

What is BCG vaccination?

Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) is an injection to help protect your baby against Tuberculosis (TB).

What is Tuberculosis (TB)?

This is an infectious disease which often affects the lungs but can affect other parts of the body. It can cause serious illness, for example TB meningitis in children.

Why has my baby been offered and had BCG today?

Your baby has a parent or grandparent from a country that has high rates of TB. (For example, Africa, India and Russia),

or

- someone in the family has had TB in the last 5 years

or

- the baby will be traveling for more than 3 months to a country that has high rates of TB.

BCG

In the UK we offer BCG to babies who we think are more likely to be exposed to TB. The BCG injection is thought to be 70% effective in preventing TB.

Since 2005, we no longer routinely give BCG to secondary school children.

How did you give my baby the BCG?

Your baby will receive an injection in the upper part of their left arm.

We only give a BCG injection once. If your baby receives another appointment please phone **0141 201 4932** to cancel.

Side effects

2 – 6 weeks after the injection a small spot may appear at the injection site. This may disappear or develop into a blister which will burst. This blistered area may leak some fluid and take several weeks, sometimes months to heal leaving a small scar. This is completely normal.

What to do if your baby has a blister?

You should wash and bath your baby as normal.

Do not cover the area with cream or baby oil.

Do not cover the area with plasters while the skin is broken.

Your baby should not have any other injections in this arm for 3 months.



Your baby will not receive BCG today if:

- they have a fever and acutely unwell
- either parent is HIV positive until they have further investigations or tests
- they have been in contact with someone who has had TB.

Children aged 6 yrs or over, will require a Tuberculin, (Mantoux), skin test before BCG.

Children under 6 yrs who have spent time in a high risk country will be risk assessed on a case by case basis by the TB Nurse Specialist for the need to perform a skin test before BCG.

Red Book (Child's Health Record)

Your 'Red Book' has been signed today by the practitioner immunising your baby.

If you didn't bring your 'Red Book' to the appointment today please show this leaflet to your Health Visitor after the BCG so they can update the Red Book.



Name: _____
CHI: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
BCG was given into LEFT RIGHT ARM
On: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
At: _____
By: _____

BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guérin) Vaccination

There should be no other injections into the same site for 3 months.

For more information or advice please contact your local TB Nurse Specialist

Queen Elizabeth University Hospital	
South Area/ Renfrewshire	0141 451 5862
Gartnavel General Hospital	
West Area	0141 232 2161
Glasgow Royal Infirmary	
North and East Area	0141 201 3902 0141 201 3901

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