

Contact Details

Urology Nurse:	
Contact No:	
Urology Department No:	
Consultant Urologist:	
Other:	
Other:	

The information contained in this leaflet is intended to support and not replace the treatment and care discussed with you and your healthcare team.



What you need to know about your BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guérin) treatment for Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer



Follow-up

Following completion of your treatment, your healthcare team will arrange for you to have your bladder checked again.

At this point, your healthcare team may recommend ongoing maintenance BCG treatment.

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What you need to know about your BCG treatment



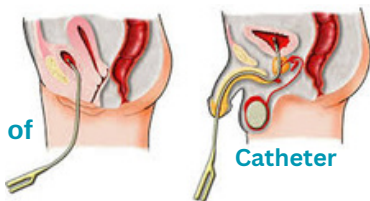
You have had surgery to remove **bladder cancer**. Now you will get additional treatment to reduce the risk of the bladder cancer returning.

This is an immunotherapy treatment. You will attend one day a week for six weeks for this treatment.

- The treatment you will receive is called **BCG**, which is an immunotherapy that helps the body fight cancer cells. It causes inflammation in the bladder, which triggers your immune system to attack the cancer cells.
- **You may require more treatment which your healthcare team will discuss with you.**

What you need to know before your BCG treatment

- Tell your healthcare team about your past medical history and medications, especially **anticoagulants (blood thinning medication)**.
- If you take **diuretics (medication to help you produce more urine)**, you should take them after treatment.
- Do not drink fluids for **4 hours before your treatment**, unless you need to take small sips of water with your **regular medication**. This will help you hold your urine and prevents diluting the **BCG** in your bladder.
- To check for signs of infection, you will be asked for a sample of urine before each treatment.
- Your genital area will be cleaned and, while you are lying down, a thin tube called a catheter will be inserted into your bladder.
- **BCG** is put into your bladder through the catheter (**max. of 50 mls of fluid**)
- The catheter is removed.
- **The BCG should remain in your bladder for up to 2 hours.**



What you need to know after your BCG treatment

- After 2 hours, you must pass urine to empty your bladder.
- For up to 6 hours after the treatment, you should pass urine while sitting on the toilet to minimise the risk of splashing urine which may contain BCG
- Disinfect the toilet by adding 250mls or 2 cups of bleach, up to 6 hours after treatment. Let it sit in the toilet for 15 minutes before flushing.
- Clean any skin that comes in contact with urine and wash your hands with soap and water after using the toilet.
- It is important to drink plenty of fluids for 48 hours after treatment. This helps to reduce the risk of side effects.
- Your healthcare team will discuss the necessary protective contraception you and your partner will need to use for the duration of your treatment course, and for one week after treatment finishes.
- A member of your healthcare team will give you a BCG Alert Card at your first treatment. Keep this card with you for all healthcare appointments.

Most common side effects

Your healthcare team will advise on how to manage side effects. These may include:

- Pain when passing urine
- A strong urge to pass urine
- Passing urine more often
- Blood in your urine after treatment
- Flu-like symptoms, such as feeling tired and having a fever

*** These symptoms should improve after 48 hours**



You should attend your local Emergency Department if you experience any of the following.

***Bring your BCG ALERT CARD with you.**

- Fever above 39.5°C lasting over 12 hours
- Fever above 38.5°C lasting over 48 hours
- Difficulty breathing
- Changes in vision
- Pain or reddening in the eye similar to conjunctivitis
- Severe joint pains
- Feeling increasingly unwell

