

Vaccine against tuberculosis (BCG)

What is it?

The tuberculosis vaccine is a live attenuated vaccine for the prevention of tuberculosis, administered in a single dose by intradermic injection into the left arm.

When is it administered?

The tuberculosis vaccine is administered to newborns, belonging to risk groups, should take place in the maternity ward or as soon as possible.

What reactions result from the vaccine?

The newborn has a papule at the vaccine injection site, which disappears after half an hour. Later it can appear:

- A red nodule that develops into a blister, followed by an ulcer, within 2 to 4 weeks. This reaction disappears in 2 to 5 months, leaving a superficial scar with a diameter of 2 to 10mm.
- Occasionally slight swelling of the axillary lymph nodes may occur, about 2 to 4 months after vaccination. They do not need any treatment, it is the normal evolution.

What care should be taken after vaccination?

It is not necessary to perform any kind of treatment on the arm, nothing should be placed on the injection site in order to facilitate healing; The application of any pomade or product is not indicated.

How is the vaccination control performed?

Health professionals control and verify the existence of vaccine scars in the first months of life.

Note: When you go to the health unit, you must have the following essential documents with you - citizen card, individual child and adolescent health bulletin.



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