International Travelers

Advise individuals considering international travel to make an appointment for a full consultation with a travel medicine professional. Refer clients to their local travel clinic.

Prior to travel, individuals should ensure that they are up-to-date for routine immunizations. For more information, see Part 1 – Immunization Schedules and Part 4 – Biological Products.

Measles is endemic in many parts of the world, including several countries in Europe and Asia. Individuals contemplating international travel should be aware of measles activity in their planned destination and ensure they are adequately immunized. In addition to routine measles immunization recommendations, please note the following:

- Infants 6 to 11 months of age: provide one dose of MMR to infants traveling overseas to an area with ongoing measles outbreaks. Such infants would still require two doses of MMR vaccine after 12 months of age.
- Children under 4 years of age who have received one dose of MMR vaccine: provide a second dose of MMR at any time as long as 4 weeks has passed since receipt of the first dose.
- For individuals who are up-to-date for measles immunization, regardless of when these vaccines were received, no further doses are required.

The Public Health Agency of Canada, Travel Health Notices includes information related to communicable disease outbreaks in countries around the world, including outbreaks in the United States.

For additional information on measles, see the World Health Organization (WHO) measles activity report Measles and Rubella Surveillance Data.

For additional travel health information and country specific recommendations, see:

- CDC travel page, customizable by country: U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Travelers’ Health
- World Health Organization, International Travel and Health

Additional information is available in the Canadian Immunization Guide: Part 3 – Vaccination of Specific Populations, Immunization of Travellers