



Immunisation for Children





Why Immunisation is Important?

Early childhood vaccination is one of the most effective ways to protect infants and children from serious diseases. Babies are born partially protected against certain diseases because of antibodies from their mothers. Breastfed babies then get the continued benefits of additional antibodies in breast milk. However, this protection is incomplete and temporary.

Immunisation helps your child build their own protection against infections, keeping them safe as they grow.

How Vaccines Work?

Vaccines stimulate your child's immune system to react as though there is a real infection. They prepare the body to respond quickly and effectively if exposed to the infection in the future. Vaccines used in children are generally carefully developed and are safe.

Standard recommended intervals should be followed for all routine vaccinations. When immunisation is delayed or missed, it should be given as soon as possible and there is no need to repeat the doses already given.



After Your Child's Vaccination: What to Expect

Most children may experience localised reactions around the injection site, such as:

- Redness
- Mild pain or soreness
- Swelling
- A small lump that may last for a few weeks. This should not be a cause for concern and does not require treatment

Other generalised reactions include:

- Mild fever of $> 37.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ (underarm) or $> 37.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ (ear)
- Skin rashes and allergies
- Irritability or fussiness

What You Can Do

You can help your child feel more comfortable by:

- Holding and comforting them
- Giving prescribed fever medication
- Offering extra fluids (breast milk, water, or formula)
- Placing a clean, cool cloth on the injection site
- Dressing your child in light clothing

When to Seek Medical Advice

Please consult a doctor if you notice any of the following symptoms in your child:

- Persistent fever not relieved by medication
- Less active than usual
- Persistent crying
- Generalised rash
- Seizures (fits)

BCG Vaccination (for Tuberculosis)

In Singapore, the Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine is given to newborns as part of the National Childhood Immunisation Schedule.

It provides strong protection against severe forms of tuberculosis (TB) in children, including TB infection of the brain (meningitis) and widespread disease, which can be life-threatening.



What to Expect After BCG Vaccination

The healing process happens in stages:

- Weeks 2-3: A firm swelling appears and begins to grow
- Weeks 6-8: The swelling reaches its largest size
- Following weeks: The swelling bump develops into a small sore which may first ooze, then heal naturally into a scab
- Final stage: The scab falls off, leaving behind a small permanent scar

Caring for the BCG Injection Site

You can help your child feel more comfortable by:

- Keep the site clean and dry
- Clean gently with warm water, if needed
- Leave the site uncovered to aid in healing
- Do not use or apply any soaps, powders, creams, ointments, or antiseptics

Note: There should be a 30-day interval between the administration of BCG vaccine and other live vaccines (such as measles, mumps, rubella, and chicken pox).

If you have any questions, please speak to a doctor or nurse during your visit.

About the National University Centre for Women and Children

The National University Centre for Women and Children (NUWoC) empowers women, children, and families to lead healthier lives. It brings together the [Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology \(O&G\)](#) and [Khoo Teck Puat – National University Children’s Medical Institute \(KTP-NUCMI\)](#) at National University Hospital, working alongside [National University Polyclinics \(NUP\)](#) to strengthen continuity of care across the community.

Supported by the National University Health System (NUHS), NUWoC delivers comprehensive medical and surgical services across the life course – from pre-conception through maternal, child, adolescent, and women’s health.

Through a generous gift from the Estate of Khoo Teck Puat, KTP-NUCMI has established an integrated outpatient facility offering medical, diagnostic, and rehabilitation services for children. NUWoC is Singapore’s only public specialist centre providing paediatric kidney and liver transplant programmes.

For more information about us, visit www.nuh.com.sg/NUWoC

Children’s Emergency (24-hr)

Location NUH Main Building, Zone F, Level 1

KTP-NUCMI

Location NUH Main Building, Zone E, Level 2
(Accessible via Kent Ridge Wing, Zone C, Level 2, Lift Lobby C)

Operating Hours 8.30am – 5.30pm (Mon to Fri), 8.30am – 12.30pm (Sat)

General Enquiry +65 6772 5736

Appointment Line +65 6908 2222

Email ktpnucmi_appt@nuhs.edu.sg

9a Viva-University Children’s Cancer Centre

Location NUH Medical Centre, Zone B, Level 9

Operating Hours 8am – 5.30pm (Mon to Fri)

Appointment Line +65 6772 5030

Email cbccappt@nuhs.edu.sg

NUH Children’s Urgent Care Clinic @ Bukit Panjang

Location Junction 10, #01-22

Operating Hours 9am – 11pm daily (including public holidays)

General Enquiry +65 6219 1538

Email childreucc@nuhs.edu.sg

NUH Child Development Unit @ JMC

Location Jurong Medical Centre, Level 2

Operating Hours 8.30am – 5.30pm (Mon to Fri)

Appointment Line +65 6665 2530/2531

Email cdu@nuhs.edu.sg

NUH Child Development Unit @ Keat Hong

Location Keat Hong Community Club, #03-01

Operating Hours 8.30am – 5.30pm (Mon to Fri)

Appointment Line +65 6769 4537/4637

Email cdu@nuhs.edu.sg

Clinic A22 NUWoC Children’s Clinic @ NTFGH

Location Ng Teng Fong General Hospital
Tower A – NTFGH Clinics, Level 2

Operating Hours 8.30am – 5.30pm (Mon to Fri)

Appointment Line +65 6908 2222

Email appointment@nuhs.edu.sg

Our Patient Care Institutions

National University Hospital
Ng Teng Fong General Hospital
Alexandra Hospital
Tengah General and Community Hospital (upcoming)
Jurong Community Hospital
National University Polyclinics
Jurong Medical Centre
National University Cancer Institute, Singapore
National University Heart Centre, Singapore
National University Centre for Oral Health, Singapore
NUHS Diagnostics
NUHS Pharmacy



Scan the QR code for more information on our patient care institutions.

OneNUHS Hotline: (65) 6908 2222
OneNUHS General Enquiries: contactus@nuhs.edu.sg
OneNUHS Appointments: appointment@nuhs.edu.sg
www.nuhs.edu.sg

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