



NaTHNaC

Annual Report

2022-2023



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OVERVIEW

Statement from the Chair

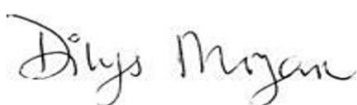
We are pleased to present the annual report for the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) which covers the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

The travel industry has faced severe challenges over the past three years, but as the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has reduced during the year, so the demand for travel services and advice has increased. The TravelHealthPro website remains a popular resource of information and advice for both health professionals and travellers, and the number of page views almost reached the pre-pandemic levels with over 10.53 million page views in 2022/3 compared to 10.76 million page views in 2018/19. At first, page views were mainly for short-haul locations, but as the year progressed, views for long-haul destinations increased. Calls to the Telephone Advice Line offering support to health professionals by specialist nurses for those with complex travel needs showed a 167% increase from 2021/22, with 2696 calls dealt with during the year. The COVID-19 traveller email service continued to operate, but only received 70 enquiries during the year compared to 399 last year.

Supporting and administering the Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres (YFVCs) remain an important role and source of funding for NaTHNaC, and although there was a small drop in the number of registered YFVCs in 2022/23 compared with 2021/22 (1765 and 1860 respectively), the number of new registrations more than doubled.

We would also like to thank the continuing support of our commissioners UK Health Security Agency, hosts University College London Hospitals (UCLH), our Collaborators, and Partners on NaTHNaC's Technical Advisory Group (TAG).

I would like to acknowledge the work done by the NaTHNaC team, not only in 2022/23 but since the COVID-19 pandemic started. They responded to the changing situation by working flexibly and focussing on the needs of British travellers and the travel Industry - just as they now manage the need for extra capacity as international travel increases. I thank them for their resilience, hard work and patience during this time as they continue to protect the health of British travellers as outlined in this report.



Professor Dilys Morgan MBE, MD

GOVERNANCE

The National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) was created by the Department of Health in 2002. We are now commissioned by UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and work in partnership with our network founders:

- The Hospital for Tropical Diseases
- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM)
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)
- University College London Hospital (UCLH) NHS Foundation Trust

NaTHNaC's broad aim is to protect the health of the British traveller, and it does this by providing evidence-based advice and information to health professionals, travellers, the travel industry, and national government, as well as training for health professionals and the travel industry.

NaTHNaC Technical Advisory Group

The NaTHNaC Technical Advisory Group was formed in April 2014 and has representation from each of the NaTHNaC partners plus UKHSA and UCLH NHS Foundation Trust. NaTHNaC is grateful for the support of each member organisation.

Technical Advisory Group Members:

- **Prof Nick Beeching** – Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
- **Dr Michael Brown** – University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- **Joanne Cayford** – Journalist and Radio Producer (observer)
- **Dr Vanessa Field** – NaTHNaC
- **Dr Hilary Kirkbride** – UK Health Security Agency
- **Prof James Logan** – London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- **Dr Nicky Longley** – Hospital for Tropical Diseases
- **Prof Dilys Morgan** – Chair
- **Dr Dipti Patel** – NaTHNaC
- **Prof Bertie Squire** – Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
- **Dr Fiona Yung** – University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

NaTHNaC Senior Management Team (SMT)

Established in June 2012, the NaTHNaC SMT consists of the director, deputy director, operations manager, senior nurse, deputy senior nurse, and clinical adviser. It is chaired by the director and meets on a quarterly basis. The SMT is responsible for the strategic and operational management of NaTHNaC, and for implementing any policies and strategies as agreed by the TAG.

