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# BCG Vaccine

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *BCG Vaccine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C298.

A vaccine containing bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG), an attenuated strain of *Mycobacterium bovis*, with non-specific immunoadjuvant and immunotherapeutic activities. Although the mechanism of its anti-tumor activity is unclear, immunization with BCG vaccine likely activates a Th1 cytokine response that includes the induction of interferon. Vaccination with BCG vaccine may be immunoprotective against infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.