What is Koch's Phenomenon?

The needle lesions of BCG vaccination usually appear about 10 days after vaccination. However, the local change seen below can appear very rarely. This is called as "Koch's phenomenon".





It occurs only rarely.

2 days after the shot: A strong reaction occurs within about three days.



5 days: The reaction gradually subsides.





48 days: Lesions are almost cured.

What are the characteristics of Koch's phenomenon? Strong and acute local reactions, such as inflammation with/without pustulation, occur within three days of the shot, and disappear rapidly.

What should you do, if you find "Koch's phenomenon"?

Please consult the vaccinating doctor within tow to three days.

If this change appears, it is possible that your baby may have been infected with TB, without you being aware of it. You should check whether the baby has been infected. If the baby vaccinated in a mass program or if you cannot identify the vaccinating doctor, you may visit the health center (city-town-village office). There is no need to visit an emergency room. The current risk of child TB is very small, so please don't worry.



Point

The local swelling subsides two to four weeks after the shot.

If the local skin erupts and you can see pus there, you don't need to cover the site with gauze. The site may be cured leaving only needle scars two to four weeks after the vaccination,.



Please don't worry, though..

財団法人結核予防会 日本ビーシージー製造株式会社