Immunizations

Schiffert Health Center

First and foremost, do not wait until the last minute!!! It takes 2-4 weeks to build immunity following a vaccine. It seems to always be busy so make an appointment as soon as possible.

Direct the student to go to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) , choose ‘Traveler’s Health’, click ‘Destinations’ and select the country. Print off the indications. At this point, the student may need to make an appointment in the Medical Clinic under Travel. There may be several prescription medications needed and these would need to be ordered by a practitioner. Bring the information printed off the CDC website to the clinic appointment. This is important for the practitioner to order the correct medication. All malaria medication will not work everywhere as it is place specific.

For injectable vaccines, the traveler will need an appointment in the Allergy/Immunization Clinic. Know how many vaccines are needed and what they are before calling for an appointment.

The following is a list of available vaccines and their current prices. Prices are subject to change. Some of these are not travel, but we offer them.

HPV (Gardasil) $209.00

Hepatitis A (adult, 19 years & older) $ 42.00

Hepatitis A (adolescent, thru 18 years) $ 27.00

Hepatitis B (adult, 20 years and older) $ 52.00

Hepatitis B (adolescent, thru 19 years) $ 23.00

Menactra (meningococcal) $125.00

MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) $ 78.00

Polio (IPV) $ 37.00

Rabies (3 are needed for pre-exposure, 21 days to complete) $290.00 each

Td (tetanus, diphtheria) $ 40.00

Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) $ 42.00

Typhoid (injectable, good for 2 years) $ 101.00

Typhoid (oral, Vivo-tif, good for 5 years) $ 76.00

The oral Typhoid must be ordered from the Medical Clinic then purchased in the pharmacy.

The Yellow Fever must be obtained at the Montgomery County Health Department, phone: 540-585-3300.

Japanese Encephalitis: 2 vaccines, 28 days apart. Some local pharmacies offer this. Traveler may receive it at the pharmacy or purchase it at the pharmacy and bring it to Schiffert Health Center for administration. This must be refrigerated if not brought directly to us. We charge $6.00 for administration. If you pick it up from the pharmacy, it must be handled and stored correctly. The manufacturer has strict guidelines for temperature control. A home refrigerator would not meet their guidelines.

Travelers can check with their own physician, but many will not have the needed vaccines. The benefit of dealing with a personal physician is if insurance will cover the vaccine, they will handle the filing. However, many vaccines are optional and not covered. Schiffert Health Center does not file insurance, so the traveler will need to request an itemized statement which can be submitted to their insurance for possible reimbursement.

The Montgomery Health Department at 210 South Pepper Street-Suite 1, Christiansburg, VA will usually carry most vaccines, however their Travel Clinic is only open every other Tuesday from 8-12 am, by appointment only. It is an all-inclusive clinic (there is a clinician on-site and they offer vaccines, prescriptions for malaria, etc.). Hedy Ruohoniemi can be contacted at 540-585-3345. It is recommended the traveler speak with their insurance prior to the appointment to find out if the vaccine(s) will be covered. Insurance will be filed, but traveler must pay any amount over. The vaccine should be administered at least 2 weeks prior to departure, and longer for some vaccines.

Many pharmacies offer vaccines and the pharmacist may administer them. They will also file for insurance.

For students needing yellow fever vaccine, consider visiting the Health Department only because they will be billed twice; once for their visit to Schiffert and a second time for their visit to the Health Department. They can receive all their shots, malaria script, etc. all in one place at the Health Department.

Medical Consultations and Vaccination Services

All Virginia Tech faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students who perform research or related work in remote areas, including in other countries, where such work could potentially expose persons directly to a disease vector or for which travel vaccinations are recommended or required for travel to that country, can obtain vaccinations and other services including travel consultations through Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). EHS must be contacted at least two months in advance of such travel to arrange services. Contact EHS general line – 1-3600 and ask for the Occupational Health Group.