# **Travelers' Health in the Primary Care Setting**



## **AT EVERY VISIT**

Ask "Do you plan to travel internationally in the next 6-12 months?"

Discuss the importance of travelers' health before future travel and express the need to seek care, ideally 4-6 weeks before travel.

## REFER TO A TRAVEL HEALTH CLINIC

Whenever possible, refer patients to <u>International Travel Health Clinics Serving Minnesota Residents</u> (www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/travel/yfclinic.html). Discuss anticipated costs and recommend calling insurance company to ask about costs.

## OR PROVIDE TRAVELERS' HEALTH

Discuss destination(s), location type (e.g., rural, urban), duration, companions, activities, and other travel details. Refer to <a href="Heading Home Healthy (www.headinghomehealthy.org">Heading Home Healthy (www.headinghomehealthy.org</a>) for individual patient-based recommendations and CDC: Travelers' Health (wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel) for additional guidance.

## **Routine Vaccines**

- Ensure patient(s) are up to date with all routine vaccines
- Emphasize importance of measles (MMR) vaccine
- Infants 6-12 months need 1 dose MMR before travel
- Children ≥ 12 months need 2 MMR doses separated by at least 28 days before travel

## **Traveler's Health Vaccines**

- Based on destination(s) these might include yellow fever (YF), typhoid, Japanese encephalitis, meningococcal (required for Hajj or Umrah)
- YF vaccine only given in licensed clinics: <u>International Travel Health</u> Clinics Serving Minnesota Residents (www.health.state.mn.us/people/imm unize/basics/travel/yfclinic.html)

## **Malaria Prophylaxis**

- Prescribe malaria prophylaxis, if recommended for the destination
- Refer to Malaria Prophylaxis for the Primary Care Provider (www.health.state.mn.us/disea ses/travel/hcp/medrecs.pdf)

## **Pre-traveling Counsel**

#### Food and drink safety:

- Avoid drinking tap water
- "Boil it, peel it, cook it, or forget it"
- Hand hygiene

### Vector-borne disease prevention:

- Insect repellents (20% DEET or picaridin)
- Long sleeves and pants
- · Insecticide-treated bed nets as needed

### **Transportation safety:**

- Always wear seatbelts, use car seats
- · Wear helmets when riding motorcycles

### **Animal safety:**

- Avoid contact with animals
- Seek immediate care for bites/scratches

#### Safer sex and STIs