



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Health Protocols for Travellers Arriving in South Africa

1. Background

South Africa is signatory to the International Health Regulations, 2005 and is committed to safeguarding the health of both citizens and persons travelling to the country. The National Department of Health would like to provide information on the health requirements for travellers who will be arriving in the Republic. These requirements are guided by the International Health Regulations, policies and legislative prescripts and apply to delegates arriving through all Points of Entry.

2. Entry Screening

- 2.1 All travellers entering the Republic will be subjected to entry screening which includes temperature screening on arrival at the point of entry.
- 2.2 A person who, during screening, is found to have signs and symptoms consistent with a communicable disease, will be subjected to a further assessment which may include medical examination.
- 2.3 A person who experiences any signs and symptoms consistent with a communicable disease whilst in the Republic, must seek medical attention and inform the medical practitioner of his or her travel history.

3. Yellow Fever Entry Requirements

- 3.1 All travellers over the age of 1 year, arriving into South Africa from a Yellow Fever risk country are required to produce a valid International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis against yellow fever.
- 3.2 Travellers who are not in possession of a valid certificate of vaccination against yellow fever, may be refused entry or quarantined for a period not exceeding 6 days or until their certificate becomes valid.

- 3.3 Travellers who for medical reasons cannot have a yellow fever vaccine, must be in possession of a signed, valid waiver letter from the travel health practitioner.
- 3.4 Travellers who are in possession of a waiver letter will be required to report any fever or other symptoms to health practitioner and be placed under quarantine surveillance.
- 3.5 A list of Yellow Fever risk countries can be accessed through this link:
https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/travel-and-health/countries-with-risk-of-yellow-fever-transmission.pdf?sfvrsn=bf42ac59_4&download=true

4. Malaria Control

- 4.1 Travellers should note that Malaria is a notifiable medical condition in South Africa with three endemic provinces which include KwaZulu Natal, Mpumalanga and Limpopo.
- 4.2 Travellers are advised to consult a travel medicine clinic or medical practitioner before their travel to determine the need for prophylaxis or antimalarial medication.
- 4.3 Any traveller presenting with an acute febrile illness or any of the symptoms listed below, who has a history of travel to, or residence in, a malaria transmission area should immediately seek diagnosis and treatment. Malaria signs and symptoms are non-specific and presents with:
- fever,
 - rigors,
 - headache
 - and body pains,
 - To note the clinical features are non-specific and may be confused with many other diseases, especially influenza.
- 4.4 Travellers are advised if going outdoors in the evenings in a malaria-endemic area, to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites as this may result in the traveller becoming infected with malaria.

5. Medicine for Personal Use

- 5.1 Travellers travelling with medicine for personal use are required to have the necessary authorization from the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA).

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