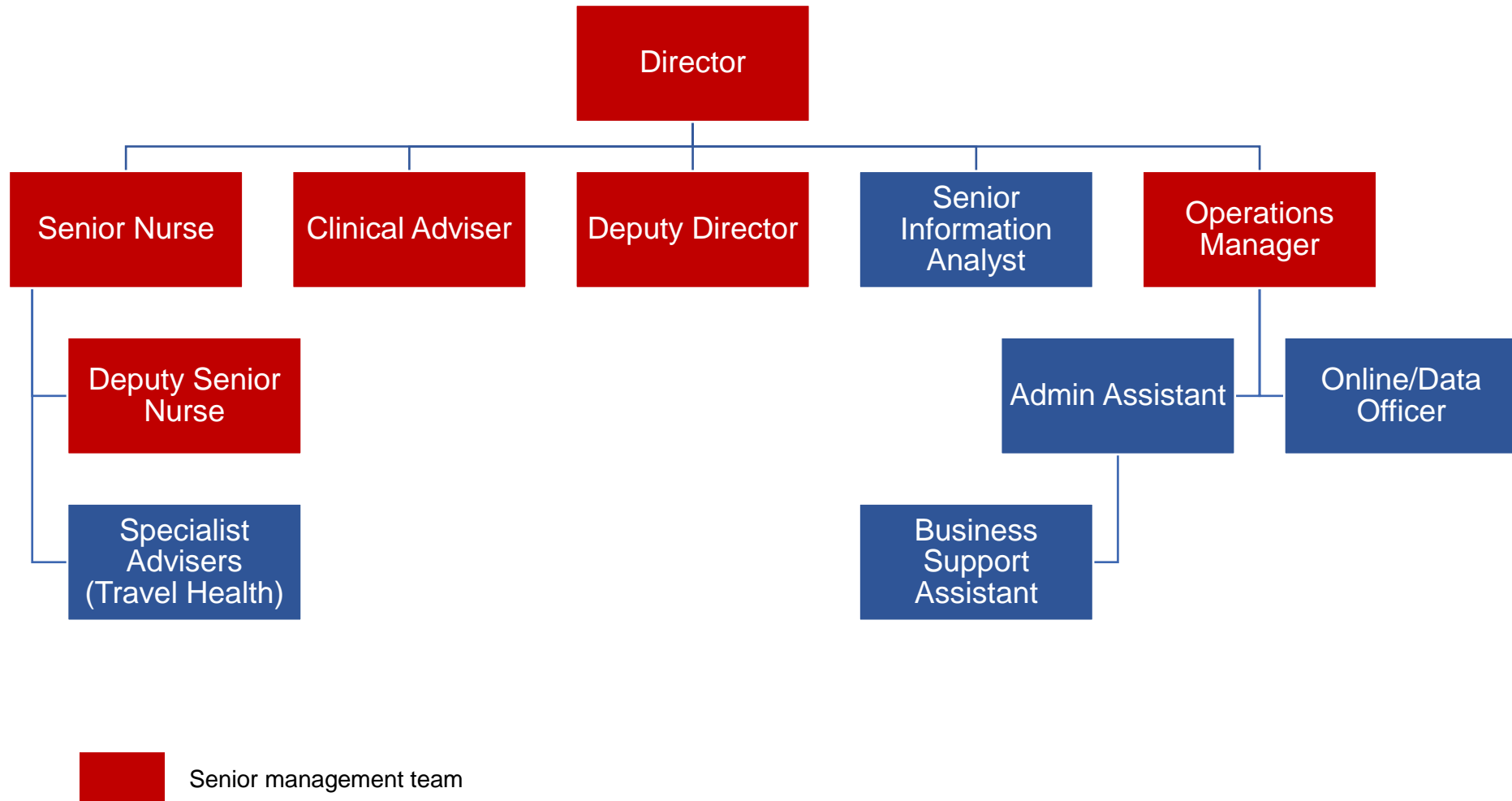
NaTHNaC Team

NaTHNaC's expertise is provided by 15 staff and has two bases in London and Liverpool. Staff include doctors, a pharmacist, nurses, an information analyst, and administrators (see organogram on page 5).

Team Members

- **Fatima Abba** – Specialist Pharmacist Adviser, UCLH (left January 2023)
- **Lynda Bramham (LB)** – Specialist Nurse Adviser, UCLH (remote worker)
- **Terence Corrigan (TC)** – Online Communications & Development/Data Officer, London
- **Dr Vanessa Field (VF)** – Deputy Director, UKHSA (remote worker)
- **Rachael Fletcher (RF)** – Specialist Nurse Adviser, UCLH
- **Dr Lisa Ford (LF)** – Clinical Adviser, LSTM
- **Mary Gawthrop (MG)** – Specialist Nurse Adviser, UCLH
- **Sanch Kanagarajah (SK)** – Senior Information Analyst, UCLH (remote bank worker)
- **Masum Miah (MM)** – Operations Manager, UCLH
- **Linda Pang (LP)** – Administrative Assistant, UCLH
- **Dr Dipti Patel (DP)** – Director, UKHSA
- **Dr Natalia Rodriguez Valero** – Sabbatical (October to December 2022)
- **Sheena Ryan** – Business Support Assistant, UCLH
- **Hilary Simons (HS)** – Senior Specialist Nurse, LSTM
- **Alexandra Stillwell (AS)** – Specialist Nurse Adviser, UCLH
- **Rose Tucker (RT)** – Specialist Nurse Adviser, UCLH (remote worker)

NaTHNaC Organogram



FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial statement covers the period from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

NaTHNaC receives operating funds from three sources:

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)

