

18 Sep 2023

Changes to the Country Information pages: Tuberculosis

NaTHNaC has reviewed and updated the tuberculosis (TB) country-specific information

NaTHNaC, in collaboration with UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), has recently reviewed the country-specific guidance for tuberculosis (TB). [Further information is available](#) about this review.

Based on this review, country-specific vaccine recommendations have been updated for the following countries:

Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Honduras, Latvia, Maldives, Qatar and Syria.

Country-specific information can be found on our [Country Information pages](#).

Advice for travellers

The current UK vaccination programme recommends Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccination for some travellers (see below).

[More information about TB can be found here.](#)

Advice for health professionals

In general, BCG vaccination is not recommended for travellers to countries where the annual incidence of TB incidence is < 40 cases per 100,000 population.

BCG vaccination is recommended for the following immunocompetent travellers, staying for more than three months in a country where the presumed or average annual incidence of TB is 40/100,000 or greater and/or where the risk of Multi Drug Resistant-TB (MDR-TB) is high:

- children below 16 years of age who are travelling to stay with friends/family or local people
- healthcare workers in settings that are of high risk of exposure to patients diagnosed with TB particularly MDR-TB.

Also see the [UKHSA 'green book' TB chapter](#) for details on those who fit the criteria for vaccination in the UK programme.

Resources

- [UK Health Security Agency: Tuberculosis by country: rates per 100,000 people](#)
- [UK Health Security Agency: TB screening](#)
- [World Health Organization TB burden estimates](#)
- [World Health Organization Global Tuberculosis Report 2021](#)
- [UK Health Security Agency: Immunisation against infectious disease. Tuberculosis. Chapter 32](#)