


WORLDWIDE			
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Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Global: Increase in Dengue Infections and global warming</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>According to the WHO, about half of the world's population is at risk of dengue fever, and about 129 countries are affected (Global Program on control of Neglected Tropical Diseases, WHO). In the last 50 years, the number of reported cases worldwide has increased 30-fold.</p> <p>Between 100 and 400 million cases are reported annually. This is an estimate. In 2023, about 2.8 million cases and 101,280 deaths were reported from the WHO American Region (PAHO) alone.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Optimal mosquito bite protection 24/7, also in cities (during the day against <a href="#">dengue</a>, <a href="#">chikungunya</a>, <a href="#">Zika</a> and other viruses, at dusk and at night against <a href="#">malaria</a>). In case of fever, paracetamol products and hydration. Do not take medication containing acetylsalicylic acid (e.g. Aspirin®), as this increases the risk of bleeding in the event of a dengue infection.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Spike in dengue cases due to global warming, warns WHO</a> . 21 July 2023		

AFRICA			
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Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Congo Rep. (Brazzaville) : Cholera 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>According to local authorities, the first case dates back to 30 June 2023 in Dolisie, Niari department. Since then, similar cases have occurred in Dolisie and later in Pointe-Noire, Kouillou and Bouenza. By 22 July, there were 30 confirmed cholera cases and 63 suspected cases, 95% of which were in Dolisie and newly reported cases in Pointe Noire.</p> <p>Since 1 July, the numbers have increased significantly and the outbreak is spreading. Shigella and salmonella cases have also been reported.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Imports from travellers are very rare. Recommendations for travellers: Maintain careful personal hygiene and consume only food and beverages from safe sources. Cholera vaccination is recommended only for humanitarian missions.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">ReliefWeb. Republic of Congo: Cholera outbreak</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire) : Dengue 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>Côte d'Ivoire is in its 6th Dengue epidemic, with 73 confirmed cases, including 2 deaths. Most of the cases are in the greater Abidjan area, particularly in the Cocody Bingerville Health District.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Optimal mosquito bite protection 24/7, also in cities (during the day against <a href="#">dengue</a>, <a href="#">chikungunya</a>, <a href="#">Zika</a> and other viruses, at dusk and at night against <a href="#">malaria</a>). In case of fever, paracetamol products and hydration. Do not take medication containing acetylsalicylic acid (e.g. Aspirin®), as this increases the risk of bleeding in the event of a dengue infection.</p> <p>In case of fever, <a href="#">malaria</a> should always be ruled out by blood test.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<p>WEEKLY BULLETIN ON OUTBREAKS AND OTHER WEEK 28: 10 - 16 July 2023 <a href="#">Ministère de la santé. Côte d'Ivoire</a> 13 July 2023</p>		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Kenya / Garissa: Poliomyelitis cVDPV2 in Dadaab refugee camp</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>Kenya confirmed three cases of cVDPV2 poliomyelitis cases (diagnosed in May 2023) in two children (Somali refugees in Dadaab refugee camp) with paralysis and one asymptomatic child. The viral strain is circulating in Somalia. Dadaab refugee camp is the largest refugee camp in the world.</p>  <p>Cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2, Kenya July 2023</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>While the official WHO statement is still pending, Kenya formally falls under category 2 of the WHO's temporary poliomyelitis vaccination recommendations ("States infected with cVDPV2, with or without evidence of local transmission"):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On departure from Kenya, persons with residence or staying in the country for <b>&gt;4 weeks</b> are <b>strongly recommended</b> to have received a polio booster vaccine (IPV) no longer than 12 months ago with documentation in their 'International Certificate for Vaccination'.</li> <li>● For stays <b>&lt;4 weeks</b>: Basic immunisation and booster vaccination every 10 years (recommendation of the Swiss expert Committee for Travel Medicine).</li> </ul>		
<b>References</b>	<p><a href="#">Kenya reports polio outbreak in refugee children</a>, 18 July 2023  <a href="#">WHO. WEEKLY BULLETIN ON OUTBREAKS AND OTHER EMERGENCIES Week 29: 17 - 23 July 2023 Data as reported by: 17:00; 23 July 2023</a></p>		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Mauritius: Dengue 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>Dengue fever outbreak since the beginning of June. As of July 7, 2023, 147 suspected cases have been reported, 96 on the island of Mauritius and 51 on Rodrigues Island.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Optimal mosquito bite protection 24/7, also in cities (during the day against <a href="#">dengue</a>, <a href="#">chikungunya</a>, <a href="#">Zika</a> and other viruses). In case of fever, paracetamol products and hydration. Do not take medication containing acetylsalicylic acid (e.g. Aspirin®), as this increases the risk of bleeding in the event of a dengue infection.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<p><a href="#">WEEKLY BULLETIN ON OUTBREAKS AND OTHER WEEK 28: 10 - 16 JULY 2023</a></p>		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Senegal: Measles 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>400 cases are recorded nationwide. Vaccination rate in 2022 was about 87%.</p>		

