

Commissioning Statement

Treatment	<i>Vaccines and Medicines</i>
For the treatment of	For the prevention and treatment of travel-related conditions.
Commissioning position	<p>NHS Calderdale CCG does not routinely commission the following vaccines or medicines when requested for the prevention and treatment of travel-related conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis B (single agent) vaccine; • Meningitis ACWY (quadrivalent meningococcal meningitis vaccine A, C, Y and W135); • Japanese B encephalitis vaccine; • Rabies vaccine; • Tick borne encephalitis vaccine; • Yellow fever vaccine; • Malaria prophylaxis; • Just-in-case medicines e.g. antidiarrhoeal agents, advance supplies of antibiotics, hydrating agents, travel sickness, altitude sickness. <p>Patients will require private prescriptions, or be charged privately for vaccines purchased by the practice, for supplies of these medicines, unless they are available for purchase over the counter.</p> <p>People requiring travel vaccination or medicines for travel due to work or for education purposes need to arrange these with their employer or education provider. NHS staff travelling abroad for work purposes will need to be seen by Occupational Health before they travel.</p> <p>North Kirklees CCG/Greater Huddersfield CCG/Wakefield CCG/Calderdale CCG/Bradford City/Bradford Districts</p>
Date effective from	12.01.2017
Policy to be reviewed by	11.01.2020 (to be reviewed earlier if the Green Book or GP contract guidance changes)
Background information	<p><u>Travel immunisations that CAN be given as part of NHS provision¹</u></p> <p>The following immunisations for travel are part of additional services under General Medical Services (GMS) and Personal Medical Services (PMS).² Registered patients should not be charged a fee for these specified travel immunisations however practices can opt out of this service and refer patients to a travel clinic instead³.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis A - first and second/booster dose • Typhoid - first and any booster doses • Combined hepatitis A and typhoid - first dose (second dose is hepatitis A alone) • Polio as part of a tetanus, diphtheria and polio combined vaccine • Cholera

Although some of the above vaccines protect against diseases not endemic in the UK, the vaccines are available on the NHS because the diseases are thought to represent the greatest risk to public health if they were brought into the country.

Some countries would give unimmunised people live polio vaccine when they leave the country. When this would not be suitable e.g immunocompromised patients or pregnant women, tetanus, diphtheria and polio combined vaccine can be given before travelling (as part of NHS provision).

These NHS vaccines may be obtained in one of two ways:

- Purchased by the practice and personally administered, with payment claimed through FP34PD.
- Obtained by the patient on FP10 prescription. A prescription charge is payable to the pharmacy unless the patient is exempt. In this situation no claim should be made through FP34PD by the practice.

Travel immunisations that can NOT be given as an NHS service¹

The following immunisations are **not** remunerated by the NHS as part of additional services:

- Hepatitis B (single agent)
- Meningitis ACWY (quadrivalent meningococcal meningitis vaccine A, C, Y and W135)
- Japanese B encephalitis
- Rabies
- Tick borne encephalitis
- Yellow fever

The practice may therefore charge a registered patient for the immunisation if requested for travel. Practices may also charge for the administration of the vaccination, writing a private prescription, post-vaccination serological testing (e.g. following the administration of Hepatitis B for travel purposes) and certification of immunisation (e.g. confirmation of Meningitis ACWY135 administration).² An FP10 (or equivalent NHS prescription) **must not** be used to provide these vaccines.

These non-NHS vaccines may be obtained in one of two ways:

- Via a private prescription dispensed by and charged for at a pharmacy.
- Vaccines purchased by practice and patient charged for vaccine by practice.

Although the combined hepatitis A and B vaccination is prescribable on the NHS as a travel vaccine because it contains hepatitis A, hepatitis B is **not** commissioned by the NHS as a travel vaccine⁴. Local policy is that hepatitis A **alone** must be personally administered and payment claimed on the FP34PD form, or prescribed on an FP10. Hepatitis B vaccine should be given and charged as a **separate private vaccination**.

The combined hepatitis A and B vaccination product must **not** be administered as a travel vaccine on the NHS. If a patient requests the combined vaccine solely

