

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **01. Why should I get the yellow fever vaccination certificate when arriving to Sri Lanka ?**

- As the mosquito vector (Aedes) responsible for transmission of yellow fever is present in Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Health Ministry has taken strict measures to prevent the occurrence of yellow fever in the country.

### **02. Who should get the yellow fever vaccination certificate when arriving to Sri Lanka ?**

- Any traveller aged 9 months and above, who has visited or transited (12 hours) through yellow fever endemic countries as alerted by WHO (mentioned in Section 5), should have a Valid Certificate on Yellow fever vaccination when arriving Sri Lanka at least 6 days prior to departure from the endemic country.

### **03. What is the period of validity of yellow fever vaccination ?**

- Yellow fever vaccination is valid for life long as per World Health Organization. Please see the following site for further details. <http://www.who.int/ith/updates/20160727/en/>

### **04. Do I need to carry the Yellow fever vaccination certificate when travelling to Sri Lanka ?**

- Yes, if you have taken the yellow fever vaccination, you have to produce the valid vaccination certificate at the airport/port of Sri Lanka

### **05. What are the yellow fever endemic countries ?**

- The list of yellow fever endemic countries in South American and African region is updated by WHO. Following countries are yellow fever endemic countries as alerted by WHO

#### **SOUTH AMERICAN REGION :**

- Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Guyana, Panama, Peru, Surinam, Venezuela.

#### **AFRICAN REGION :**

- Angola, Burundi, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zaire

### **06. What are the vaccines given by Assistant Port Health office of Quarantine Unit of Ministry of Health for departing travellers?**

<b>Vaccine</b>	<b>Price (SLR)</b>
Yellow Fever Vaccine – Local Visitor	Rs. 12, 200.00
Yellow Fever Vaccine – Foreign Visitor	Rs. 15, 000.00
Meningococcal Vaccine	Rs. 5, 650.00
Oral Polio Vaccine	Free of Charge

Yellow fever vaccination need to be taken by departing travelers who are aged 9 months and above, visiting yellow fever endemic countries (mentioned above) regarding the requirement of obtaining

yellow fever vaccination at least 10 days prior to embarkation. Meningococcal Vaccination against meningococcal disease is required for all persons more than 2 years travelling to Mecca during the annual Hajj and the Umrah pilgrimages and the vaccine should be given at least 10 days before arrival at Mecca. Oral Polio Vaccination is given to travellers who request the vaccination as some countries that instruct the travellers to have this vaccine before entry.

#### **07. What is the address of Assistant Port Health Office ?**

Assistant Port Health Office,  
Medical Research Institute (MRI), Borella,  
Colombo-08.

Tel : +94 112 675 182

Time : From 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. during week days (closed during government holidays and weekend).

#### **08. How can we get the malaria chemoprophylaxis treatment ?**

- According to the WHO recommendation, chemoprophylaxis treatment is recommended for travellers to countries where malaria transmission occurs (mentioned in section 9).
- The treatment and precaution methods can be obtained from :

Anti Malaria Campaign Headquarters,  
555/5 Elvitigala Mawatha,  
Colombo 05.

Tele : +94 112 588 408 / 2368173/ 2581918

Fax : +94 112 368 360 or from the respective Regional Officer of the Anti Malaria Campaign in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mulativu, Mannar, Vavuniya, Trincomalee, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Puttalam, Kurunagala, Maho, Matale, Batticaloa, Ampara, Kalmunai, Monaragala, Badulla, Hambanthota, Embilipitiya & Kegalle.

#### **09. What are the countries where malaria transmission occurs ?**

- Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Rep, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, French Guiana, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Gautamala, Guinea, Guinea- Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Lao PDR, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mayotte, Mozambique, Myanmar, Mexico, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Paraguay, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Suriname, Thailand, Timor Leste, Togo, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda, Tanzania, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Venezuela, Yemen Socotra Island, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Chemoprophylaxis is not needed for visitors to Sri Lanka and anyone living within the country including pregnant women

#### **10. From where can the travellers arriving from malaria endemic countries get the blood testing for malaria done ?**

- Testing can be done at :

Anti Malaria Campaign Headquarters,  
555/5 Elvitigala Mawatha,  
Colombo 05.

Tele : +94 112 588 408 / 2368173 / 2581918

Fax : +94 112 368 360 or from the respective Regional Officer of the Anti Malaria Campaign in the districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mulativu, Mannar, Vavuniya, Trincomalee, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Puttalam, Kurunagala, Maho, Matale, Batticaloa, Ampara, Kalmunai, Monaragala, Badulla, Hambantota, Embilipitiya & Kegalle.

In addition, arriving travellers can get the testing done freely at the Airport Health Office, Bandaranaike International Airport/ Katunayake.

#### **11. What are the authorized ports that issue Ship Sanitation Certificates in Sri Lanka ?**

- Port Health Office, Colombo Port.
- Port Health Office, Galle Port.
- Port Health Office, Magampura Mahinda Rajapaksa Port, Hambantota
- Port Health Office, Trincomalee Port

#### **12. What is the cost to get a Ship Sanitation Certification done in Sri Lanka ?**

- Vessels 1000 or less than 1000 gross tonnage – 200 US dollars or equivalent Sri Lankan Rupees
- Vessels between 1001-3000 gross tonnage – 250 US dollars or equivalent Sri Lankan Rupees
- Vessels above 3001 gross tonnage – 300 US dollars or equivalent Sri Lankan Rupees
- Extension of ship sanitation certificate – 100 US dollars or equivalent Sri Lankan Rupees

The payment should be made to the respective Port Health Office at least 48 hours prior to the inspection of the ship and payment is unrelated to the inspection outcome.

#### **13. How can I get permission to bring an animal to Sri Lanka ?**

- Need to get the permission from Animal Quarantine Unit of Department of Animal production and Health/ Sri Lanka

Tel : +94 112 448 683

Email : caqocolombo@sltnet.lk

Website : <http://www.daph.gov.lk/web/index.php?lang=en>

#### **14. How can I get permission to bring a plant to Sri Lanka ?**

- Need to get the permission from National Plant Quarantine Services of Department of Agriculture/ Sri Lanka

Tel : +94 112 252 028

Website : <https://www.doa.gov.lk/SCPPC/NPQS/>

#### **15. How can I get permission to import food to Sri Lanka ?**

- Need to get the permission from Environment, Occupational Health and Food Safety Unit of Ministry of Health/ Sri Lanka