	From epidemic week 1 to 19 of 2023 (ending 14 May 2023), 371 confirmed cases of measles with no deaths were reported from 13 regions in Senegal, with the most affected regions being Diourbel (256 cases), Kédougou (18 cases), Tambacounda (17 cases), Louga (15 cases), Thiès (14 cases), Dakar (12), and Kolda (10). Of the 160 children aged 9 months to 5 years with confirmed measles, 140 (88%) were not vaccinated against measles.
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	Measles infections remain a reality. Review of measles protection should always be part of a travel medicine consultation. All persons born after 1963 who do not have documented protection against infection (antibodies or 2 documented vaccinations) should be vaccinated twice with MMR vaccine. In case of an epidemic in the area or contact with a measles case, vaccination is recommended from 6 months of age.
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Maladie de la Rougeole: Le Sénégal enregistre 400 cas à l'échelle nationale</a> . 13 July 2023 <a href="#">Senegal - Immunization, Measles</a> <a href="#">WHO. Outbreak Bulletin</a>

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>South Africa: Cholera, Rabies 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p><b>Cholera:</b> Gauteng Province declared a cholera outbreak on 05 February 2023 after two epidemiologically linked cases were confirmed. As of 25 June 2023, the country has registered a total of 1045 suspected cases of cholera in 15 out of 52 districts in 5 provinces, of which 197 have been laboratory confirmed. Gauteng province accounts for the highest number of cases (89%) with 176 reported cases from 3 districts, and Free State province accounts for 6% with 11 reported cases from Fezile Dabi district. Cumulatively, 43 deaths have occurred up to 23 June.</p> <p><b>Rabies:</b> in June 2023, a 37-year-old man from Amathole district in the Eastern Cape province was diagnosed with rabies. About three weeks before, he had been bitten on the lip by his own dog, which died a week later. PEP had not been carried out.</p> <p>Between 1 January 2023 and 20 June 2023, a total of six laboratory-confirmed human cases were reported in South Africa. They were from Eastern Cape (n=3), KwaZulu-Natal (n=2) and Limpopo (n=1).</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Cholera: Despite these case numbers, imports from travellers are very rare. Recommendations for travellers: Maintain careful personal hygiene and consume only food and beverages from safe sources. Cholera vaccination is recommended only for humanitarian missions.</p> <p>Rabies: Information about rabies and what to do if exposed is important for all travellers!</p> <p><b>Prevention:</b> Avoid contact with animals! Do not feed animals either! Pre-exposure vaccination (2 injections and a booster after 1 year) is particularly recommended for travelers with increased individual risk (travel on two-wheelers, to remote areas, long-term stays, young children, cave explorers, contact with bats, etc.).</p> <p><b>Behavior after exposure:</b> After an animal bite/scratch: immediately wash the wound with water and soap for 15 minutes, then disinfect and in any case visit a high-quality medical center for post-exposure vaccination as soon as possible!</p> <p>For more information: see <a href="#">Flyer rabies</a></p>		
<b>References</b>	NICD. <a href="#">JUNE 2023, VOL.22(6)</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tanzania: Poliomyelitis cVDPV2</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>A cVDPV2 polio strain was isolated from an AFP (acute flaccid paralysis) case in the Rukwa region of Tanzania on 26 May 2023. Nucleotide sequencing confirms that the virus is genetically linked to a previously isolated cVDPV2 from Burundi.</p> <p>Rukwa is located in western Tanzania between Lake Tanganyika in the west and Lake Rukwa in the east.</p>		

		<p>Map showing region affected by circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 case in the United Republic of Tanzania, July 2023</p>
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<p><b>Consequences for travellers</b></p>	<p>While the official WHO statement is still pending, Tanzania formally falls under category 2 of the WHO's temporary poliomyelitis vaccination recommendations ("States infected with cVDPV2, with or without evidence of local transmission"):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Persons staying in the country for &gt; 4 weeks must have received a polio booster vaccination (IPV) with documentation in the international vaccination certificate at the time of departure, which must not be older than 12 months. This is important to avoid the spread of poliomyelitis viruses from the country and can be checked on departure.</li> <li>- Stays &lt; 4 weeks: In addition to the basic immunisation against polio, a booster vaccination is recommended every 10 years (recommendation of the Swiss Expert Committee for Travel Medicine (EKRM)).</li> </ul>
<p><b>References</b></p>	<p><a href="#">GPEI. Summary of new polioviruses this week.</a> 19 July 2023  PHEIC.  <a href="#">WHO. WEEKLY BULLETIN ON OUTBREAKS AND OTHER EMERGENCIES Week 29: 17 - 23 July 2023 Data as reported by: 17:00; 23 July 2023</a></p>

