



Working Together, Sharing the Gospel

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Southeast Asia Vaccination & Health Information

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Please consult your physician or local travel clinic for more specific information regarding the vaccinations for travel to Southeast Asia.

As Kingdom Workers volunteers, we want to take the appropriate health measures that will:

1. Increase the likelihood for a positive volunteer experience,
2. Keep the volunteers as healthy as possible during their trip, and
3. Protect the host country from further exacerbating any health threats.

All volunteers should visit a travel clinic or seek recommendations from your physician before deciding to travel. Traveling abroad can expose you to communicable diseases, which can pose significant health risks especially to those with compromised immune systems or young and unborn children. The Kingdom Workers Health Advisory Committee and Global Security Consultant review potential health and safety risks, but it is your responsibility as the volunteer to research the latest health risks using the links below and seeking the advice of your primary care physician or local travel clinic before deciding to travel. In some countries, infectious agents such as the Zika virus and malaria are prevalent, and it is important to make an informed decision with your physician prior to traveling.

One volunteer getting sick in Southeast Asia due to an illness that could have been prevented prior to travel could drastically impact the entire team and its work. To that end, we follow the CDC recommendations and **strongly encourage** the following vaccinations:

- **Routine vaccinations** (MMR, DPT, tetanus, flu, varicella)
- **Hepatitis A**
- **Typhoid**
- We also strongly recommend bringing mosquito repellent with DEET to help prevent mosquito-borne diseases.

If possible, please initiate these vaccinations at least 6 months prior to departure to maximize their effectiveness. However, volunteers are simply asked to start the immunization process as soon as they are officially chosen for a mission trip. If you are medically not able to receive any of the above vaccinations (immune system problems, etc.), please provide a doctor's letter stating the reason.

We recognize the out-of-pocket cost of these vaccinations*, but such costs far outweigh the costs of a life-long disability due to not being immunized. In addition, protecting the health of the host country should be our main priority as visitors. See the following story of the cholera epidemic in Haiti – [[Click HERE](#)]

Some insurance plans cover travel shots under the 'immunizations' or 'preventative care' portions of the plan. You can also contact your insurance customer service or check their website for the location of in-network local travel clinics in your area.

***Note:** Funds raised on a Kingdom Workers gifting site may not be used for the cost of immunizations, passport, personal items purchased for the trip, or personal living expenses at home while on the mission trip.

Zika Virus	<p>There are mild health concerns for volunteers and possible links to specific risks for unborn children. In the end, only the volunteer can make the decision to serve in a Zika affected area. Consult your physician if you desire further understanding than what is provided below.</p> <p>State Department: https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/Zika.html Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: http://www.cdc.gov/zika/ WHO: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/zika/en/</p>
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FROM THE CDC WEBSITE for SOUTHEAST ASIA

Vaccination or Disease	Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases ALL Travelers
Routine	Make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before every trip. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot.
Hepatitis A or immune globulin (IG)	CDC recommends this vaccine because you can get hepatitis A through contaminated food or water in Southeast Asia, regardless of where you are eating or staying.
Typhoid	You can get typhoid through contaminated food or water in Southeast Asia. CDC recommends this vaccine for most travelers, especially if you are staying with friends or relatives, visiting smaller cities or rural areas, or if you are an adventurous eater.
Vaccination or Disease	Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases SOME Travelers
Hepatitis B	You can get hepatitis B through sexual contact, contaminated needles, and blood products, so CDC recommends this vaccine if you might have sex with a new partner, get a tattoo or piercing, or have any medical procedures.
Japanese Encephalitis	You may need this vaccine if your trip will last more than a month, depending on where you are going in Southeast Asia and what time of year you are traveling. You should also consider this vaccine if you plan to visit rural areas in Southeast Asia or will be spending a lot of time outdoors, even for trips shorter than a month. Your doctor can help you decide if this vaccine is right for you based on your travel plans.
Malaria	When traveling in Southeast Asia, you should avoid mosquito bites to prevent malaria. You may need to take prescription medicine before, during, and after your trip to prevent malaria, depending on your travel plans, such as where you are going, when you are traveling, and if you are spending a lot of time outdoors or sleeping outside. Talk to your doctor about how you can prevent malaria while traveling.

Rabies	<p>Rabies can be found in dogs, bats, and other mammals in Southeast Asia, so CDC recommends this vaccine for the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Travelers involved in outdoor and other activities (such as camping, hiking, biking, adventure travel, and caving) that put them at risk for animal bites.• People who will be working with or around animals (such as veterinarians, wildlife professionals, and researchers).• People who are taking long trips or moving to Southeast Asia• Children, because they tend to play with animals, might not report bites, and are more likely to have animal bites on their head and neck.
Yellow Fever	<p>There is no risk of yellow fever in this KW Southeast Asia field. The government <i>requires</i> proof of yellow fever vaccination only if you are arriving from a country with risk of yellow fever. This does not include the US. If you are traveling from a country other than the US, check this list to see if you may be required to get the yellow fever vaccine: Countries with risk of yellow fever virus (YFV) transmission.</p> <p>Your doctor can help you decide if this vaccine is right for you based on your travel plans.</p>