Risk Assessment Tool to Determine Eligibility to Receive Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) Vaccine in the Northwest Territories

Infant < 12 months of age

Does the infant meet ANY of the following criteria?;

- Infant who lives/spends extended periods of time in northern communities at high risk for TB (Tli Cho communities)
- Indigenous (First Nations/Inuit/Metis) infants who lives/spends extended periods of time in northern communities at medium risk for TB (Deh Cho, South Slave, North Slave)
- Infants in any northern community born to foreign born parents from high TB incidence countries
- Infants in any northern community who will travel to, reside, or have an extended stay in a high TB incidence country or region in Canada where TB is endemic (see BCG Atlas)

NO → **Do NOT give BCG**

YES

What is the HIV status of the infant's mother?

POSITIVE / UNKNOWN → **Do NOT give BCG. Reassess after testing mother.**

NEGATIVE

Is/was the mother taking any immune-suppressing agents?

YES → **Do NOT give BCG.**

NO

Does the infant have a known congenital immune disorder or HIV infection?

YES → **Do NOT give BCG**

NO

What is the result of the newborn Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) screen?

POSITIVE → **Positive SCID screen: Do NOT give BCG**

UNKNOWN → **Pending SCID screen: Wait until results known before giving BCG.**

NEGATIVE

POSITIVE

NEGATIVE

BCG Vaccination is indicated for infants as soon as possible once SCID result is negative and above criteria are met. Before giving vaccine, determine if TST must be administered prior to vaccine administration (see Box 1)

Box 1: *Infant is*:

- < 2 months of age: give BCG without prior TST
- 2-6 months of age: complete an individual risk benefit assessment in consultation with the OCPHO as validity of TST in under 6 months of age is unknown.
- > 6 months of age: perform one-step TST and give BCG vaccine if TST is negative

† Assessment based on exposure risk to infant, e.g. visitors from a high incidence country, parents' and household members' TB histories (recent immigration to Canada, known LTBI infection, or history of active TB disease)