

Supplemental Table 4. Summary of studies on BCG injection site abscess management

Source Country	Population (age at abscess onset) • Timing of BCG vaccine (strain) • Injection site abscess description, FU period	Study comparator groups	Outcomes measured	Key results	Comments												
Hanley <i>et al</i> , ³³ 1985	Prospective cohort study of 18 children (school age) • school-age BCG (strain NR, presumably BCG-Denmark) • injection site reaction: pain, abscess formation and discharge, and ulceration 10wk post BCG FU: 1m	Gp1 (n=9): ERY po (250mg, 4x/d) 1m Gp2 (n=9): INH po (6mg/kg/d) 1m	Max. % decrease in diam of erythema or induration (serial examinations)	Gp1: 55% Gp2: 55%	Serial examinations and photographs during FU												
United Kingdom		Groups equally matched for ulceration, fluctuance and areas of erythema and induration	Rate of fluctuance	<table><tr><td></td><td>Wk 1</td><td>Wk 4</td></tr><tr><td>Gp1:</td><td>56% (5/9)</td><td>22% (2/9)</td></tr><tr><td>Gp2:</td><td>56% (5/9)</td><td>11% (1/9)</td></tr></table>		Wk 1	Wk 4	Gp1:	56% (5/9)	22% (2/9)	Gp2:	56% (5/9)	11% (1/9)				
	Wk 1	Wk 4															
Gp1:	56% (5/9)	22% (2/9)															
Gp2:	56% (5/9)	11% (1/9)															
			Rate of improvement, unchanged or deterioration (wk 1 to 4)	<table><tr><td></td><td>Improved</td><td>Unchanged</td><td>Worse</td></tr><tr><td>Gp1:</td><td>44% (4/9)</td><td>22% (2/9)</td><td>33% (3/9)</td></tr><tr><td>Gp2:</td><td>56% (5/9)</td><td>22% (2/9)</td><td>22% (2/9)</td></tr></table>		Improved	Unchanged	Worse	Gp1:	44% (4/9)	22% (2/9)	33% (3/9)	Gp2:	56% (5/9)	22% (2/9)	22% (2/9)	
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Gp1:	44% (4/9)	22% (2/9)	33% (3/9)														
Gp2:	56% (5/9)	22% (2/9)	22% (2/9)														
Venkataraman <i>et al</i> , ²⁶ 2015	Retrospective cohort study of 18 children (55% age <6mo) • neonatal BCG (BCG-Denmark) • injection site reaction: abscess/ulcer present beyond 12wk post BCG FU: 6m	Gp1 (n=1): FNA Gp2 (n=1): INH±RIF Gp3 (n=16): No treatment	Rate of recovery (small scar at injection site, 6m FU)	Gp1:100% (1/1) Gp2: 0% (0/1), 1 referred to plastic surgery Gp3:100% (16/16)	Number of patients with abscess and description (e.g. size) within ‘injection site reaction’ cohort is NR												
United Kingdom																	

Abbreviations: AMB, anti-mycobacterial; BCG, Bacille Calmette-Guérin; d, days; diam, diameter; ERY, erythromycin; FNA, fine needle aspiration; FU, follow-up; Gp, group; INH, isoniazid; LD, lymphadenitis; m, months; max., maximum; mo, month-old; NR, not reported; po, per os; RIF, rifampicin; wk, weeks