

BCG VACCINE (FREEZE DRIED) INTRADERMAL

NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT
BACILLUS CALMETTE-GUERIN VACCINE
(FREEZE DRIED) IP (LIVE ATTENUATED)
and diluent for injection..

QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Reconstitute with 1.0 mL of Sodium Chloride Injection (0.9% w/v)

Dose:

After reconstitution a dose of 0.05mL for children up to 1 month, equivalent to 0.1 to 0.4 million CFU and a dose of 0.1mL for children over 1 month and adults, equivalent to 0.2 to 0.8 million CFU.

Route of administration is Intradermal.

National recommendation should be considered at the time of immunization.

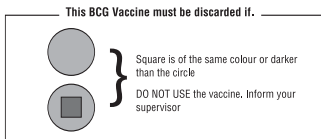
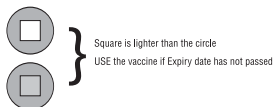
Each vial has Vaccine Vial Monitor (VVM); VVMs are time-temperature sensitive indicators in the form of small (dot) adhesive labels that are applied to individual vial of vaccine.

It is a circle of colour with a square indicator positioned in the center of the circle. The circle of the VVM acts as a static reference colour and the sequence is an active colour change in the square. At the start point the colour of the square is lighter than the circle. The end point is indicated when the colour of the square matches the circle.

The end point is exceeded when the colour of the square is darker than the circle. Once registered, the change in the colour of the indicator is irreversible.

Guidelines on the use of BCG VACCINE IP with VVM

This BCG Vaccine can be used as long as:



PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

BCG Vaccine (Freeze Dried) IP and Diluent for injection. Vaccine is a White Crystalline powder (might be difficult to see due to the small amount of powder in the vial). The diluent is a colourless solution without any visible particles.

CLINICAL PARTICULARS

Therapeutic indications

Active immunization against tuberculosis. BCG Vaccine is to be used on the basis of National official recommendations.

POSOLOGY AND METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION

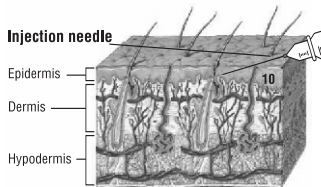
POSOLOGY:

Infant up to 1 month of age :

A dose of 0.05mL of the reconstituted vaccine is injected strictly by the intradermal route Children over 1 month and adults:

A dose of 0.1mL of the reconstituted vaccine is injected strictly by the intradermal route.

Method of Administration:



The injection site should be clean and dry. If antiseptics (such as alcohol) are applied to swab the skin, they should be allowed to evaporate completely before the injection is made.

BCG vaccine should be administered by personnel trained in intradermal technique. The vaccine should be injected strictly intradermally in the arm, over the distal insertion of the deltoid muscle onto the humerus (approx. one third down the upper arm), as follows:

- The skin is stretched between thumb and forefinger
- The needle should be almost parallel with the skin surface and slowly inserted (bevel upwards), approximately 2 mm into the superficial layers of the dermis
- The needle should be visible through the epidermis during insertion
- The injection is given slowly
- The injection site is best left uncovered to facilitate healing

BCG Vaccine should be administered with a syringe of 1.0 mL sub-graduated into hundredths of mL (1/100 mL) fitted with a short beveled needle (25 G / 0.50 mm or 26 G / 0.45 mm). Jet injectors or multiple puncture devices should not be used to administer the vaccine.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

BCG Vaccine should not be administered to individuals known to be hypersensitive to any component of the vaccine.

Normally, the vaccination should be postponed in persons with pyrexia or generalized infected skin conditions. Eczema is not a contraindication, but the vaccine site should be lesion-free.

BCG Vaccine should not be given to persons receiving systemic corticosteroids or immunosuppressive treatment, including radiotherapy, to those suffering from malignant conditions (e.g., Lymphoma, Leukemia, Hodgkin's disease or other tumors of the reticulo-endothelial system), those with HIV-infection, including infants born to HIV-positive mothers.

The reaction to BCG vaccination may be exaggerated in these patients, and a generalized BCG infection is possible.

BCG Vaccine should not be given to patients who are receiving anti-tuberculosis drugs.

