



Missing Mitochondrial Genes



Fact Sheet No.6

Immunisations

Are there any immunisations that people with CGD should not have?

Children should be fully immunised, just as any other child would be. The only immunisation adults and children with CGD should not have is BCG, the vaccination against tuberculosis (T.B.). This is usually given at school at around 13-14 years of age (however some people will have received this vaccine as babies, without it causing a problem). All other immunisations including polio, Hib, MMR and Meningitis C are OK.

As for the general public, tetanus and polio vaccines should be kept up-to-date for all people (adults and children) with CGD. For children this is done automatically through school. Adults can make sure they are up-to-date by talking with the nurse at their GP practice, who can then administer the immunisations as necessary.

What about the Flu vaccine?

Although people with CGD can fight off Flu as well as anyone else (as it is a virus) they can have problems with chest infections as a result of having Flu. It is for this reason that anyone with CGD over the age of 6 months is recommended to have a Flu vaccine each year.

Doesn't it have nasty side effects?

Some people do experience soreness at the injection site and a few have aching joints and a mild fever for a couple of days after the injection. However, the Flu vaccine is inactive and therefore cannot cause Flu. It's worth remembering that in the winter time, when Flu vaccines are given, there are a number of respiratory infections around which appear similar to Flu but which will not be prevented (or caused by) the Flu vaccine.

A word about side effects

All vaccines carry a risk of reaction and/or side effects. You will be told about the specific side effects for each immunisation you/your child receive. Serious reactions are rare. Side effects common to all vaccines are a sore arm and redness or swelling at the injection site. If you were to experience these then you should inform your doctor or the CGD nurse.





Missing Mito
Genes



Immunisations

If any of the following apply to you/your child you should tell the doctor or nurse before receiving any vaccinations:

- you/your child are taking steroids
- you/your child have an allergy to eggs
- you/your child are currently unwell or have been unwell in the past couple of weeks
- you/your child have had a reaction to a previous vaccine
- you are pregnant

Important Note: The information contained in this document is intended only as a guideline, not as a substitute for medical advice. Always consult your doctor if you or your child has any CGD symptoms or concerns.

Published by the CGD Research Trust

Manor Farm • Wimborne St. Giles • Dorset • BH21 5NL • ENGLAND

Phone/fax: 01725 517977 • e-mail: cgdresearchtrust@dial.pipex.com • www.cgd.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1003425

