

Information

What is BCG Therapy?

Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) is an inactive form of bacterium Myobacterium tuberculosis. BCG was originally developed as a vaccine against tuberculosis but has since been found to be effective against superficial bladder tumours

BCG is NOT chemotherapy, but rather an Immunotherapy treatment used in the treatment and recurrence of bladder cancer. Immunotherapy helps your body produce a natural defence against bladder tumours, it is thought to elicit an immune response

The BCG is infused into your bladder via a urinary catheter. It causes an inflammatory response within the bladder where superficial lesions may be reduce or eliminated.

How is BCG Therapy given?

Once per week, for 6 weeks you will require the BCG treatment. You will be admitted into the medical unit of a hospital where this procedure is performed. Your hospital stay should not exceed 4 hours.

A urinary catheter is passed into your bladder and the BCG is instilled via gravity through the catheter into your bladder. The catheter is then clamped and the liquid remains inside your bladder for 2 hours. You will be asked to lie on your front, back and side for 15 minutes each. The bladder is then emptied, via the catheter and the catheter removed

Prior to treatment

- Submit a urine test (MSU) one week prior
- No fluids are to be consumed after midnight
- You are able to have a normal breakfast
- Take all usual medications
- Before each treatment discuss any side effects or problems you may have experienced following the last treatment
- Inform the nurse if you have any of the following
 - feeling sick, or have been vomiting
 - Pain or burning when voiding
 - A cough
 - Skin rash
 - Had tuberculosis (TB) in past
 - Bladder infection
 - Blood in urine
 - Allergies

BCG is less effective and risks of infection are greater if an infection is present

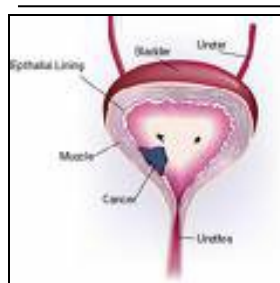


Figure 1 BCG solution in bladder

What to do at home

- Shower when you get home
- Drink at least 2 litres of fluid over the next 24 hours
- Take URAL sachets as required if you experience any burning sensation when you go to the toilet
- Men should sit rather than stand when urinating
- As BCG is potentially infectious, for 6 hours after the treatment disinfect the toilet with 1 cup of either methylated spirits or household bleach and allow this to stand for 15 minutes before flushing.
- DO NOT resume sexual activity for 48 hours
- Males are advised to use a condom sheath for sexual activity during treatment and 6 weeks after treatment finishes
- If incontinent at all during the first 24 hours after treatment, wash all soiled clothing and linen in hot soapy water. Soak any damp pads with methylated spirits and discard.

You should contact your doctor or urology nurse if you have:-

- Fever and chills
- Joint pain and muscular aches
- Loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting
- Blood in the urine
- Pain or discomfort when voiding
- Feel the need to pass urine frequently
- Skin rash
- Persistent cough

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask your doctor or urology nurse.

Admission Details:

* Hospital _____

* Date _____

* Time _____

**TAKE USUAL MEDIACATION ON MORNING
OF SURGERY**

Patient Information Leaflet

**BCG BLADDER
INSTALLATION**



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