

Information on...

Travel Vaccines

What are travel vaccinations?

Travel vaccinations help protect you against travel related infections that can be picked up when travelling outside of the UK.

Do I need to check if I need any travel vaccinations before travelling abroad?

Yes – it is important for your own health and the health of others that you have the travel vaccinations that are required for the country/area that you are visiting.

Some countries require you to have an International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis (ICVP) before you enter. For example, Saudi Arabia requires proof of vaccination against certain types of meningitis for visitors arriving for the Hajj and Umrah pilgrimages.

How do I find out which travel vaccinations I need?

You can ask your GP surgery or you can look at one of the following websites.

- Fit for Travel
<http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/destinations.aspx>
- Travel Health Pro - National Travel and Health Network and Centre
<https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/countries>

Are all travel vaccines available on the NHS?

No, please see tables below.

Table 1. Travel vaccines available on the NHS

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| Hepatitis A |
| Typhoid |
| Combined hepatitis A and typhoid |
| Tetanus, diphtheria and polio combined vaccine |
| Cholera |

Table 2. Travel vaccines not available on the NHS

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|----------------------------|
| Hepatitis B (single agent) |
| Meningitis ACWY |
| Yellow Fever |
| Tuberculosis (TB) |
| Japanese B encephalitis |
| Tick borne encephalitis |
| Rabies |

Where can I get travel vaccinations from?

If the required travel vaccine is available on the NHS (Table 1) you will usually be able to obtain it from you GP practice.

If the required travel vaccine is not available on the NHS (Table 2) you may be able to obtain it from you GP practice for a fee or you can visit a private health clinic.

For travel vaccines not available on the NHS a charge may be levied for:

- The vaccine
- Administration of the vaccine
- Writing the private prescription
- Post vaccination serological testing in the case of hepatitis B administration, if performed for travel reasons
- Provision of certification of immunisation

If you need any further information:

- Ask your pharmacist
- NHS choices: www.nhs.uk
- Patient UK www.patient.co.uk