

Prescribing Guidance on Travel Vaccines and Malaria Prophylaxis

- WSCCG currently spends over £65k per annum on travel vaccines and medications for malaria prophylaxis that should NOT be prescribed on the NHS.
- Only some of the travel vaccines are ALLOWED on the NHS.
- Provision of travel vaccines NOT allowed on the NHS should ONLY be through private prescription.
- Provision of ALL antimalarial medications should ONLY be through private prescription or over the pharmacy counter.

Travel Vaccines ALLOWED on the NHS

- **Hepatitis A vaccine single component: first and second/booster dose**
 Avaxim[®] - £18.10
 Vaqta[®] Adult - £18.10 Vaqta[®] Paediatric - £14.74
 Havrix Monodose[®] - £22.14 Havrix Junior Monodose[®] - £16.77
 Epaxal[®] - £23.81
- **Combined Hepatitis A and B vaccine**
 Twinrix[®] Adult - £27.76 Twinrix[®] Paediatric - £20.79
 Ambirix[®] (<16 yrs. only) - £31.18
- **DO NOT give combined Hepatitis A and B vaccine if patient only needs single component Hepatitis B vaccine.**
- **Typhoid vaccine: first and any booster dose**
 Typhim Vi[®] - £9.30 Typherix[®] - £9.93
- **Combined Hepatitis A and Typhoid polysaccharide vaccine: first dose (second dose is Hep A alone)**
 ViATIM[®] - £29.80 Hepatyrix[®] - £32.08
- **Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio combined vaccine**
 Revaxis[®] - £6.50
- **Cholera vaccine**
 Dukoral[®] - £23.42

Reimbursement:

- Practices purchasing vaccines and personally administering can claim payment through FP34PD.
- OR
- Prescription charge is payable to pharmacy if obtained on FP10 prescription unless exempt. No claims to be made via FP34PD.
 - An FP10 prescription may be used to prescribe a vaccine.

Travel Vaccines NOT ALLOWED on the NHS

- **Hepatitis B (single agent)**
 HBvaxPRO, HBvaxPRO[®] (<16yrs)
 Engerix B[®], Engerix B[®] (<16yrs)
 Fendrix[®]
- **Meningitis ACWY (quadrivalent meningococcal meningitis vaccine A, C, Y and W135)**
 Menveo[®], Nimenrix[®], ACWY Vax[®]
- **Yellow Fever vaccine**
 (only available at designated Yellow Fever vaccination centre)
- **Japanese B Encephalitis vaccine**
 Ixiaro[®]
- **Tick Borne Encephalitis vaccine**
 TicoVac[®], TicoVac[®] Junior
- **Rabies vaccine**
 Rabipur[®]

Charges:

- Patient may be given a private prescription.
- OR
- Practices may charge a registered patient for practice stock.

Charges 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 reason.
- Provision of certification of immunisation

Malaria Prophylaxis ONLY on Private Prescription OR over the pharmacy counter

- General Practitioners (GPs) and Community Pharmacists (CPs) to provide patient advice on malaria prophylaxis.
- Following resources provide information on malaria prophylaxis for GPs and CPs:
- National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNac) provides travel health information for health professionals and the public:
<http://www.nathnac.org/>
- Fit for Travel provides travel health information for people travelling abroad from the UK:
<http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/advice.aspx>

This guidance emphasises the need to avoid inappropriate prescribing of vaccines that are not allowed on the NHS for travel purposes. However, it does not prevent appropriate prescribing where:

1. vaccines are being prescribed for appropriate and legitimate reasons other than travel

Or

2. prescribing of vaccines that are allowed on the NHS for travel purposes

References:

1. Adapted from Position statement on the provision of travel vaccines and malaria prophylaxis on the NHS in IESCCG, January 2015.
2. PresCQIP Travel vaccine bulletin 74, September 2014.
3. British Medical Association, Focus on travel immunisations, November 2012
4. Department of Health, The Green Book, September 2013
5. BNF 68: <https://www.medicinescomplete.com/mc/bnf/current/>
6. Fit for Travel: <http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/advice.aspx>
7. National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNac): <http://www.nathnac.org/>
8. NHS Choices: <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/travel-immunisation/pages/introduction.aspx>

Adapted from IESCCG Position Statement on the provision of Travel Vaccines and Malaria Prophylaxis on the NHS in Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group. Produced by Medicines Management Team WSCCG. FINAL V1 April 2015.