

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES NETWORK AUSTRALIA (CDNA)
PRE-DEPARTURE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES HEALTH SCREENING
PROTOCOLS FOR REFUGEES ARRIVING FROM AFRICA (Feb 2006)**

**STEP 1
3-12 months prior to departure**

At time of applying for a humanitarian visa, IOM to conduct immigration medical examination including:

- HIV screening, and
- Tuberculosis screening.

NO to all = Humanitarian visa granted

YES to one or more = Manage appropriately as per national TB/HIV guidelines, may be reconsidered for Humanitarian visa at a later date, may be a health undertaking once entry visa is issued.

**STEP 2
Within 1 week of departure**

IOM to conduct pre-departure health screening preferably 72 hours prior to departure. If more than 6 months since last medical examination complete exam to be repeated (including CXR)

Febrile (temperature > 38°)?

Symptoms of lower or severe upper respiratory tract illness?

Gastrointestinal symptoms (>3 episodes of diarrhoea in previous 24 hours) or dehydration?

Returned positive result to CDC approved malaria (Pl. F) Rapid Diagnostic Test?

Has person come from a camp with recent cholera / measles / meningitis transmission and is unwell?

Does the medical officer suspect the development of other diseases such as TB, measles, cholera or meningitis?

**NO to ALL =
FIT
To
FLY
(+ 1 Dose of
Albendazole and
YF vaccine if
required)**

**YES to one or
more =
NOT FIT
To
FLY
Treat appropriately
as CDC guidelines
recommend and
delay departure**

If travel is delayed by more than 1 week, IOM to repeat the pre-departure physical examination screening.

DOCUMENTATION

IOM must seek to obtain all immunisation records, antenatal and Road to Health cards where possible from the refugee camp health centre. Should be given to head of household.

DIMA

Notify liaison point (appointed by head of Public Health in each jurisdiction) of upcoming refugee arrivals and whether empirical treatment or vaccinations were provided. Notify liaison point well in advance (to ensure public health preparedness) about individuals with infections of potential public health importance.