

# Travel Clinics – BCG & Travel Vaccines

It is recommended for families to have a travel vaccine consultation at least 6 weeks before departure to allow adequate time for the various vaccines to be given and for the vaccine to be effective.

## Public Hospital BCG clinics

### Royal Children's Hospital

Royal Children's Hospital  
50 Flemington Road, Parkville, 3052  
T: 1300 882 924 (option 3)  
W: <https://www.rch.org.au/immunisation/clinics/>

A general practitioner or specialist referral is required to attend this clinic.

RCH runs an outpatient clinic once a week that provides BCG vaccine to infants less than 12 months. This is held on Tuesday mornings (9.00am – 12.30pm). Due to the worldwide shortage of BCG vaccine, appointments are limited as the RCH only has a limited amount of vaccine supply.

### Monash Health

BCG clinic for children with GP referral  
Monash Medical Centre - Clayton  
Level 2 – Main Building  
246 Clayton Road, Clayton VIC 3168  
E: [immunisation@monashhealth.org](mailto:immunisation@monashhealth.org)  
T: 9594 6320  
Pager: 4488 via switchboard 9594 6666  
F: 9594 6325

## Private BCG clinics

A number of RCH Pediatricians also provide private outpatient clinic appointments, which includes BCG vaccine delivery and other travel advice. Due to the worldwide shortage of BCG vaccine, appointments are limited as the private clinics only have a limited amount of vaccine supply.

### Melbourne Children's Travel Clinic

*Professor Nigel Curtis, Dr Amanda Gwee*

Suite 4.3 (level 4)  
48 Flemington Rd, Parkville, 3052 *Adjacent to the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne*  
E: [info@melbournepaediaticspecialists.com.au](mailto:info@melbournepaediaticspecialists.com.au)  
T: 9948 5005  
F: 8376 6246  
W: <http://www.melbournepaediaticspecialists.com.au/bcg-vaccine-available/>

### Associate Professor Mike Starr

Suite 1.3 (level 1)  
48 Flemington Rd, Parkville, 3052 *Adjacent to the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne*  
T: 9345 5289  
F: 9347 6806

# Children's Private Medical Group

*Dr Nigel Crawford, Dr Teresa Lazzaro, Dr Shidan Tosif, Dr Fiona Russell*

Suite 3.3 (level 3)

48 Flemington Road, Parkville, 3052 *Adjacent to the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne*

E: [reception@cpmgmelbourne.com.au](mailto:reception@cpmgmelbourne.com.au)

T: 9345 6688

F: 9345 6100

W: [www.cpmgmelbourne.com.au](http://www.cpmgmelbourne.com.au)

## FITS Clinic (Family Immunisation and Travel Specialists) – Cabrini

Cabrini Mother and Baby Centre

Level 2 – 183 Wattletree Road, Malvern 3144

E: [info@fitsclinic.com](mailto:info@fitsclinic.com)

T: 9508 6000

F: 9508 6198

W: [www.fitsclinic.com](http://www.fitsclinic.com)

## Offspring Child Health Specialists

*Dr Shidan Tosif*

614 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn, 3122

E: [reception@offspringhealth.com](mailto:reception@offspringhealth.com)

T: 1800 KIDS DR (1800 5437 37)

F: 9815 1115

W: [www.offspringhealth.com](http://www.offspringhealth.com)



## What to expect following the BCG vaccination – RCH Parent Handout.

Adverse reactions to vaccines (also known as 'vaccine side effects') do sometimes occur. The BCG vaccination is given just under the skin (into the 'intradermal' layer) of the left upper arm and is sometimes associated with common and rare side effects. This RCH parent handout provides information about side effects of the BCG vaccine as well as suggestions on minimising the risk.

### Signs and symptoms

The usual expected reaction to BCG vaccination is redness and/or a small lump at the injection site, followed by a small ulcer (open sore) a few weeks later (usually less than 1 cm in diameter). The ulcer may last from a few weeks to months before healing to a small flat scar.

### Care of the injection site

- Keep the area clean and dry
- Normal bathing is acceptable – pat dry after washing
- A temporary dry dressing with gauze may be used if the area starts to ooze
- A sterile alcohol swab may be used to clean the area if required
- Do not apply ointment, antiseptic creams, sticking plaster or band aids

### Rare complications following BCG vaccine

- A large abscess (collection of pus) at the injection site
- Infection of the glands in the left armpit ('axillary lymph nodes') causing tenderness and swelling under the arm
- 'Keloid' scarring (very noticeable scarring on the skin)
- Severe immediate allergic reaction (very rare)

### When to seek medical advice

- If you notice a severe reaction at the injection site, such as a large persistent discharging abscess
- If you notice swelling or tenderness of the glands ('lymph nodes') in the left armpit

### Whom to contact for advice

- Your General Practitioner
- The Victorian vaccine safety service SAEFVIC @ The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne
  - Tel: 1300 882 924 (PRESS OPTION 1)
  - Email: [saefvic@mcri.edu.au](mailto:saefvic@mcri.edu.au)
  - Web: <https://www.saefvic.org.au>