

Table 9

IMMUNISATION IN REFUGEE CHILDREN

Standard childhood immunisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer a primary course if there is no satisfactory history or documentation. • Aim to bring up-to-date with NZ immunisation schedule.
Hepatitis B vaccination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinate all children up to 16 years of age if there is no satisfactory history or documentation. • Serology is not necessary prior to or after vaccination.
BCG	<p>BCG should be offered to children under five years old from 'high incident' countries* if they have not had a previous BCG immunisation and if a pre-vaccination Mantoux test is negative. A child with a positive Mantoux test should be considered for Isoniazid prophylaxis.</p> <p>Babies born in NZ to refugee parents may be at increased risk of TB and should be offered BCG vaccination if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will be living in a house or family with a person with either current TB or a past history of TB, and/or • have parents or household members who have lived longer than five years in countries where there is a high incidence of TB and/or • during their first five years will be living for 3 months or longer in a high incidence country. <p>*High incidence countries are all countries except: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States.</p> <p>See Ministry of Health publication <i>Guidelines for Tuberculosis Control in New Zealand 1996</i> for further information on BCG or Mantoux testing or consult your local Public Health Service.</p>