



INSTILLATION OF BCG INTO THE BLADDER FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY

**Information about your procedure from
The British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS)**

This leaflet contains evidence-based information about your proposed urological procedure. We have consulted specialist surgeons during its preparation, so that it represents best practice in UK urology. You should use it in addition to any advice already given to you.

To view the online version of this leaflet, type the text below into your web browser:

http://www.baus.org.uk/_userfiles/pages/files/Patients/Leaflets/BCG.pdf

Key Points

- This involves having a catheter (plastic tube) passed into your bladder to instil an anti-cancer drug called BCG
- BCG is a vaccine that is used against tuberculosis; it contains live bacteria which have been attenuated (altered) to reduce the risk of infection. It stimulates immune cells in the bladder to kill cancer cells
- It is used for non-muscle invasive cancers, which grow in the thin layer of cells lining the bladder but do not extend into the muscle of the bladder wall
- Treatment involves weekly instillations for 6 weeks (induction treatment), followed by maintenance treatments for up to three years
- Treatment reduces the chance of your bladder cancer returning
- Bladder tumours can recur during or after treatment, so follow-up bladder examinations (cystoscopies) are needed
- Like all powerful treatments, it comes with some significant side-effects which you should balance against the risks of the bladder cancer itself

What does this procedure involve?

Instillation of an immunotherapy drug (BCG) into the bladder for aggressive or frequently recurring non-muscle invasive cancer of the bladder.