

NHS Bedfordshire and NHS Luton Travel Vaccination Policy

NHS Bedfordshire and NHS Luton have developed a Travel Vaccination Policy to assist doctors and nurses when receiving requests from patients for vaccination.

The policy clarifies national guidance on which vaccinations may be prescribed on the NHS and which should be privately prescribed.

The policy covers:

- Travel vaccinations available on the NHS
- Travel vaccinations available privately

If you would like a copy of the policy please contact NHS Bedfordshire or NHS Luton using the details overleaf.

Why can't I have Hepatitis B and Meningitis ACWY vaccination for the purposes of travel on the NHS?

Some vaccines are free of charge such as Hepatitis A and Typhoid. However, some vaccines are not covered under the NHS and so we are obliged to charge our patients for vaccines such as Hepatitis B (which includes any blood tests for testing whether you have immunity), Meningitis ACWY, Rabies and Yellow Fever.

Is this just being done by NHS Bedfordshire and NHS Luton?

No. This is NHS Policy and is widely adopted in other areas.

What can I do now?

Your GP practice will be able to tell you whether it is advisable for you to have the vaccine privately.

They will also be able to tell you the costs associated with the vaccine.

What will I be charged for the vaccination if I have it privately?

There is no standard fee for each injection. Different GP practices may have different charges and the charges will include the cost of the injection and an administration fee.

Some GPs do not keep a supply of these vaccines in stock, so you may have to get them from a community pharmacy on a private prescription issued by your GP.

Your GP can charge a fee for writing the prescription and the pharmacist will make a charge for dispensing the vaccine, based on the cost of the vaccine supplied.

This may be substantially more than an NHS prescription charge. Different pharmacies may charge different amounts so you may want to ask for a few quotes before choosing where to have your prescription dispensed.

Travel Health Information

NHS Choices contains health advice for travellers, including how to obtain a European Health Insurance Card, how to get medical treatment abroad and information on staying healthy while away.

Visit:

www.nhs.uk/Livewell/TravelHealth/Pages/Travelhealthhome.aspx

General travel health advice and recommendations for medicines you may need can be found at www.fitfortravel.scot.nhs.uk or www.MASTA.org or www.who.int/ith. These websites should be used in addition to advice from your GP practice and community pharmacist.





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Travel Vaccination Policy - Information for patients

This leaflet explains why some vaccinations are not available for travel purposes on the NHS.

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille, audio cassette and other languages on request.

