



Public Health
England



Information for parents in London

TB, BCG vaccine and your baby

In the UK, like many other countries, BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guérin) vaccine is offered to babies who are likely to come into contact with someone with tuberculosis (TB).

This includes babies who live in an area with high rates of TB or babies with parents or grandparents from a country with high rates of TB.



 **immunisation**

the safest way to protect your child

Since 2016, many London maternity wards offered BCG to all babies because the rates of TB were higher than in other parts of the country. However, the number of people with TB in London has fallen year on year for the last 8 years.

Therefore, from September 2020, BCG will no longer be available to every baby born in London. Babies who live in an area with high rates of TB or babies with parents or grandparents from a country with high rates of TB will continue to be offered the BCG vaccine. The BCG vaccine will be provided in community clinics.

From September 2020, if you answer 'Yes' to any of the following questions, your midwife, health visitor or GP will refer your baby to a community BCG vaccination clinic:

- Does your baby, the baby's mother, father or grandparents, or anyone who lives with you, come from a country with a high rate of TB*?
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- Will you and your baby be going to live or to stay with friends and family in one of these countries?
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- Does anyone who lives with you, or who spends a lot of time with your baby, have TB now or had TB in the past?
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- Do you live in the London Borough of Newham?
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* www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-tb-by-country-rates-per-100000-people