	<p>for travel purposes then the combined vaccine must be given and charged as a private vaccination.</p> <p>Information on which vaccinations are necessary or recommended for each area is available on these two websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fit for Travel • National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) <p>NHS patients are entitled to receive advice on recommended immunisations and malaria prophylaxis free of charge.²</p> <p><u>Malaria prophylaxis</u></p> <p>The Department of Health has issued guidance (FHSL(95)7) that medication for malaria prophylaxis may not be reimbursed under the NHS. Some antimalarials are classed as Pharmacy ‘P’ medicines and are available for purchase ‘over the counter’ at community pharmacies. Prescription only medicines for malaria prophylaxis should be prescribed on private prescriptions. When issuing a private prescription or if they provide the medication, practices are allowed to charge a fee for one activity but not for both.²</p> <p><u>Just-in-case Treatments</u>²</p> <p>GPs are not required to provide prescriptions for medication which is requested solely in anticipation of the onset of an ailment whilst outside the UK, but for which treatment is not required at the time of prescribing (e.g. antidiarrhoeal agents, advance supplies of antibiotics, hydrating agents, travel sickness, altitude sickness). This is because, under legislation, the NHS ceases to have responsibility for people when they leave the UK. Patients should be advised to purchase these items locally prior to travel. A private prescription should be provided for any prescription-only medicines.</p> <p><u>Regular Repeat Medications</u></p> <p>GPs providing NHS services do not retain clinical responsibility beyond three months⁵ so NHS prescriptions should not be provided for periods longer than three months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For NHS patients travelling for three months or less, medication required for a pre-existing condition should be provided in sufficient quantity to cover the journey and to allow the patient to obtain medical attention abroad, if needed. • For longer visits abroad (in excess of three months), the patient should be advised to register with a local doctor for continuing medication; this may need to be paid for by the patient. • Anyone staying outside of their home country for longer than three months should register with a doctor in the country they are visiting for the purpose of receiving further prescriptions.
<p>Summary of evidence/ rationale</p>	<p>Cost effectiveness/resource impact</p> <p>Annually over £5.3 million (ePACT April 2014) is spent nationally on vaccines that are potentially not suitable to be prescribed on the NHS as they are mainly used for travel.</p> <p>For a summary of which vaccines are or are not available on the NHS, see the table below.</p>

	<p>References:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) NHS Choices http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Travel-immunisation/Pages/Introduction.aspx 2) GMS Regulations (Schedule 2, paragraph 4 and Schedule 5, paragraph 1 (g)) 1st March 2004. http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/291/schedule/2/made 3) Focus on travel immunisation, BMA. November 2012. http://bma.org.uk/practical-support-at-work/gp-practices/focus-travel-immunisation 4) The Green Book (Immunisation against infectious disease). 2nd September 2014 https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation-against-infectious-disease-the-green-book 5) GMS Regulations (Schedule 6, paragraph 25) 1st March 2004 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/291/schedule/6/made <p>Further reading:</p> <p>Travel vaccines, Bulletin 74 September 2014 http://www.prescqipp.info/resources/viewcategory/263-travel-vaccines-drop-list</p> <p>Travel Abroad Guidance, Greater Manchester Medicines Management Group (GMMMG) Guidance, January 2014 http://gmmmg.nhs.uk/docs/guidance/GMMMG%20Travel%20Abroad%20Guidance.pdf</p>
<p>Contact for this policy</p>	<p>Medicines Management Lead</p>

VACCINE	AVAILABLE ON NHS FOR TRAVEL	AVAILABLE PRESENTATIONS	POTENTIAL CHARGES
CHOLERA	YES	Dukoral® (2 dose pack)	Possible script charge if obtained on FP10*
DIPHTHERIA/TETANUS/POLIO	YES	Revaxis®	Possible script charge if obtained on FP10*
TYPHOID	YES	Typhim Vi®, Typherix®	Possible script charge if obtained on FP10*
HEPATITIS A	YES	Havrix Monodose®, Havrix Junior Monodose®, Vaqta® Adult, Vaqta® Paediatric, Avaxim®	Possible script charge if obtained on FP10*
HEPATITIS A/TYPHOID	YES	Hepatyrix®, ViATIM®	Possible script charge if obtained on FP10*
HEPATITIS A/B	YES However local policy does NOT allow the combined hepatitis A and B vaccine to be prescribed for travel	Twinrix® Adult, Twinrix® Paediatric Ambirix® (under 16 years only)	Possible script charge if obtained on FP10*
HEPATITIS B	NO	Engerix B®, Fendrix®, HBvaxPRO®	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private prescription • Cost of vaccine • Administration • Serological testing
JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS	NO	Ixiaro®	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private prescription • Cost of vaccine • Administration
MENINGOCOCCAL - MENINGITIS ACWY	NO	Menveo®, Nimenrix®	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private prescription • Cost of vaccine • Administration • Certification
RABIES	NO	Rabipur®	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private prescription • Cost of vaccine • Administration
TICK-BORNE ENCEPHALITIS	NO	TicoVac®, TicoVac Junior®	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private prescription • Cost of vaccine • Administration
YELLOW FEVER	NO		SPECIALIST CENTRES ONLY

*No charge if purchased by practice and personally administered, with payment claimed through FP34PD