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Yellow fever: Brazil

As of 13 February 2014, a new case of yellow fever has been reported in Brazil

- As of 13 February 2015, a yellow fever case has been confirmed in a person who passed through the city of Alto Paraíso in Goiás State, Brazil. The individual was diagnosed and treated in Rio de Janeiro.
- This was initially reported as an isolated case in an individual who had visited an endemic area (Goiás State) [1]. There is no risk of yellow fever in Rio de Janeiro.
- As of 16 February 2015, authorities in Goiás confirmed a second case in Alto Paraíso; this case died.
- Vaccination is the most important preventive measure against yellow fever [2].

Yellow fever in the Americas

In South and Central America, 13 countries are considered endemic for yellow fever (YF). These are listed by the World Health Organization (WHO) as [countries with risk of YF transmission](#) [3].

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%) [4].

In the Americas, the virus is transmitted in jungle areas via the bite of the *Haemagogus* spp. mosquito. The preferred biting/feeding time for this mosquito is unknown. In towns, cities and rural areas the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito can also transmit YF. This mosquito 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 unverified outbreaks of YF are posted.

Under International Health Regulations (2005), countries are no longer required to automatically report yellow fever (YF) outbreaks to the WHO [5]; surveillance and reporting of YF in YF risk countries can be poor.

Advice for travellers

YF is transmitted to humans via the bite of an infected mosquito. You should take [mosquito bite avoidance measures](#) day and night.

If you are travelling to areas of [Brazil with risk of YF](#), including Goiás State, vaccination is recommended for your personal protection.

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. Ministério da Saúde - Portal da Saúde. Saúde é notificado de caso de febre amarela em Alto Paraíso. 13 February 2015 \[In Portuguese\]. \[Accessed 18 February 2015\]](#)
- [2. State Department of Health of Goiás. Febre amarela: 1.189 são vacinados em um único dia. 16 February 2015. \[In Portuguese\]. \[Accessed 18 February 2015\]](#)
- [3. World Health Organization. International Health Regulations \(2005\). 2nd edition. Geneva. World Health Organization \[Accessed 18 February 2015\]](#)
- [4. Pan American Health Organization. Yellow fever - key facts. \[Accessed 18 February 2015\]](#)
- [5. World Health Organization. Yellow Fever - Factsheet. Updated March 2014. \[Accessed 18 February 2015\]](#)