

WELSH HEALTH CIRCULAR



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

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This guidance is new

Title: ADMINISTRATION OF YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION CENTRES (YFVC)

For Action by: See page 2

Action required: Yes

For Information to: See page 2

Sender: Jenny Thorne, Public Health Protection Division

Welsh Assembly Government contact(s) for policy queries only: By e-mail or telephone please to: Neil Robins on 029 2082 5397 or Matthew Thomas on 029 2082 5410. Any queries about implementation need to be referred to the local NPHS Immunisation Co-ordinator.

Enclosure(s): None

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<http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/whcirculars.cfm>

FOR ACTION TO:	FOR INFORMATION TO:			
General Practice Managers	NHS	Director, Wales		
		Regional Office Directors		
		Regional Office Heads of Performance		
	NPHS	Directors		
		Consultants in Communicable Disease		
		Immunisation Co-ordinators		
		Consultants in Pharmaceutical Public Health		
	NHS	LHB	Chief Executives	
			Medical Directors	
			Nurse Directors	
			Finance Directors	
			Heads of Pharmacy & Medicines Management	
			Immunisation Leads	
			Prison Health Leads	
	Trusts		Chief Executives	
			Chief Pharmacists	
			Nurse Directors	
NHS Direct				
Chairman, All Wales Drug Contracting Committee				
All Wales Regional Specialist Pharmacist (Community Services)				
Medicines Information Centre				
Occupational Health Departments				
HMP Health Leads				
PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS INFORMATION IS PASSED TO THE APPROPRIATE PEOPLE WITHIN YOUR COMMAND OR SPECIALISM				

Colleagues,

ADMINISTRATION OF YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION CENTRES

PURPOSE

1. This circular sets out the new arrangements for the administration of Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres in Wales.

BACKGROUND

2. The Welsh Assembly Government (Welsh Assembly) is responsible for the designation of GP practices in Wales as Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres (YFVC). Those GP practices wishing to provide this service have to register with the Welsh Assembly. They are required to designate a medical practitioner responsible for immunisations given and he/she has to declare that:
 - ◆ only Yellow Fever vaccines approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) will be administered;
 - ◆ vaccines will be given only at the centre by a qualified medical practitioner or by a nurse working under his/her direct supervision;
 - ◆ facilities for storing and handling the vaccines will conform to acceptable standards;
 - ◆ proper records of vaccinations will be maintained for at least ten years;

- ◆ The International Certificates of Vaccination or Prophylaxis documenting yellow fever vaccination will be completed and signed by the vaccinator in accordance with WHO International Health Regulations;
- ◆ the Welsh Assembly will be notified immediately of any changes, such as a new address, that might affect the designation of the centre; and
- ◆ representatives of the Welsh Assembly will be given access to the centre and its records to ensure compliance with requirements.

THE NATIONAL TRAVEL HEALTH NETWORK AND CENTRE (NaTHNaC)

3. NaTHNaC has been created to promote and improve standards in travel medicine with the goal of protecting the health of the British traveller. Their overall aims include the development of consistent and authoritative guidance on general health matters to professionals advising the public travelling abroad. They are funded by the Department of Health and work in partnership with the:
 - ◆ Hospital for Tropical Disease;
 - ◆ Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine;
 - ◆ London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; and the
 - ◆ Health Protection Agency's Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre.
4. NaTHNaC currently provides authoritative UK guidance on general health matters for health professionals advising the public travelling abroad. They also undertake surveillance of infection and non-infectious hazards abroad and engage in dialogue with the major stakeholders involved in travel health (e.g. government, travel industry, insurance industry) with the aim of ensuring a unified prevention approach.
5. Their advice line is one of the major conduits for providing guidance on specific queries. Their website also presents important information on global or UK health events that have implications for travellers - and advises on the appropriate responses to these events.

YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

6. Under the direction of the Health Protection Agency, via the Secretary of State for Health, NaTHNaC has developed a YFVC programme that is now available to Wales. This involves:
 - ◆ a registration process for all new and existing centres;
 - ◆ training for a representative health professional from each centre; and
 - ◆ compliance with standards for vaccine storage and administration, record keeping and audit.
7. Existing centres will need to reapply for designation and complete the process satisfactorily. If a centre does not comply with requirements, they can lose their designation status and will no longer be able to purchase Yellow Fever vaccine from the vaccine suppliers.
8. After designation, NaTHNaC will support centres both generally and more widely. For example, they will provide about:
 - ◆ updates on epidemiology of yellow fever disease;

- ◆ information about yellow fever for travellers;
 - ◆ a check-list for physicians administering yellow fever vaccine;
 - ◆ a listing of the practice on the YFVC locator on the NaTHNaC website;
 - ◆ information on disease outbreaks around the world;
 - ◆ changes in advice for travellers; and
 - ◆ specific advice about difficult travel health scenarios.
9. NaTHNaC's costs in providing these services will be payable by GP practices who are required to submit a registration fee with their application (see para 16 below). GPC Wales has given their support to the commissioning of these services from NaTHNaC and will advise GP practices that they need to adjust their charges to travellers to accommodate the additional cost.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

10. Applications from existing YFVCs or new GP practices need to be made using the form provided on the NaTHNaC website:
- <http://www.nathnac.org/healthprofessionals/yellowfever.html>
- and submitted with the registration fee of £75 (see para 16 below) by 1 November 2005.
11. Once registration has been completed, the practice will be issued with a unique YFVC number with the prefix UKYFVC.
12. Within six months of registration, a health professional from the newly designated YFVC will be required to attend a one-day training event run by NaTHNaC or one of their core training bodies.
13. Once the training has been completed successfully and NaTHNaC receives proof of attendance, the centre is officially registered.
14. The YFVC will need to provide their registration number to Sanofi Pasteur MSD or Chiron in order to be able to purchase vaccines.
15. Existing YFVCs that do not comply with the outlined requirements can lose their designation status and will no longer be able to purchase vaccines from the manufacturers.

WHAT HAPPENS IN FUTURE?

16. YFVCs are required to renew their registration on an annual (for a £75 registration fee) or biannual basis (for £125).
17. GP practices will be required to send a health professional for training at two-yearly intervals.
18. NaTHNaC will support YFVCs and will cascade e-mail alerts about worldwide outbreaks and changes to advice for travellers. They will also provide advice about difficult travel health scenarios. Full contact details for NaTHNaC will be provided on designation.

Jenny Thorne
Public Health Protection Division