UKHSA provides core funding for NaTHNaC on an annual basis, and commissions NaTHNaC to carry out its work of primarily protecting the health of the British traveller, including the programme for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres (YFVCs). NaTHNaC is hosted by the UCLH NHS Foundation Trust, and its headquarters are at 250 Euston Road, London. All monies received from UKHSA are administered through the Trust, and all London-based NaTHNaC personnel (with the exception of the Director and Deputy Director) are employed by the Trust. The Director and Deputy Director are employees of UKHSA, and Liverpool staff are employees of Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

The Yellow Fever Vaccination Programme

Income from the yellow fever programme comprises both YFVC registration fees and training fees. Registration fees from YFVCs are assigned to the year of receipt and the subsequent year depending upon the period of registration of the individual centre (YFVCs have the option of registering for one or two years).

Yellow fever training programme fees are targeted to recover costs and may be carried over into subsequent years.

Other Income

NaTHNaC has additional income streams including provision of data feeds and training (non-yellow fever). These contribute a small amount to the operating budget.

Expenditure is divided between the two sites where NaTHNaC operates: the UCLH NHS Foundation Trust in London and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

NaTHNaC Financial Report

2022/23

INCOME		£	£
Annual Funding (UKHSA)		262,000	
Registration Fees - released & collected		300,462	
Training Fees		422,180	
Other Income		11,611	
TOTAL INCOME			996,253
EXPENDITURE			
	Pay UCLH	410,147	
	LSTM	104,390	
			514,537
	Training Costs	860	
	Rent, Rates and Utilities	37,888	
	General Expenditure	187,295	
			226,043
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		740,580
	OPERATING PROFIT / LOSS		255,673
	SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		255,673
	Surplus Carried forward	(95,163)	
	Registration Fees carried forward to future years	(160,764)	
	Mat leave income to cover future costs	0	
	Total Income carried forward		(255,927)

Notes/Assumptions

- *Registration fees carried forward related to cash received for registrations relating to future years.*
- *Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine overheads are charged at 25% costs.*
- *UCLH overheads are charged at 15% of UKHSA income plus partial accommodation costs.*

OPERATIONS

This section reviews NaTHNaC's six key service areas, describing how they helped meet our core objectives for 2022–2023, and achieve the broad aim of “**Protecting the Health of British travellers**”.

The whole NaTHNaC team moved to hybrid working from working from home in March 2022.

Key Service Areas

1. Advisory Services
2. Communication and information services
3. Education
4. International health surveillance
5. Partnerships and collaboration
6. Yellow fever vaccination programme

Core Objectives

1. Develop consistent and authoritative national guidance on general health matters for health professionals advising the public travelling abroad, and to disseminate this information widely.
2. Provide guidance on specific potential hazards relating to the health of travellers.
3. Carry out surveillance of infectious and non-infectious hazards which might affect British travellers and produce accessible regular outputs of significant findings.
4. Oversee a programme of designation, training, registration, standards and audit for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres (YFVCs) in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
5. Engage the major stakeholders concerned with travel health, especially the travel industry, insurance industry and government bodies, to assist in sentinel surveillance and to engage in constructive dialogue towards a unified approach.
6. Facilitate, in collaboration with other training providers, the training of health care and other personnel in the provision of best quality, evidence-based travel health advice.
7. To define short-term and long-term research priorities in relation to travel medicine.

ORGANISATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Advisory Services (core objective: 2,6,7)

Offering support to health professionals who are consulting regarding travellers with complex travel requirements

2696
Calls

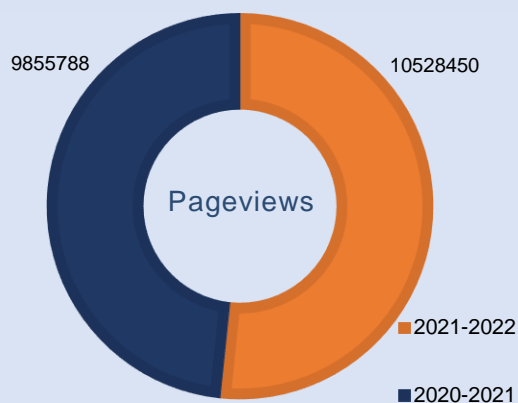
From 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 specialist nurses answered **2696** calls; a 167% increase compared to the same period in 2021.

The COVID-19 traveller email service answered **70** enquiries.

The yellow fever certificate email service answered **131** enquiries.

Communication and Information Services (core objective: 1,2,3,5,7)

Website: Dynamic, evidence-based travel health information



Between April 1st 2022 and March 31st 2023, the total number of unique page views to the TravelHealthPro was **10,528,401** (up 7% from 2021-22); **4,383,884** users visited the website during this time.

