

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Dear Dr.

We have recently reviewed forms for your patient, _____, who plans to travel outside of the USA and have suggested that he/she may wish to touch base with you prior to leaving on this trip. The travel itinerary is to an area that is considered to be moderate or high risk for infections from vaccine preventable diseases and insect vector diseases. We recommend he/she schedules an appointment at our travel clinic for travel immunizations/ country specific travel health risk information and prescriptions for anti-malaria/other travel specific medications. It is recommended travelers planning a trip outside of the US be current on all CDC recommended routine immunizations for persons living in the US. Please verify that your patient is up to date on all of the current CDC recommended vaccines.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/default.htm>

If this patient is taking prescription medications he/she may need to contact their insurance company for a vacation extension that allows individuals to fill a prescription that will last the duration of their travel. The pharmacy will require a written prescription for the increased amount of medication for travel. Please include a few extra doses in case of travel delays.

We recommend that all patients carry a written copy of their prescriptions using generic terminology. This may facilitate getting the correct replacement medications if theirs should be lost or stolen.

If your patient has a chronic health problem or an acute condition that may require medical care while abroad, it would be helpful for you to discuss a treatment plan/ back up health care plan should their condition worsen during travel.

<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/content/illnessInjuryAbroad.aspx>

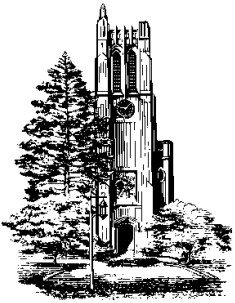
Recommendations you provide for this patient may include helping them to decide if it is safe for them to travel outside of the USA. If their medical or psychiatric condition is not stable and appropriate treatment will be difficult to obtain or unavailable, you may want to advise that they postpone their travel until their health is more stable. You may also want to provide your patient with a brief letter that contains a review of this patient's condition and treatment plan. This could be helpful in facilitating ongoing safe care during travel, especially for persons with chronic health conditions.

If your patient is taking controlled substance medications or medications that require self injections, he/she should have a letter stating condition requiring the medication and copy of prescription to carry with their medication. This would provide customs agents with the verification that such items are needed for the patient's travel.

Thank You for your participation in your patient's safe travel.

Sincerely,

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