

BCG IMMUNISATION

INDICATIONS

Countries with incidence of TB >40/100,000

Afghanistan	Cape Verde	Georgia	Malaysia	Paraguay	Timor-Leste
Algeria	Central African Republic	Ghana	Maldives	Peru	Togo
Angola	Chad	Guatemala	Mali	Philippines	Tokelau
Armenia	China	Guinea	Marshall Islands	Qatar	Turkmenistan
Azerbaijan	China, Hong Kong SAR	Guinea-Bissau	Mauritania	Rep. of Korea	Tuvalu
Bahrain	China, Macao SAR	Guyana	Micronesia	Rep. of Moldova	Uganda
Bangladesh	Colombia	Haiti	Mongolia	Romania	Ukraine
Belarus	Comoros	Honduras	Morocco	Russian Federation	UR Tanzania
Belize	Congo	India	Mozambique	Rwanda	Uzbekistan
Benin	Côte d'Ivoire	Indonesia	Myanmar	Sao Tome & Principe	Vanuatu
Bhutan	Croatia	Iraq	Namibia	Saudi Arabia	Venezuela
Bolivia	Djibouti	Kazakhstan	Nauru	Senegal	Vietnam
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Dominican Republic	Kenya	Nepal	Sierra Leone	Wallis & Futuna
Botswana	DPR Korea	Kiribati	Nicaragua	Solomon Islands	Yemen
Brazil	DR Congo	Kyrgyzstan	Niger	Somalia	Zambia
Brunei	Ecuador	Lao PDR	Nigeria	South Africa	Zimbabwe
Darussalam	El Salvador	Latvia	Niue	Sri Lanka	
Bulgaria	Equatorial Guinea	Lesotho	Northern Mariana Islands	Sudan	
Burkina Faso	Eritrea	Liberia	Pakistan	Suriname	
Burundi	Ethiopia	Lithuania	Palau	Swaziland	
Cambodia	Gabon	Madagascar	Panama	Tajikistan	
Cameroon	Gambia	Malawi	Papua New Guinea	Thailand	

www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAweb&HPAwebStandard/HPAweb_C/1195733837507

Parts of UK with incidence TB >40/100,000

Newham LB	Hounslow LB	Redbridge LB	Camden LB
Brent LB	Tower Hamlets LB	Southwark LB	Greenwich LB
Ealing LB	Slough UA	Waltham Forest LB	Luton UA
Leicester UA	Harrow LB	Islington LB	
Hackney LB	Hillingdon LB	Hammersmith and Fulham LB	
Haringey LB	Lambeth LB	Blackburn with Darwen UA	

www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAweb&HPAwebStandard/HPAweb_C/1226565423990

Tuberculin testing not necessary unless baby has been in recent contact with tuberculosis or has resided in high-incidence country for >3 months

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Temperature >38°C
- Severe eczema ([give at suitable lesion-free site](#))
- Neonate in household where an active TB case suspected or confirmed
- Immunodeficient or on high-dose [corticosteroids](#)
- HIV positive, living in UK
- if mother HIV positive, give vaccine only after infant has had negative proviral DNA PCR test for HIV after 3 months of age
- [encourage maternal HIV testing but do not withhold BCG if mother declines testing](#)

SPECIAL CASES

- No need to delay routine vaccinations
- BCG can be given simultaneously with other vaccines but not in same arm
- no further immunisation should be given in the arm used for BCG immunisation for at least three months because of the risk of regional lymphadenitis

Babies born to mothers with infectious tuberculosis (sputum AFB positive)

- [Start isoniazid 5 mg/kg daily](#)
- [Send placental specimen for TB culture](#)
- [if TB isolated, give baby TB treatment for 6 months](#)
- Tuberculin test after 3 months
- if negative, give BCG
- if positive, assess baby for active TB. If assessment negative, continue isoniazid for 6 months
- Babies can breast feed

EQUIPMENT

- Consent form
- Alcohol hand gel
- Injection tray
- BCG vaccine
- Solvent (comes with BCG vaccine)
- 1 mL syringe
- Brown (26 FG 0.45 x 10 mm) or orange needle (3/8 inch 25 FG 0.5 x 10 mm)
- Green needle 21 FG 1 inch
- Cotton wool balls
- Foil dish for cotton wool balls
- Non-woven gauze
- Sharps container
- Bags for clinical waste

PROCEDURE

Consent

- [Community midwife to record if risk factor antenatally](#)
- [Postnatal check for risk factor](#)
- Ensure infant within inclusion group
- Give mother information on vaccine
- Give appropriate language leaflet **BCG and your baby; protecting babies against TB**, available from www.immunisation.org.uk order line: 08701 555 455 email: dh@prolog.uk.com
- DH guidelines state written consent not required but follow local practice

Injection

Only staff trained to give intradermal injections to give BCG

- **Only staff with training to give intradermal injections**
- At insertion of deltoid muscle near middle of left upper arm
- The dose for infants under 12 months is 0.05 mL ([note: vial contains 20 doses](#))

DOCUMENTATION

- Complete 'Unscheduled vaccine form' or letter with batch number, vaccine name and site of immunisation
- Send to local TB Service/Public Health Department
- Keep a local record
- Enter in Red Book on relevant page

SEQUELAE

- Scar
 - within 2-6 wk a small papule will appear
 - sometimes, this ulcerates and can ooze
 - site need not be protected from water
 - do not cover with an impervious dressing
 - can take several months to heal
 - occasionally persists as keloid (particularly if given [superior to](#) insertion of deltoid)
- Adenitis:
 - a minor degree of adenitis can occur in the weeks following BCG
 - local abscess
 - no treatment indicated
- Rare sequelae:
 - chronic suppurative lymphadenopathy
 - disseminated disease, if immunocompromised
 - osteitis
 - refer to infectious diseases specialist