

TRAVELERS HEALTH

Who We Are

The mission of the Travelers' Health Branch of CDC's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine is to reduce illness and injury in US residents traveling internationally or living abroad. Applying the best science, we provide alerts, recommendations, education, and technical support to travelers and the healthcare providers who serve them.

What We Do

The CDC Travelers' Health Branch provides international travel health advice, including vaccine recommendations and requirements, behavioral precautions, and advice for specific worldwide events. We play an integral role in many of CDC's global emergency response efforts, such as the H1N1 influenza pandemic and the MERS, Ebola, and Zika outbreaks. Our focus areas converge on:

- investigating the wide-ranging health threats posed by mass gatherings abroad like the Olympics, the World Cup, and the Hajj;
- teaming up with other CDC programs and external partners to advance groundbreaking science related to infectious and noninfectious threats to the health of travelers as well as increasing global surveillance capabilities for travel-associated illnesses;
- understanding and advising international travelers with specific needs, such as humanitarian aid workers, multi-generational travelers, students, business travelers, people visiting friends and relatives abroad, "medical tourists," and travelers with chronic diseases or disabilities; and
- applying best practices in health communication science and new information technologies.



Where We Work

Our complete portfolio of travel notices, recommendations, traveler tools, and clinical guidance is available online at www.cdc.gov/travel.

This online portal consistently ranks as one of the most visited CDC websites.



Our travel health messages and materials can also be found at airports and seaports across the country and in embassies around the world. Many of our team members have been deployed overseas and around the country to provide technical assistance during emergency responses, such as for the Zika and Ebola outbreaks.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

How We Work Together

We maintain formal partnerships with the World Health Organization, foreign ministries of health, US federal agencies (including the Department of State), Global TravEpiNet (a national network of travel clinics across the United States), and GeoSentinel (a global disease surveillance network of over 200 members and 60 clinical sites on six continents).

We work with these and other travel medicine and public health partners to detect, notify, and investigate reports of travel-related disease cases across the nation and around the world. Our local, state, federal, nonprofit, and private sector partners help alert us to trends and events of public health concern. They also help us share important health and safety messages with travelers going abroad.

Program in Action

Surveillance and Epidemiology:

We collect and analyze travel and epidemiological health information to identify risks that may impact the health and safety of international travelers. Through our collaboration with the GeoSentinel Network, Global TravEpiNet and other partners, we ensure our travel alerts are based on most current science available.

Yellow Book and Provider Education:

We publish *CDC Health Information for International Travel* (commonly called the Yellow Book) every two years. The Yellow Book is a reference for health professionals who provide care for international travelers about health guidelines such as pretravel vaccine recommendations and destination-specific health advice. The Yellow Book is published through a partnership with Oxford University Press and is also available for free on our website and as a mobile application.

Travel Health Alerts and Stakeholder Communications:

We translate travel medicine science into actionable health information, recommendations, online educational products, and mobile tools. We constantly seek innovative ways to communicate with our audiences, like designing interactive maps, text alerts, mobile applications, and digital media campaigns. By customizing, promoting, and evaluating audience-centric content we inform and empower international travelers as well as the partners and healthcare providers who serve them.

