**Travel Vaccines Policy for GP Surgery**

**Introduction**

At Herne Hill Road Medical Practice, we are committed to ensuring the health and well-being of our patients while traveling abroad. To this end, we provide a range of travel vaccines, some of which are available on the NHS. This policy outlines the travel vaccines available on the NHS and important guidelines for scheduling appointments.

**Travel Vaccines Available on the NHS**

The following travel vaccines are available at no cost to patients through the NHS:

1. **Hepatitis A Vaccine**
	* Recommended for travel to areas where hepatitis A is common.
	* Typically requires one initial injection followed by a booster 6 to 12 months later for long-term protection.
2. **Typhoid Vaccine**
	* Recommended for travel to areas where typhoid fever is prevalent.
	* Usually administered as a single injection.
3. **Combined Hepatitis A and Typhoid Vaccine**
	* Provides protection against both hepatitis A and typhoid with a single injection.
	* Suitable for travellers to areas where both diseases are common.
4. **Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Polio (Td/IPV) Vaccine**
	* Recommended for travellers to areas where these diseases are present or where medical care standards are lower.
	* Administered as a booster if the previous dose was more than 10 years ago.
5. **Cholera Vaccine**
	* Recommended for travellers to areas where cholera is widespread.
	* Typically given as an oral vaccine.

**Scheduling an Appointment**

**Advance Planning**

It is mandatory that patients schedule their travel vaccine appointments at least **8 weeks prior to their departure date**. **Any requests for travel consultations required less than 8 weeks prior to departure will not be approved**. This ensures that there is sufficient time for the vaccines to take effect and for any additional doses or boosters that may be required.

**Appointment Booking**

To book a travel vaccine appointment:

1. Book an appointment online via our web portal.
2. Inform the receptionist of your travel plans and intended destinations.
3. Schedule an appointment with one of our travel health specialists.

**Travel Health Consultation**

During your travel health consultation, our healthcare professional will:

* Review your travel itinerary.
* Assess your current vaccination status.
* Provide advice on any additional vaccines or health precautions you may need.
* Administer the required vaccines.

**Important Considerations**

* **Non-NHS Vaccines**: Some travel vaccines, such as those for rabies, Japanese encephalitis, or tick-borne encephalitis, are not available on the NHS and are not provided at our practice. These vaccines must be obtained from private travel clinics.
* **Vaccine Availability**: Ensure you book your appointment well in advance to avoid any delays, as some vaccines may require ordering or special scheduling.
* **Travel Insurance**: Verify that your travel insurance covers health issues related to your travel destination, including any additional vaccines not covered by the NHS.

**Conclusion**

Your health and safety are our priority at Herne Hill Road Medical Practice. By adhering to this policy and scheduling your travel vaccine appointments at least 8 weeks prior to travel, you help ensure a healthier and safer trip. For further information or to book an appointment, please contact our reception team.

**Contact Information:**

* Phone: 020 7737 9393
* Address: HHR Medical Practice. 1-3 Herne Hill Road, London. SE24 0AU
* Website: hernehillroadgp.co.uk

We wish you a safe and healthy journey!