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## Yellow fever: Peru

### Cases of Yellow fever have been reported from Loreto, Pasco, Piura, Puno and San Martin

As of 28 March 2015, the Ministry of Health in Peru has confirmed a total of nine cases of yellow fever (YF), including three deaths, since the start of this year. Cases have been reported from the states of Loreto (two), Pasco (one), Piura (one) Puno (one) and San Martin (four) [1].

Areas below 2,300m in the states of Loreto, Pasco Puno, San Martin and eastern Piura are considered areas with risk of YF transmission. Puno city and Lake Titicaca destinations above 2,300m are not risk areas of YF transmission.

Vaccination is the most important preventive measure against YF.

## Yellow fever in the Americas

In the first three months of 2015, two countries in the Americas with a risk of YF transmission, have reported human cases (Brazil and Peru) [1-3]. In addition, in early April 2015, the Ministry of Health in Argentina has reported unconfirmed cases of YF from a number of states; 19 of these possible cases are still under investigation [4].

In South and Central America, 13 countries are considered endemic for YF. These are listed by the World Health Organization (WHO) as [countries with risk of YF transmission](#) [5]. Over the last three decades, the majority of cases of YF in the Americas have been reported from Peru (54% of all cases), Bolivia (18%), Brazil (16%) and Colombia (7%) [6].

In the Americas, the YF virus is usually transmitted in jungle areas via the bite of the *Haemagogus spp.* mosquito. The preferred biting/feeding time for this mosquito is unknown. The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, also prevalent in the Americas, favours an urban environment and can also transmit YF. Urban areas are at risk of introduction of YF due to human traffic between jungle and urban locations. *A. aegypti* feeds predominantly during daylight hours.

## Advice for health professionals

When undertaking YF risk assessment, health professionals should refer to the individual [country information](#) pages where detail relating to risk areas, recommendation for YF vaccination and certificate requirements are available. [A map of the current areas where YF vaccine is recommended in the Americas](#) has been produced by the WHO. This provides a useful guide for the consultation, and health professionals are also encouraged to access the [Outbreak Surveillance Database](#), where verified and some unverified outbreaks of YF are posted.

Under [International Health Regulations \(2005\)](#), countries are no longer required to automatically report YF outbreaks to the WHO; surveillance and reporting of YF in YF risk countries can be poor.

## Advice for travellers

If you are travelling to or through areas of Peru or [countries in the Americas with risk of YF](#), vaccination is recommended for your personal protection.

YF is transmitted to humans via the bite of an infected mosquito. You should take insect bite avoidance measures, day and night, when visiting countries with a risk of any disease transmitted by insects.

Full details of YF vaccination recommendations can be found on the [Country Information pages](#). Some travellers may require vaccination for certificate purposes. Details of the countries that require proof of YF vaccination as a condition of entry under the [International Health Regulations \(2005\)](#) are also provided.

## References

- [1. Ministerio De Salud. Perú. Boletín Epidemiológico \(Lima\). Dek 22 al 28 Mazo del 2015; Volumen 24, Semana Epidemiológica No.12. \[In Spanish\]. \[Accessed 16 April 2015\]](#)
- [2. Governodo Amapá. Agência Amapá de Notícias. Caso de febre amarela é confirmado no AP após 73 anos de erradicação no país 13 February 2015 \[In Portuguese\]. \[Accessed 16 April 2015\]](#)
- [3. State Department of Health of Goiás. Febre amarela: 1.189 são vacinados em um único dia. 16 February 2015. \[In Portuguese\]. \[Accessed 16 April 2015\]](#)
- [4. Ministerio de Salud. Republica Argentina. Boletín de Vigilancia \(Secretaría de Promoción y Programas Sanitarios\) No. 253. SE 14. Abril de 2015. \[In Spanish\]. \[Accessed 16 April 2015\]](#)
- [5. World Health Organization. International Travel and Health \(ITH 2014 Updates\). Geneva. World Health Organization \[Accessed 16 April 2015\]](#)
- [6. Pan American Health Organization. Yellow fever – key facts. \[Accessed 16 April 2015\]](#)
- [7. World Health Organization. Yellow Fever – Factsheet. Updated March 2014. \[Accessed 16 April 2015\]](#)