<b>AMERICAS</b>			
Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
Title	<b>Bolivia / Santa Cruz: Pertussis (Coqueluche)</b>		
Description	So far, 469 cases have been registered nationwide, 429 of them in the Dept. of Santa Cruz, 38 reports come from Beni. 13 people are currently hospitalised in connection with pertussis.		
Consequences for travellers	This is a reminder that a travel medicine consultation is an opportunity to check pertussis vaccination status. Swiss recommendations: After the basic immunisation against pertussis, booster doses are recommended in adolescents (11-15 years) and adults (25-29 years). Booster vaccination is also indicated in every pregnancy. In addition, adolescents and adults should receive a pertussis vaccination if there is regular contact with infants under 6 months of age due to work or family and the last vaccination against pertussis was 10 years ago or longer.		
References	<a href="#">Ministeril de Salud</a> y Deportes de Bolivia. 21 July 2023		

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
Title	<b>Brazil: Chagas (<i>Tryp. cruzi</i>). Oral transmission.</b>		

<b>Description</b>	<p>The epidemiological surveillance of Bahia has issued a warning on oral transmission of Chagas disease after five cases and one death were confirmed in the first half of the year.</p> <p>The disease was previously most commonly transmitted by triatomines (kissing bugs), but this has changed. Oral transmission is now thought to account for 70% of infections. Among the contaminated foods, açai and sugarcane (garapa) juice are particularly common.</p>
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p><b>Disease info:</b> Chagas is very rare among travelers. It can be transmitted by the triatomine bug (vector-borne), as well as orally (food-borne), through blood/blood products, mother-to-child transmission (congenital), organ transplantation and laboratory accidents.</p> <p><b>Prevention:</b> Avoid consumption of pressed acai berries and fresh "garapa" that are known sources of infection for Chagas (pressed triatomines in the pressed juice).</p>
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Surto na Bahia é alerta para transmissão da doença de Chagas por alimentos</a> . FioCruz

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Colombia: Malaria 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>The National Institute of Health (INS) reported malaria outbreaks in 24 municipalities in five departments. According to epidemiological bulletin for week 28, the most affected regions are Antioquia, Chocó, Risaralda, Cauca and Quindío, with 82.8% of all cases.</p> <p>In week 28, 2'579 malaria cases were reported; totally 45'171 (suspected and confirmed) cases so far this year. 65.3% were P.vivax infections, 33.7% P.falc. and 1% mixed infections.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Optimal mosquito protection 24/7 (at dusk and at night against <a href="#">malaria</a>, during the day against dengue and other arboviruses).</p> <p>In case of fever, <a href="#">malaria</a>, should always be ruled out by blood test.</p> <p>For stays in high risk areas chemoprophylaxis against malaria is recommended.</p> <p>In some regions, carrying a standby-emergency treatment (SBET) is recommended, for detailed information, see country page Colombia at <a href="http://www.healthytravel.ch">www.healthytravel.ch</a>.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Julio 2023. Situación de la malaria en Colombia</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Mexico: Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF, Fiebre manchada)</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>Nationwide, 140 cases have been officially registered so far (EW 28): 39 in Sinaloa, 32 in Chihuahua, 32 in Baja California (BC), 31 in Nueva León, 5 in Coahuila, 1 in Durango.</p> <p>According to the state's Ministry of Health of BD, 18 deaths have already occurred this year, 8 of them in Mexicali</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p><b>Disease:</b> RMSF is a bacterial disease (<i>Rickettsia rickettsii</i>) spread through the bite of an infected tick ("dog" and wood ticks). Early symptoms include fever, headache, and rash; prompt treatment with doxycycline is critical to prevent severe and fatal outcomes.</p> <p>Rash is a common sign in people who are sick with RMSF, it usually develops 2-4 days after fever begins.</p> <p><b>Prevention</b> During outdoor activities, tick protection with repellents on the skin and insecticide-treated clothing is recommended. After outdoor activities: Regular physical examination for ticks or tick bites.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">FORTALECE GOBIERNO DEL ESTADO ACCIONES PREVENTIVAS CONTRA LA RICKETTSIA</a> <a href="#">CDC.CDC. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Panama: Hanta, Malaria. EW28 (ending 12 July)</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p><b>Hanta:</b> A total of 28 Hanta infections (two deaths) have been confirmed nationwide so far, of which 13 are HPS and 13 Hanta fever with renal syndrome. 17 cases are from Los Santos, 6 from Herrera and 3 from Coclé province.</p> <p><b>Malaria:</b> In EW 28, 78 cases were reported (44 in Guna Yala; 25 in Darien, 1 in San Miguelito and 1 in Panama Metro). The total number of cases in Panama in 2023 so far is 6'122.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p><b>Disease:</b> Hantavirus is transmitted via rodents, mostly mice, and is endemic worldwide. Incubation period: 5-42 days (mostly 2-4 weeks). Hantavirus cardio-pulmonary syndrome (HCPS), which occurs in America, is characterised by an abrupt onset with fever, myalgia, malaise, gastrointestinal complaints, followed by dyspnoea, hypoxia, pulmonary oedema and shock. The mortality rate is 30-40%. In the Old World, hantaviruses cause hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome (HFRS) with renal failure as its hallmark and mortality rates of up to 12%. According to geography, different rodent species act as reservoirs.</p> <p><b>Consequences for travellers:</b> Avoid rodent-infested places and their cleaning. Human-to-human transmission is only possible with the Andes hantavirus, which occurs in South America. Although hantavirus infection is rare among tourists, it should be included in the differential diagnosis in the case of a corresponding travel pattern (in 2017, 2 HCPS cases were diagnosed in Switzerland after their return from a three-month trekking tour through South America (Ecuador, Chile, Argentina). The course of the disease was severe in one of the cases and required a long period of intensive care.</p> <p><b>Malaria:</b> Optimal mosquito protection 24/7 (at dusk and at night against <u>malaria</u>, during the day against dengue and other arboviruses). In case of fever, <u>malaria should</u> always be ruled out by blood test.</p> <p>For stays in risk areas it is recommended to carry a standby emergency treatment (SBET) in special risk situations (see <a href="#">Travel Medicine Recommendations on Malaria of the Swiss Expert Committee on Travel Medicine 2022, FOPH</a>).</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Prevención y eliminar los criaderos de mosquitos: es clave para disminuir enfermedades como dengue y malaria</a> . Radio Panama		

