**Health Visiting**

**Guidance for BCG immunisation**

Early identification and referral of children who are eligible for a BCG vaccine is key in the strategy to prevent the transmission of TB.

**New Born Babies**

Therefore it is important that during the new birth contact, between days 10 -16, the Health Visitor checks and documents the baby’s BCG status.

If the baby has not been immunised or has not received an appointment to be immunised, and is from an eligible group. The Health Visitor should refer the child to Carfax Medical Centre BCG clinic.

The BCG status should be checked again at the 6 week contact, documented and referred again if an appointment has not been received or attended.

**Older children**

Any children seen for a transfer in visit must also have their BCG status checked and documented. If they have not been vaccinated and come from a high risk area or have contact with others from high risk areas they should be referred for vaccination.

**Supporting Information**

**Eligibility questions:**

• Are you, your family or your baby’s father or his family from a country with high rates of TB?

• Will you and your baby be going to live for more than three months or travel frequently in one of these countries in the near future?

• Is there anyone in your house, or anyone else who is likely to have prolonged contact with your baby, who either has TB, or has had it in the past, or comes from one of these countries?



If you are unsure of high risk countries the World Health Organisation list can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/581013/WHO_estimates_of_tuberculosis_incidence_by_country__2015.pdf>

If parents require information a parent leaflet is available online which discusses the reason for BCG and outlines eligibility criteria. It is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/469555/PHE_8584_TB_BCG_8_page_DL_leaflet_2015_09_web.pdf>

**Referrals can be made by:**

* Phone 01793 546030
* Using the community health referral form, this can be found on the N Drive under master referral forms.

The form should be returned to:

Carfax medical Centre, Swindon NHS Health Centre, 1st Floor, 1 Islington Street, Swindon, SN1 2 DQ

**BCG Immunisation Flow chart- New born Babies**

**Date of review:** 30 June 2017

**Reviewed by (name & role):** Liz Wiltshire Professional Lead for Health Visiting

In liaison with Dr Ayoola Oyinloye, Consultant in Public Health Medicine

**Review date** June 2018