

## Important Considerations

- A TST is a screening test to help diagnose TB infection. The BCG vaccine may cause a positive result when a TST is given after infancy (12 months of age).
- Depending on when the vaccine is given, it will influence the outcome of the TST differently.
- For further information on how BCG vaccination can influence the TST, see **Section 4, TB Screening**.

## BCG Vaccine Usage in Canada

Not all jurisdictions in Canada have BCG vaccine as part of their vaccination programs. Many Aboriginal Canadians and persons born in Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador were vaccinated between 1940 until the late 1970s. BCG vaccination of First Nations infants has now been discontinued in the Atlantic Provinces and British Columbia. In Alberta, the rationale for continued use of the BCG has been challenged, and a process of systematic withdrawal has begun. Elsewhere, on the prairies and in the territories, the benefits of BCG vaccination in preventing severe forms of TB in infants and young children outweigh any risks.

Table 3.2: BCG Vaccine Usage in Canada

Provinces and Territories who have discontinued using BCG	Provinces and Territories who continue to use BCG vaccine*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• British Columbia</li> <li>• New Brunswick</li> <li>• Newfoundland and Labrador</li> <li>• Nova Scotia</li> <li>• Prince Edward Island</li> <li>• Quebec</li> <li>• Yukon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alberta</li> <li>• Manitoba</li> <li>• Northwest Territories</li> <li>• Nunavut</li> <li>• Ontario</li> <li>• Saskatchewan</li> </ul>

*\*BCG usage differs for different regions, usually according to local epidemiology*