SPECIAL WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Although anaphylaxis is rare, facilities for its management should always be available during vaccination. Whenever possible, patients should be observed for an allergic reaction for up to 15-20 minutes after receiving immunization. Injections made too deeply, increase the risk of lymphadenitis and abscess formation.

INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER MEDICINAL PRODUCTS AND OTHER FORMS OF INTERACTION

Intradermal BCG vaccination may be given concurrently with inactivated or live vaccines.

Other vaccines to be given at the same time as BCG Vaccine should not be given into the same arm. If not given at the same time an interval of not less than four weeks should normally be allowed to lapse between the administrations of any two live vaccines.

It is advisable not to give further vaccination in the arm used for BCG vaccination for 3 months because of the risk of regional lymphadenitis.

UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS

The expected reaction to successful vaccination with BCG Vaccine includes induration at the injection site followed by a local lesion that may ulcerate some weeks later and heal over some months leaving a small, flat scar. It may also include enlargement of a regional lymph node to < 1cm.

Undesirable effects of the vaccine include the following:

An excessive response to the BCG Vaccine may result in a discharging ulcer. This may be attributable to inadvertent subcutaneous injection or to excessive dosage. The ulcer should be encouraged to dry and abrasion (by tight clothes, for example) avoided.

Uncommon (>1/1000, <1/100)	Systemic Headache, fever. Local: Enlargement of regional lymph node >1 cm. Ulceration with a discharging ulcer at the site of injection.
Rare (<1/100)	Systemic Disseminated BCG complications as osteitis or osteomyelitis Allergic reactions, including anaphylactic reactions. Local: Suppurative lymphadenitis, abscess formation.

Expert advice should be sought regarding the appropriate treatment regimen for the management of systemic infections or persistent local infections following BCG vaccination.

OVERDOSE

Overdose increases the risk of suppurative lymphadenitis and may lead to excessive scar formation. Gross over dosage increases the risk of undesirable BCG complications.

PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

Vaccination with BCG Vaccine elicits a cell-mediated immune response that confers a variable degree of protection to infection with M. tuberculosis. The duration of immunity after BCG vaccination is not known, but there are some indications of a waning immunity after 10 years.

Vaccinated persons normally become tuberculin positive after 6 weeks.

A positive tuberculin test indicates a response of the immune system to prior BCG vaccination or to a mycobacterial infection. However the relationship between the post vaccination tuberculin test reaction and the degree of protection afforded by BCG remains unclear.

PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

List of excipients: Sodium glutamate
Diluent: Sodium Chloride Injection IP (0.9% w/v)

Incompatibilities

BCG Vaccine should not be mixed with other medicinal products.

Shelf life

24 months from the date of manufacturing, if the product is rightly stored as recommended in the storage condition. From a microbiological point of view the product should be used immediately after reconstitution.

Special precautions for storage

The vaccine should be stored at 5 ± 3 °C (before and after reconstitution) Do not freeze. Store in original package in order to protect from light.

Nature and Contents of container

BCG Vaccine in amber Type I glass vial with bromobutyl stopper and aluminium flip off. 1.0 mL of diluent Sodium Chloride Injection IP (0.9% w/v) in Type I glass ampoule.

One Vial of reconstituted vaccine contains 1mL, corresponding 20 doses (0.05mL) for infants up to one month or 10 doses (0.1mL) for children over 1 month and adults.

INSTRUCTION FOR USE AND HANDLING

Reconstitution:

Only diluent provided with the BCG Vaccine should be used for reconstitution.

The rubber stopper must not be wiped with any antiseptic or detergent. If alcohol is used to swab the rubber stopper of the vial, it must be allowed to evaporate before the stopper is penetrated with the syringe needle.

The vaccine should be visually inspected both before and after reconstitution for any foreign particulate matter and also prior to the administration Using a syringe fitted with a long needle, transfer to the vial the volume of diluent given on the label. Carefully invert the vial a few times to resuspend the Freeze Dried BCG completely. DO NOT SHAKE. Gently swirl the vial of resuspended vaccine before drawing up each subsequent dose. When drawn up into the syringe the vaccine suspension should appear homogeneous, slightly opaque.

The vaccine should be used immediately after reconstitution. Any unused vaccine or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.



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