

# Revision of the International travel and health guide



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# A world in constant movement



Demographic growth

Urbanisation

Expanded mobility

Food-borne diseases

Zoonosis

*Increased risk of economic impact from international spread of diseases*

# IHR framework and Travel Medicine

- Globalised world with ever increasing population movement and trade.
- IHR is a legal framework to manage potential public health risks associated with international movement of people and goods.
- Because infected travellers may spread diseases internationally, travel medicine is of strategic importance to prevent the introduction and further spread of infection at the destination.
- Travellers need constantly updated and timely health advice before, during and after travel.



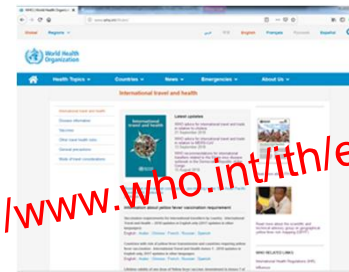
# WHO work on travel health

- ITH "green book"



- Travel advice for international travellers

<http://www.who.int/ith/en/>

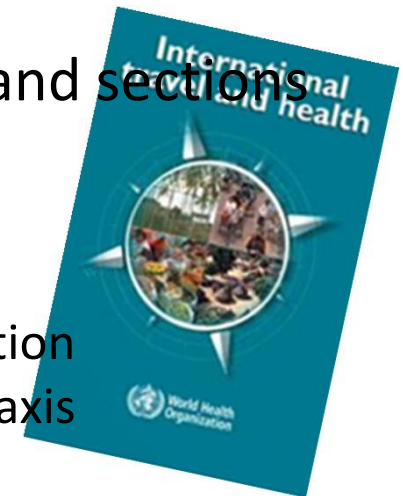


- Monitoring travel and trade additional health measures under IHR(2005)
- Guidance and technical support for outbreak response at points of entry

# International Travel and Health (ITH)

## "green book"

- Last year of full print publication – 2012 (WHO's best seller since it started around 1985)
- Annually or regularly updates of specific chapters and sections
  - Chapter 6: Vaccine preventable diseases
  - Chapter 7: Malaria updates
  - Annex 1 - List of countries at risk of yellow fever, vaccination requirements for yellow fever, polio and malaria prophylaxis
- Seen by the WHO Guidelines Review Committee as a "compilation of guidelines" – hence any revisions should follow GRC procedures



# ITH guide – revision process

- A review by a methodologist in 2014 and an expert consultation in 2018 identified several priority areas for revisions in line with the GRC requirements\*, but entire guide requires revision.
- GRC process requires:
  - systematic review of the evidence
  - management of experts' declared conflict of interest;
  - balanced expert group composition, including target users, policy makers, with gender and geographical balance;
  - consensus-based process for developing recommendations, including consideration of potential harms and benefits, end users values and preferences;
- Two-phased approach for the revision

*\*The GRC was established by the Director General in 2007 to ensure that WHO guidelines are of a high methodological quality and are developed through a transparent, evidence-based decision-making process.*

# ITH book revision – Phase 1

- Meeting in February 2019 – discussed the following 8 priority areas;
  - Traveller diarrhoea (antibiotics and anti-diarrhoea agents)
  - Aspirin for deep vein thrombosis
  - Use of sleep inducing medication for long flights
  - Melatonin for jet lag
  - Phobia of flying
  - Altitude sickness prevention and treatment
  - Hypothermia
  - Hyperthermia
- **Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome (PICO)** questions are being identified, which will guide systematic reviews, following GRC approval.

# ITH book revision – Phase 2

Phase 2 covers the entire book and covers the following areas but not limited to;

- Chikungunya
- Cholera
- Dengue
- Ebola (not yet included)
- Hepatitis
- HIV/AIDS
- Injuries and violence
- Japanese encephalitis
- Leishmaniasis
- Malaria
- Meningococcal disease
- Polio
- Psychology
- Rabies
- Schistosomiasis
- Tuberculosis
- Vaccine preventable diseases
- Yellow fever
- Zika (not yet included)

## Overall Process

1. Update current version with the latest WHO guidelines made available by other programmes;
2. Revise current web page with HTML format to include the updates above;
3. Review the entire book to identify additional knowledge gaps
4. Conduct relevant systematic review to meet GRC requirements
5. Update the web page again.

➤ *Currently, 1 and 2 are being conducted.*

➤ *Full revision expected by end 2020*



# WHO Yellow Fever Vaccination

- Vaccination **recommendations** for travellers (WHO)
  - Protection of travellers
- Vaccination certificate **requirements** by States
  - Preventing importation of YF
- *Digital certificates – innovation and challenges*

**International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis**

*International Health Regulations (2005)*

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**Certificat international de vaccination ou de prophylaxie**

*Règlement sanitaire international (2005)*

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Issued to / Délivré à

.....

Passport number or travel document number  
Numéro du passeport ou du document de voyage

4

**INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE\* OF VACCINATION OR PROPHYLAXIS**

This is to certify that [name] .....

date of birth ..... sex .....

nationality .....

national identification document, if applicable .....

whose signature follows .....

has on the date indicated been vaccinated or received prophylaxis against: (name of disease or condition)

.....

in accordance with the International Health Regulations.

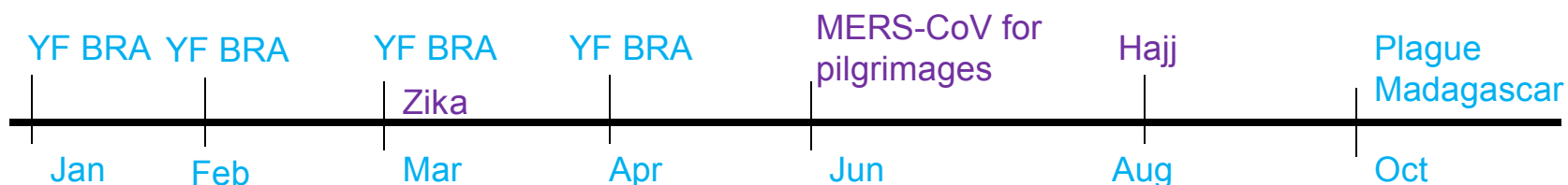
Vaccine or prophylaxis Vaccin ou agent prophylactique	Date Date	Signature and professional status of supervising clinician Signature et titre du clinicien responsable
1.		
2.		
3.		

\* Requirements for validity of certificate on page 2.

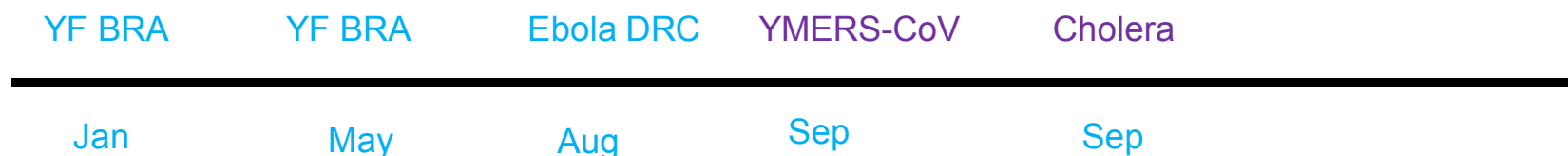
# Travel advice for international travellers

- Generic advice for **diseases** and ad-hoc advice for **specific events** (outbreaks, mass gathering events)

- **January – December 2017**



- **January – October 2018**



<http://www.who.int/ith/en/>