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Mr. Joseph Y.C. Tung, J.P.

21 November 2017

**Yellow Fever Vaccination for Travellers**  
**Updated situation in Brazil**

Dear Mr. Tung,

We are writing to inform you of updated situation on yellow fever infection in Brazil and vaccination for travellers, and solicit your help in disseminating the following message to all travel agencies.

Yellow fever is a viral disease transmitted by the bite of infected mosquitoes. It is endemic in parts of Africa, Central and South America. The World Health Organization recommends immunisation for all travellers visiting areas with risk of yellow fever transmission. Yellow fever is the only disease specified in the International Health Regulations (2005) for which countries may require proof of vaccination from travellers as a condition of entry under certain circumstances.

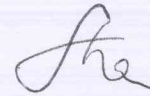
Since the beginning of 2017, there have been reports of yellow fever cases in Brazil. The yellow fever virus transmission continued to expand towards the Atlantic coast of Brazil in areas not deemed to be at risk for yellow fever transmission, including the urban areas of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. Therefore, vaccination against yellow fever is recommended to



all travellers visiting Brazil, including cruise passengers with port calling activities.

It is anticipated that there will be increase in travel to Brazil for the upcoming Rio Carnival, it is important for the travel agents to alert their clients of the need to receive yellow fever vaccination before their travel and remind them to seek travel health advice early for assessment of suitability to receive the vaccine. If the travel agent is uncertain about the need of yellow fever vaccination for a particular destination / country, it is advised to enquire through our email [trhealth@dh.gov.hk](mailto:trhealth@dh.gov.hk).

For more information, please visit the Travel Health Service website (<http://www.travelhealth.gov.hk/eindex.html>). Thank you very much.



(Dr Anna WONG)  
for Chief Port Health Officer