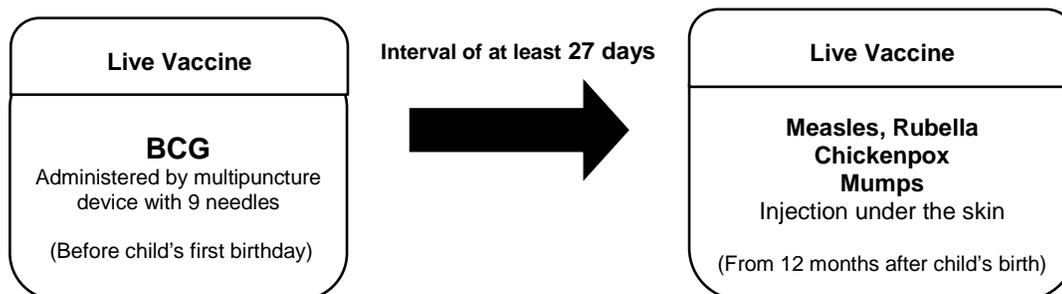


BCG Vaccination – Before the vaccination (英語版)

The BCG vaccine is a live vaccine. First, please confirm which vaccinations are scheduled before and after the BCG vaccine. On the day of the vaccination, please be sure to bring the following: **Maternal and Child Health Handbook, vaccination voucher book, and BCG Vaccination Application Form and Pre-Examination Questionnaire (blue form)**. If you forget to bring the Maternal and Child Health Handbook and we cannot confirm the details of the previous vaccinations, we may not be able to administer the vaccine.

◆ Changes to vaccination schedules came into effect from October 2020 as follows:



There are no longer interval restrictions between the **inactivated vaccine** and **live oral vaccine**.

Be sure to confirm that at least 27 days have passed between **live intradermal vaccines!**

Before the day of the BCG vaccination

- If the child is currently undergoing treatment or a follow-up

Confirm with your primary care physician beforehand whether the child is allowed to receive the BCG vaccination. If the child has been diagnosed with any congenital conditions related to the heart, the kidneys or the cranial nerves, or with congenital immunodeficiency, please **inform in advance the medical institution where the vaccination is scheduled**.

- If the child has a rash or a wound on their upper arm

The vaccine will be injected into the upper arm (in the middle of the outer side, slightly below the shoulder). If the child has a rash or a wound in that area for which you are applying some kind of medication other than moisturizer*, please apply the medication up to the day before, but not on the day of, the vaccination. If your primary care physician has instructed you to apply the medication every day, please consult with the medical institution where your child's vaccination is scheduled.

- On the day of the vaccination, be sure to bring your prescription record book.

*Only moisturizers which do not contain any steroids

- Even if your primary care physician has told you that the child is able to receive the vaccination, the final decision will be made by the doctor who administers the vaccination.

BCG vaccination - Precautions

Please refrain from breastfeeding 30 minutes before and after vaccination to prevent the baby from spitting up or vomiting milk.

To allow the injection site to dry cleanly, please mind the following:

- Parents/guardians with long hair must tie their hair up to avoid contact of hair with the injection site.
- Let the injection site dry naturally without touching it. (It will take about 10 minutes to dry.)
- Avoid contact of clothes, towels and bags with the injection site.
- Before putting on clothes, let staff check if the injection site is dry.

After the injection site has dried, prevent the child from scratching or rubbing it.

The child can take a bath on the day of the vaccination, but rubbing the injection site must be avoided when washing the child's body.

Not only limited to BCG vaccination, in rare cases there may be symptoms of shock immediately after the vaccination (such as sweating, swelling, rash, nausea and heavy breathing). Please watch the child's condition for 30 minutes after vaccination.

The injection site is in the middle of the upper arm's outer side (slightly below the shoulder). This is a safe site and the scarring by the needles is relatively small.

BCG Vaccination - After the vaccination

BCG vaccination scar - normal healing process

- After the vaccination, the injection points may become red and swell a few millimeters for about three to five weeks. The tips of the swelling will turn yellowish (small amount of pus) and a scab will form. This will disappear naturally, and you should not use any ointment for this.
- After this, the scab will fall off and the scar will still protrude for three to four months but will gradually become thinner.

Koch's phenomenon

Koch's phenomenon is a series of reactions at the injection site which are observed in people who have been infected with TB. Within three days after the vaccination, extreme redness will occur and pus starts to accumulate in the scar. About five to seven days after the vaccination, a scab will form. In this case, a tuberculosis test is required. Please consult with the medical institution which administered the vaccination. However, redness often occurs temporarily after the vaccination even without TB infection. Therefore, if the baby shows no change of mood or milk drinking habits, there is no need for emergency consultation. If, after five to seven days, there is neither redness nor scab, the reaction is considered to be temporary. Please continue to check if the reaction is within the normal range (slight redness and swelling at the injection points that can last for about three to five weeks after the vaccination).

Adverse reactions

- Fever on the day of the BCG vaccination is relatively rare.
- About one to two cases of the following rare adverse reactions have been observed in Kobe per year:
 1. Swelling of lymph nodes, 2. Rash
 1. Swelling of lymph nodes: On the side where the vaccine was administered, swelling of the lymph nodes below the armpit may occur. This is often observed more than two months after the vaccination (usually three to six months after the vaccination). It may be accompanied by a discharge of pus. Nothing more than careful cleaning is required, and it will return to normal within about half a year.
 2. Rash: A few months after the vaccination, a BCG-related rash (spots) may appear outside the site of vaccination.
- * Both 1 and 2 do not require any special treatment in most cases. If the baby shows no change of mood or milk drinking habits, there will usually be no problems.
- Almost no cases have been reported in Kobe, but it has been observed that lesions (granulomas under the skin) may form near the vaccination scars. Such cases may require treatment, so please consult with a dermatologist and contact the medical institution that administered the vaccine.
- If you are worried about adverse reactions, please consult the medical institution where the vaccination was administered.
- If you feel that there is anything unusual, please consult the medical institution where the vaccination was administered.

