

Your child's BCG vaccine for protection against tuberculosis (TB)

TB Nursing Service

Information for Parents/Carers

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Introduction

Tuberculosis (TB) is a serious infection that affects the lungs and sometimes other parts of the body, such as the brain (meningitis), bones, joints and kidneys.

Tuberculosis (TB) is still a threat to health, but protection against tuberculosis is given by BCG immunisation. The BCG vaccine is not given to every child as part of the routine childhood immunisations. It is only given on the NHS when a child is thought to have an increased risk of coming into contact with TB.

Why does my child need the BCG vaccine?

Your child has been assessed as needing the vaccine as they:

- have a parent or grandparent who was born in a country where there's a high rate of TB, live with, or are close contacts of, someone with infectious TB.
- are born in areas of the UK where TB rates are high
- have a history of TB in the family

The list of countries identified as high incidence of TB can be found at - www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-tb-by-country-rates-per-100000-people.

This immunisation is not available from your family doctor. We aim to give the BCG immunisation within 28 days and this can be given at any time in the immunisation programme.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

If your child has the BCG immunisation, research shows that it should give 70 to 80% protection against TB. The BCG vaccine is only be given once in the UK. We prioritise young children as their risk of developing serious TB disease is greater if they are exposed to TB.

The vaccine will not make your child feel ill.

How is the BCG vaccine given?

The BCG immunisation is given as a special injection in the upper left arm. At the clinic appointment you will be asked a set of questions to check your child is well enough to have the immunisation. You will be asked to expose your child's left arm only.

What are the side effects?

Side effects can include:

- a small white blister where it has been given and this will fade.
- after 2 to 6 weeks a small raised spot usually appears, at the site of the injection. this will gradually heal.
- Sometimes the child may develop a shallow spot which may leak a little fluid.

You only need to cover this with a dry dressing not a plaster and can take several months to heal. This is normal so try not to worry. If you are worried or think the site has become infected, see your doctor.

Can my child have their other childhood vaccines?

- Your child should **not** have any other immunisations in the left arm for **3 months** after having BCG.
- Your child **can** have other childhood immunisations or immunisations for travel after having had BCG. The travel immunisations **must** be given in the right arm.
- Live vaccines, such as rotavirus, live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), oral typhoid vaccine, yellow fever, varicella, zoster and MMR **can be given at any time before or after BCG vaccination.**



UK Health
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Quick links

TB, BCG and your baby

The BCG vaccine is given to babies to protect them from tuberculosis

You can scan the leaflet below, or ask for a paper copy of the leaflet, if you cannot scan a digital version.

English






<https://qrco.de/TBCGEN>

Instructions

Enter the web address into your phone or scan the QR code.

You can then add an icon to the home screen of your phone. This enables you to click on the icon to go straight to the screening information, just like an app. Finding the add to home screen option depends on what phone you have and how old it is. If you need help, search online for what to do for your specific phone.

For newer iPhones, click on the share icon  at the bottom of the screen. Scroll up or left and select add to home screen, then add.

For newer Android phones, click on the menu icon (3 dots  or lines ). Select add to home screen, then add.

Bengali



<https://qrco.de/tbcgBen>

Farsi



<https://qrco.de/tbcgfarsi>

Gujarati



<https://qrco.de/tbcgGuj>

Hindi



<https://qrco.de/tbcgHin>

Nepali



<https://qrco.de/tbcgnep>

Panjabi



<https://qrco.de/tbcgpan>

Pashto



<https://qrco.de/tbcgpas>

Somali



<https://qrco.de/tbcgsom>

Tamil



<https://qrco.de/tbcgtam>

Ukrainian



<https://qrco.de/tbcguk>

Urdu



<https://qrco.de/bcgur>



Further information

- The Green Book - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-the-green-book-chapter-32>
- Who should have the BCG (TB) vaccine? - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/when-is-bcg-tb-vaccine-needed/>
- The NHS leaflet 'TB, BCG and your baby leaflet' can be seen here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tb-bcg-and-your-baby-leaflet>. This is also available in other languages. Page 3 has QR codes which you can scan with your smart phone for quick access to this leaflet.

Contact details

If you need to change your appointment or feel you do not want your baby to have the BCG vaccination you can call the BCG appointment line on 0116 258 7643.

If you have any more questions about eligibility or the vaccine please feel free to talk to the TB Nursing Service on 0116 258 3767.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।
Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk