

From: Driscoll, Richard J [mailto:DriscollRJ@state.gov] Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2008 9:26 AM To: Driscoll, Richard J; Gary Ward DOE; Courtney Gillespie DOE; Michael Moore NASA; Notman, Evan M; Stolberg, Harold J.; Herb Raffaele - FWS; cdccables@cdc.gov; Sobel, Jeremy (CDC/COGH/DGPHCD); Kevin Bialy NIH; dcm1@cdc.gov; cgaylord@oc.fda.gov; Jean Noe Weaver USGS; Hill-Macon.Cam@epamail.epa.gov; Len Hirsch Smithsonian Institution; Schnier, David M Subject: GUIDANCE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION BEFORE TRAVELING TO BRAZIL

USG Colleagues,

This message is to alert travelers from your agency coming to Brazil on the importance of having a yellow fever vaccination. It is not clear that there is indeed increased risk to humans at this time, but the disease is lethal and the vaccine is essentially 100% effective. There is currently an alert in the District Federal and the surrounding state of Goias, with a yellow fever vaccination program in progress. Further, it is possible that the Brazilian Government could, with little or no advance notice, begin requiring proof of current Yellow Fever vaccination of anyone arriving from outside the country, or even, if there were detected localized areas of increased risk, of travelers moving around the country. Travelers in the past have not always paid close attention to being vaccinated and carrying proof of the same; they must now.

- . Yellow Fever is an often fatal disease, and is endemic to Brazil (always present in Brazil) and to much of South America.

- . The U.S. Mission to Brazil recommends, and has always recommended, that visitors, including TDYers, as well as USG employees stationed in Brazil, be immunized against Yellow Fever every ten years.

- o All should have a valid International Certificate of Vaccination Against Yellow Fever (in their "yellow card"). Travelers to Brazil who arrive via other western hemisphere or African countries may be required to present this when arriving in Brazil. Currently, travelers arriving on direct flights from the United States do not have to show this certificate, nor is there currently any requirement to show this certificate when traveling within the country.

- o Vaccination is available from the immunization clinic at the Office of Medical Services at the State Department, and from many government immunization clinics (it is usually not available from the doctor's office)

- o Certain individuals might be given an exemption certificate instead of vaccination, per their doctor's instruction

- . Personal protective measures (e.g., insect repellent, appropriate clothing, screens/air conditioning) should be used to prevent mosquito bites, which can transmit not only Yellow Fever but other diseases.

We would appreciate it if you would transmit this information to prospective travelers to Brazil from your agency.

Sincerely,

Rick Driscoll

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