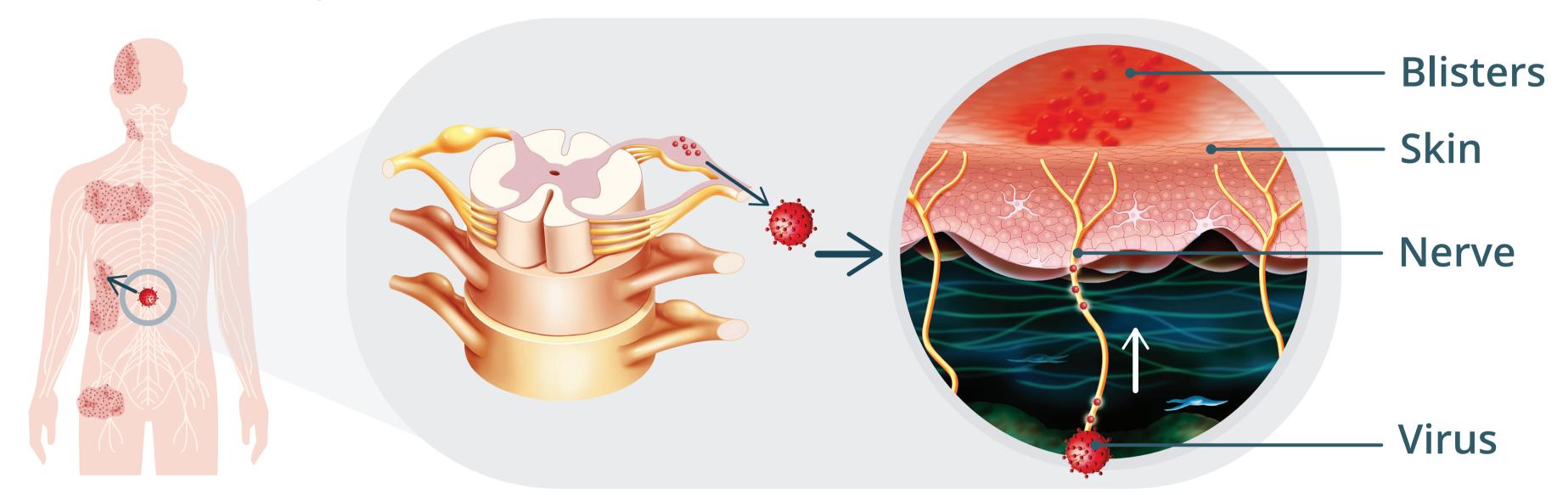
1 Chickenpox virus

The chickenpox (varicella-zoster) virus can become dormant and remain in your spinal nerves, without causing symptoms.



2 Shingles

When the dormant virus becomes active, it travels along the nerve to the skin, causing blisters.



3 Spread

If you have never had chickenpox before, it is possible to catch chickenpox from someone who has shingles. The virus spreads through the fluid in the shingles blisters.