The five most popular pages included country information pages for Spain, Thailand, India, Greece, and a news item for COVID-19.

The three most popular factsheets viewed were insect and tick bite avoidance, medicines abroad, and food and water hygiene, with **119,599**, **104,378** and **86,362** unique page views respectively.

Insect and tick bite

119599

Medicines abroad

104378

Food and water

86362

Social Media

By May 2023, NaTHNaC's Twitter and Facebook followers increased to **4,069** and **2,459** respectively.

Education (core objectives: 2,6,7)

Facilitate the training of health care professionals and other personnel

NaTHNaC partnered with the Public Health Forum of the Royal College of Nursing to host their 5th joint annual conference.

NaTHNaC continues to work with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine to run the Professional Diploma in Travel Health, and in association with the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, run a travel medicine course for Infectious Disease Specialty Registrars. In addition, NaTHNaC hosted attachments from UK medical students and speciality registrars, and doctors from Spain and Chile.

NaTHNaC clinical staff continue to contribute as lecturers/examiners to courses run by a variety of organisations including the Faculty of Travel Medicine, and the International Society of Travel Medicine. Clinical staff also presented at a number of national and international conferences.

International Health Surveillance (core objectives: 1,2,3,5,7)

Identification and reporting of health events of importance to British travellers

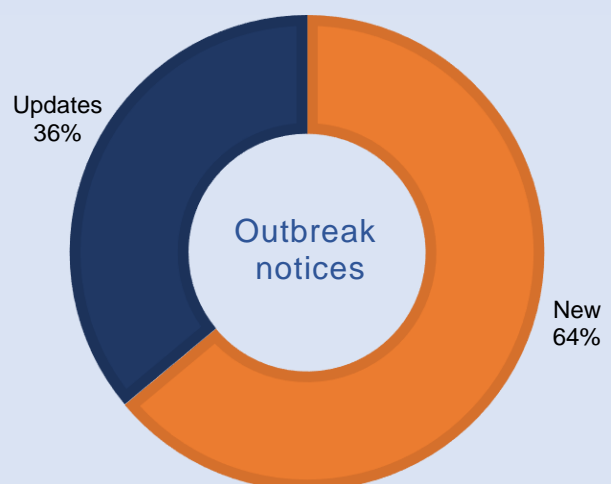
54

News items

Between April 1st 2022 and March 31st 2023, NaTHNaC posted 54 news items which described global health events of importance to British travellers. These news items also provided advice on how to reduce travel related health risks.

COVID-19 general advice for travellers remained the most popular news item.

A total of 208 outbreak notices were entered on the NaTHNaC outbreak surveillance database during 2022-2023. The majority of these (133) were new incidents and 75 (36%) were updates to existing outbreak notices. The most reported diseases were Mpox, Polio, Ebola and Cholera.



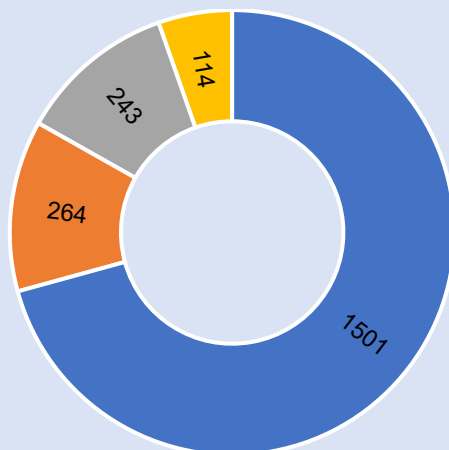
Partnerships and Collaborations (core objectives: 5,6)

Engage the major stakeholders concerned with travel health

NaTHNaC continues to have strong relationships with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) enabling clear and consistent messages to be communicated to the British travelling public. NaTHNaC currently licenses data to two commercial organisations.

Yellow Fever Vaccination Programme (core objectives: 1,2,4)

Registration, clinical standards, training, and audit for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres



■ Active ■ New
■ De-designated ■ Withdrawn

Between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023, there were a total of 1765 YFVCs of which 264 were new centres.

114 YFVC voluntarily withdrew their YF registration, and 243 were de-designated by NaTHNaC.

A total of 1643 health professionals completed yellow fever training during the year (1169 eLearning alone and 474 taking the eLearning supplemented by a virtual classroom option).

There was a 95% response rate from YFVCs to the online Annual Return of YF vaccine use (an increase on previous years).

NaTHNaC thanks our partner organisations for their support, expertise, and commitment to
'Protecting the Health of British Travellers'

