

Questions and Answers for Patients Calling the Lab

Can I get BCG now?

No. BCG is not approved by the FDA for the treatment or prevention of type 1 diabetes. Access to BCG is only in a clinical trial format.

Can I enroll in a clinical trial using BCG?

We are currently enrolling multiple clinical trials. We recommend you email the lab at DiabetesTrial@partners.org to see if you might be eligible for a type 1 diabetes trial or fibromyalgiastudy@partners.org if you are interested in the fibromyalgia trials.

Who supports this work and how do I donate to this program?

To date this work has relied almost entirely on donations from individuals and family foundations. Donations are critical to sustaining and growing the clinical trial program. If you are interested in supporting this work, please contact us at the email address above.

Is Boston the only U.S. site where the diabetes trials are occurring with BCG?

Yes, Boston is currently the only site for BCG clinical trials in the U.S.

If I have had diabetes for a long time – 10 years or more – am I still eligible to participate?

Yes. We are looking at conducting clinical trials in patients with longstanding disease.

I have one or more autoimmune diseases. Can BCG help my other autoimmune diseases?

We know there are clinical effects of BCG vaccination in multiple sclerosis, and there are studies ongoing in Italy. We are conducting a study using BCG in fibromyalgia right now. We may begin trials in other autoimmune diseases.

Globally, but not in the US, there are many different strains of the BCG vaccine. Are they all the same?

No. BCG strains are very different, and it is known that many strains of BCG are not efficacious against autoimmune diseases.

How can I get a copy of the actual scientific paper?

All of our recent publications are in the “Publications” page of www.faustmanlab.org.