Yellow fever vaccination recommendations: Persons aged 60 years or older

Vaccination recommendations for travellers aged 60 years and older visiting countries with a low potential for exposure to yellow fever have been updated on Country information pages.

Following the publication of stronger precautions for people with weakened immunity and those aged 60 years and older [1], the vaccine recommendations for those countries with a low potential for exposure to yellow fever where yellow fever vaccination is generally not recommended [2] have been updated.

Recommendations for the following countries or for some areas of these countries have been updated:

Argentina, Columbia, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Sao & Tome, Somalia, Tanzania, Venezuela and Zambia.

For yellow fever specific recommendations, please see individual Country Information pages.

Advice for travellers

You should visit a Yellow Fever Vaccination Centre if you are planning a trip to a country where yellow fever may be a risk. There are a number of contraindications and precautions to yellow fever vaccine that will need to be considered prior to administering the vaccine.

Yellow fever vaccine should be given only (subject to a detailed risk assessment) when there is a significant and unavoidable risk of acquiring yellow fever infection, such as travel to an area where there is a current or periodic risk of yellow fever transmission.

If you are aged 60 years or older and are travelling to countries where there is a low potential for exposure to yellow fever you should not have yellow fever vaccine. In these instances, due to a higher risk of life-threatening side effects in this age group, yellow fever vaccine is not recommended.

References

1. MHRA, PHE, NaTHNaC, HPS Yellow fever vaccine: stronger precautions in people with weakened immunity and those aged 60 years or older November 21, 2019
2. World Health Organization, International Travel and Health 1 July 2019