



What could this needle be used for?

<http://medicalmuseum.org.uk/resources/>



CHEC
Charles Hastings Education Centre



Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



WHAT IS THIS?

This is called a sterneedle and is used to administer a Heaf test. The needles were sterilised and then dipped into tuberculin and used to puncture the skin. This tested to see if the patient had ever been exposed to the bacteria that causes tuberculosis. This would be used to decide if the patient needed to have the BCG vaccination.

The BCG vaccine was given to all young people between the ages of 10-14 between 1953 and 2005 in the UK.

Tuberculosis is caused by a bacterial infection that affects the lungs. If it is left untreated about half of those infected will die.

HOW CAN I USE THIS IN THE CLASSROOM?

The photograph and question could be used as a starter to initiate debate vaccination or how disease spreads

It could be used to start a research task of vaccination and how it works.

