

Consent form Yellow Fever Vaccine

Name

Information for patient

Address

Date of Birth

What is yellow fever?

Yellow fever is caused by a virus that spreads to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. The disease is of short duration and varying severity. The incubation period varies from 3 to 6 days.

Although the disease can be benign, serious complications can develop. The disease is characterised by sudden onset of fever, headache, backache, extreme fatigue, nausea and vomiting. When the disease progresses (in about 15 % of infected people) kidney failure and bleeding symptoms may occur. Jaundice is moderate early in the disease and worsens later. Death occurs in almost 50 % of severe cases.

Yellow fever exists only in certain countries of Africa and South America. The number of cases has increased over the past 20 years.

Important information concerning vaccination

Yellow fever vaccine is a live attenuated vaccine that can be recommended to people travelling to a country where the infection is present, if there are no contraindications to the vaccine. Vaccination is a legal requirement for entry into certain countries.

The principal prevention measure consist in getting vaccinated at least 10 days before travelling to a region at risk and bringing protective clothing, bed nets and mosquito repellent. The vaccine provides protection in almost 100 % of cases.

Possible adverse reactions to the vaccine and what to do.

1. In most cases, the vaccine causes no adverse reactions.
2. Less than 5 % of people who receive the vaccine develop fever, headaches and muscle pain 5 to 10 days after vaccination. These symptoms last 1 to 3 days. It is advised to rest, drink plenty of fluids and take medication for fever, such paracetamol or ibuprophen (if oral temperature is 38,5°C or rectal temperature is 39,0° or higher)
3. Serious allergic reaction to yellow fever vaccine is extremely rare and occurs mostly among people with a history of allergy to eggs or to gelatine (1/130 000 distributed doses).
4. In very rare cases, the vaccine can cause neurological complications (encephalitis) especially in newborns. The risk of developing neurological complications after receiving yellow fever vaccine is estimated at 0.8 cases per 100 000 administered doses. In people aged 60 to 70 years old and those 70 years and older, the risk is higher, respectively 1.6 and 2.3 cases per 100 000 administered doses.
5. In rare cases, serious reactions causing liver, neurological or kidney damage, have been reported. It is estimated that this occurs in 0.4 cases per 100 00 administered doses (in people 60 to 69 years old, the risk is estimated at 1,1/100 000 doses, and at 2.3/100 000 doses in those 70 years old and older). Eleven per cent of cases happened in patients with a disease of the thymus. Please tell the vaccinator if you have a thymoma, a thymectomy or myasthenia gravis.
6. If any severe side effect develops following vaccination, consult a doctor and notify the vaccinating nurse at the travel clinic.

Complete consent in surgery

I have received the information on yellow fever vaccine. I have had the chance to ask questions and have received satisfactory answers to them. I understand the risks and benefits of the vaccine and I agree to receive this vaccine or that it be given to the person named above.

Date

Signature of patient or guardian

Vaccinator's signature