

What's New



Keyword(s):

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Costa Rica, Panama: Malaria Information

What's New > Announcements

Malaria Information

Posted Feb 26, 2021

The malaria maps and text for Costa Rica and Panama have undergone substantive revisions.

- **See countries:** Costa Rica, Panama
- **See topics:** Malaria

Eswatini: Malaria Information

What's New > Announcements

Malaria Information

Posted Feb 26, 2021

The malaria map and text for Eswatini have been reviewed and republished. No changes were made to the map shading or recommendations.

- **See countries:** Eswatini
- **See topics:** Malaria

Mozambique: Cholera Increase in Northern Provinces

What's New > Current Health Bulletins

Posted Feb 25, 2021

According international health authorities and press sources, more than 400 cases of cholera per week, a significant increase over average incidence, are being reported, mainly in refugee camps in the northern provinces of Cabo Delgado (mainly in Metuge) and Nampula. More than 4,900 cases have been reported since late December 2020. The outbreak has yet to peak. Risk to travelers is minimal. Cholera vaccination is recommended for aid and refugee workers. Travelers should observe strict food and beverage precautions and hand hygiene (frequent, thorough handwashing), regardless of vaccination status, and carry oral rehydration solution in case of severe, watery diarrhea.

- **See countries:** Mozambique
 - **See topics:** Cholera
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United States: Shortened Rabies Preexposure Prophylaxis Regimen

What's New > Vaccine and Medication Bulletins
Posted Feb 24, 2021

The rabies preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) regimen has been shortened by ACIP to a 2-dose regimen, 1 IM dose each on days 0 and 7 (previously 1 dose each on days 0, 7, and 21-28) for immunocompetent persons aged ≥ 18 years for whom PrEP is indicated. Immunocompetent persons aged ≥ 18 years at frequent elevated risk of recognized exposure (e.g., animal care professionals, spelunkers, and travelers with elevated risk of potential exposure in high-risk regions where immediate access to appropriate medical care may be limited), may receive a booster dose no sooner than day 21 but no later than 3 years after the 2-dose PrEP series as an alternative to a titer check at 1 to 3 years (and a booster dose if titer is less than 0.5 IU/mL). Primary series and applicable titer recommendations for other risk categories, immunocompromised persons, and persons aged < 18 years remain unchanged. From a practical perspective, a booster (third dose) is not needed for persons with short-term risk of rabies, and for others, the flexibility of the booster dose in the new regimen enables individuals to work or travel for up to 3 years before needing a booster dose. This information will be incorporated into the *Rabies* article in *Travax*.

- **See countries:** United States
- **See topics:** Rabies

Russia: First Ever Human Cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N8)

What's New > Current Health Bulletins
Reviewed Feb 26, 2021 (Posted Feb 22, 2021)

According to press sources citing local health authorities, 7 cases of human infection with avian influenza A(H5N8) occurred in December 2020 in a poultry plant in an unspecified area in southern Russia. Human cases of A(H5N8) have never been reported anywhere and human-to-human transmission has not been observed. Travelers should avoid places where direct contact with poultry and their secretions may occur (such as live animal markets and poultry farms). Travelers should also avoid consumption of poultry because it is difficult to determine visually whether the meat is fully cooked. Avian influenza infection should be considered in any traveler presenting with respiratory illness within 10 days of returning from Russia. For more information, see *Avian Influenza*.

- **See countries:** Russia
- **See topics:** Avian Influenza

Honduras: Malaria Information

What's New > Announcements

Malaria Information

Posted Feb 16, 2021

The malaria map and text for Honduras have undergone substantive changes.

- **See countries:** Honduras
- **See topics:** Malaria

Gambia, Guyana: Malaria Information

What's New > Announcements

Malaria Information

Posted Feb 16, 2021

The malaria maps and text for Gambia and Guyana have been reviewed and republished. No changes were made to the maps' shading or recommendations.

- **See countries:** Gambia, Guyana
- **See topics:** Malaria

Fiji: Leptospirosis Cases Increase

What's New > Current Health Bulletins

Reviewed Feb 26, 2021 (Posted Feb 16, 2021)

According to Fiji's Ministry of Health, 160 cases of leptospirosis, a significant increase over average incidence due to flooding, have been reported since January 2021 throughout the country. Travelers going to Fiji, including disaster relief workers, should wear appropriate footwear; avoid exposure to potentially contaminated floodwaters, soil, and mud; avoid contact with rodents (including their excreta); and should consider prophylaxis with 200 mg of doxycycline once per week.

- **See countries:** Fiji
- **See topics:** Leptospirosis

Guinea: Ebola Virus Disease in Nzérékoré Region

What's New > Current Health Bulletins

Updated Feb 26, 2021 (Posted Feb 15, 2021)

According to WHO's regional office and Guinea's Ministry of Health, 9 cases (including 5 laboratory-confirmed cases and 5 deaths) of Ebola virus disease (EVD; caused by EBOV-Zaire strain) have been reported since January 28, 2021, in Nzérékoré Region, which neighbors Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. The index case was a health care worker who died and was buried (using unsafe burial practices) on February 1; six of the cases attended the burial and the eighth

case (epidemiology unknown) traveled from Gouéké to Léro, Kankan Region where he was diagnosed and then transferred back to Nzérékoré Region. Contact tracing and follow-up of more than 300 people in Conakry (1 case was hospitalized here) and Nzérékoré Region are ongoing; genomic sequencing of the virus is underway at Institut Pasteur Dakar. A vaccination campaign (Ervebo; Merck) which began on February 23 has vaccinated more than 220 high-risk contacts and health care workers in Nzérékoré Region; more than 11,000 vaccine doses are available. The world's largest ever EVD regional outbreak (28,600 cases) occurred in 2013-16 and originated in the same Nzérékoré Region. According to WHO, the outbreak is unrelated to the ongoing outbreak in North Kivu Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo. US responders can request EVD vaccine through the CDC (via email spathvax@cdc.gov with subject line: request for Ebola vaccine). Travelers returning from Guinea should self-monitor for 21 days after return and telephone ahead before presenting to any medical facility if they become ill. WHO considers the public health risk to be high at the national and regional levels.

- **See countries:** Guinea
- **See topics:** Ebola Virus Disease

Cook Islands: Significant Dengue Increase on Rarotonga Island

What's New > Current Health Bulletins
Updated Feb 26, 2021 (Posted Feb 15, 2021)

According to Cook Islands' Ministry of Health, approximately 12 cases of dengue fever per week, a significant increase over average incidence, are being reported on Rarotonga Island. More than 45 cases (including 14 laboratory-confirmed; serotype 2) have been reported since January 2021. The outbreak has yet to peak. Travelers should observe daytime insect precautions.

- **See countries:** Cook Islands
- **See topics:** Dengue