

## **What is BCG vaccination?**

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.

### **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 give BCG to secondary school children.

## **Why are you offering my baby a BCG?**

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**

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

## **How do you give my baby the BCG?**

We will give your baby an injection in the upper part of their left arm.

We may do this when your baby is born or ask you to bring your baby to an outpatient clinic within the first few months of their birth

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.

## **What to do if your baby has a blister?**

You should wash and bathe your baby as normal



Do not cover the area with cream, baby oil and plasters while the skin is broken

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

## **We will not give your baby a BCG if:**

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

## **Red Book (Child's Health Record)**

If you have a 'Red Book' from your Health Visitor, please bring this to the BCG appointment.

If you don't have a Red Book please show this leaflet to your Health Visitor after the BCG so they can update the Red Book

Your baby can start their routine vaccinations at two months regardless of when they have a BCG

Name .....		
CHI	<input type="text"/>	
BCG was given into	LEFT/RIGHT	ARM/THIGH
on	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
at	.....	
by	.....	
<b><i>There should be no other injections into the same site for 3 months</i></b>		

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

<b>Queen Elizabeth University Hospital South/Renfrewshire/Inverclyde Areas</b>	
Lesley Ritchie SGH	0141 451 5862
<b>New Victoria Infirmary South/Renfrewshire/Inverclyde Areas</b>	
Lynda Darroch	0141 347 8846
<b>Glasgow Royal Infirmary North East/South Areas</b>	
Una Lees Ellen McGeough	0141 211 4958
<b>Gartnavel General Hospital West Area</b>	
Catriona Paterson	0141 232 2161

Information for parents about the

## **BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guérin) Vaccination**

