

Guide to using the Travel Vaccine Traffic Light

This tool can be used with a client/patient to help visually identify with them a level of consideration that should be given to each of the travel vaccines. It is a simple tool by which a tick can be put in the box relevant to each vaccine in relation to the individual's circumstances.

This is how to use the traffic light categories:

Green	Amber	Red
Vaccine not required	Vaccine can be considered	Vaccine is recommended, or a certificate required
This may be for a number of factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No disease risk at location - Up to date with vaccine schedule - Up to date with UK or Ireland schedule – no higher risk at location - Does not fit set criteria for vaccine. ie BCG 	The traveller may decide to consider vaccine based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activities - Disease risk at location - Future travel plans - Completing a previous started vaccine schedule - Length of stay - Purpose of trip - Accommodation - Medical History 	The traveller falls in to a higher risk group or a certificate requirement. This may be due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disease risk at location - Remote travel - Activities - Medical conditions - Country Cert requirement - Current outbreaks

Below is an example of its use in practice.

19yr old traveller is off to India for two-month summer trip and will be travelling across the whole country completing a range of long distance runs in regions that they will travel to. This includes Karnataka and Northern India. They will be staying in basic guesthouses around the country. They are up to date with their UK Immunisation Schedule, have never travelled before and have no significant medical history.

This is how the table would be completed with them:

	Hep A	Typhoid	Dip, Tet, Pol	Cholera	Hep B	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Men ACWY	TBE	JBE	TB
	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓	
				✓							
			✓				✓	✓	✓		✓

Rationale which will come from the risk assessment:

Hepatitis A – Risk from food and water – length of trip, region risk of disease and impact on trip.

Typhoid – Risk from food and water – length of trip, region risk of disease and impact on trip.

Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio – Last dose at 14yrs – up to date.

Hepatitis B – Risk from contact with infected body fluids – nature of trip higher risk of accidents.

Rabies – Risk from infected animals, high rates in country, activities of running increase risk

Yellow Fever – No disease risk, not travelling from country with risk of disease. No cert required.

Men ACWY – Disease risk no more significant than home country. Had MEN ACWY vaccine at 18yrs.

Tick borne encephalitis – No disease risk.

Japanese Encephalitis – Increased risk from regions, season of travel and accommodation.

Tuberculosis – Does not meet set criteria for BCG vaccination.