Travel Advice Policy TAMAR VALLEY HEALTH

Travel advice is no longer available or funded by NHS England. Tamar Valley Health will no longer be providing travel consultation appointments, but we are able to administer NHS vaccines if you know which vaccinations you need for the country (or countries) you are visiting. You will need to obtain non-NHS vaccines & malaria medication from pharmacies or travel clinics.

Private travel advice clinics offer a service to review the vaccinations & medication you might need for a trip abroad. They will also provide advice in relation to the areas being visited.

Tamar Valley Health recommend patients use a travel consultation service especially when exploring exotic, remote or countries where certain vaccines or medication is required/ advised for entry. These services will be chargeable.

Travel consultation providers;

Find a travel clinic Travel Clinics in Devon - <u>Travel Vaccinations Near Me</u> Gunnislake Pharmacy - <u>Scheduling and Booking Website</u> Masta Home - <u>MASTA Travel Health</u> Aquamarine Health Clinic - <u>Plymouth Travel Health Clinic Aquamarine</u>

Travel schedules;

Some vaccines require more than one dose, we recommend booking travel consultations and reviewing vaccine requirements in advance (at least a few months before you travel).

Alternative options;

Patients can also research this themselves and approach their healthcare provider for the funded NHS vaccines (if required), however some vaccines are not covered by the NHS and will need to be paid for privately, which GP surgeries are no longer able to provide. We recommend booking NHS vaccinations with your GP practice 3-4 weeks in advance. Tamar Valley Health cannot offer urgent appointments for travel vaccinations.

The NHS funded vaccines are;

TetanusHepatitis ATyphoidDiphtheriaPolioCholera

When researching and reviewing your travel plans we recommend you use **<u>NaTHNaC</u>** - <u>Home & Foreign travel</u> <u>advice - GOV.UK.</u>

Tamar Valley Health can only provide and administer NHS supplied vaccines. If you wish to make an appointment for this, please call or pop in to the surgery.

Reception will need to know:

- \circ What vaccines you require (NHS only vaccines)
- Where you are going

• When you are going

At your appointment you will be given a full printout of your vaccines and booster dates.

Tamar Valley Health are not responsible for patients not obtaining or investigating appropriate travel advice.

Why has this policy on travel advice changed?

We have previously offered free travel consultations for our patients, these were 30-minute appointments per patient + further 20 minutes appointments for additional vaccines. Due to increasing patient demand for nursing services, we have had to make this difficult decision to stop this service, freeing up 6 hours of nurse appointments per week. This enables vital nursing services such as wound care, dressings, blood tests, ECG's, chronic disease (asthma, COPD, diabetes) reviews, baby/ child immunisations, injections, smears, sexual health, women's health, dopplers and NHS health checks. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.