Type of news	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	Author: Olivia Veit
<b>Title</b>	<b>Peru: Guillain-Barré-Syndrom (GBS). Campylobacter ?</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>Between 10 June and 15 July 2023, 130 suspected cases of GBS were reported. Of these cases, 44 have been confirmed. The number is higher than expected, hence a state of emergency has been declared.</p> <p>The possible cause is being investigated. A significant proportion of those affected had had previous gastroenteritic or respiratory symptoms. Campylobacter (jejuni) infection was found in 63% of 22 samples tested.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p><b>Disease:</b> The infection is caused by campylobacter bacteria. It is the most common bacterial cause of diarrhoeal diseases in industrialised countries and very common in low resource countries. The symptoms are usually diarrhea (often bloody), fever and stomach cramps. Possibly nausea and vomiting.</p> <p>Symptoms usually start two to five days (1-10) after infection and last about a week. Some people experience complications such as irritable bowel syndrome, arthritis and temporary paralysis (GBS)</p> <p><b>Prevention</b> Food hygiene. Most Campylobacter infections are likely to be acquired by eating raw or undercooked poultry meat or by eating contaminated items (chopping board, knife). Campylobacter is also transmitted by other foods such as seafood, other meat and vegetables, by contact with animals and by drinking untreated water. Vulnerable persons, especially infants/toddlers, pregnant women as well as old and immunocompromised</p>		

	people, should generally refrain from consuming raw food of animal origin, including raw milk and raw minced meat, e.g. minced pork.
References	<a href="#">WHO. Guillain-Barré Syndrome - Peru</a> . 25 July 2023 RKI. <a href="#">Campylobacter-Enteritis</a>

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>USA / Florida: Dengue, Malaria, West Nile Fever, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>West Nile Virus: one human case in EW 29 in Escambia County.</p> <p>Dengue (autochthonous): Two new local cases in Miami-Dade County. There are five local infections so far in 2023.</p> <p>Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE): one human infection in St. Johns County in June.</p> <p>Malaria: Seven local malaria (P.vivax) infections have been reported in Sarasota County so far in 2023, (in May, June (5) and July).</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Optimal mosquito protection 24/7 (at dusk and at night against <u>malaria</u>, during the day against dengue and other arboviruses).</p> <p>In case of fever, <u>malaria should</u> always be ruled out by blood test.</p>		
References	<a href="#">Florida Health. EW29</a> . Arbovirus Surveillance		

<b>ASIA</b>
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Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>China: Influenza A H5N6</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>Health authorities in Hong Kong are reporting a human case of avian influenza A(H5N6) in mainland China. The case is a 64-year-old man in Guilin, Guangxi , who had been raising domestic poultry. He is in a serious condition.</p> <p>This is the 85th recorded human case since 2012 and the 60th in the last three year</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>The risk for travelers is generally low. The following precautions are recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maintain optimal hygiene measures</li> <li>● Do not touch wild or domestic birds (alive or dead).</li> <li>● Avoid all contact with bird droppings, feathers, or nests.</li> <li>● Do not visit bird and poultry markets/farms.</li> <li>● <b>Importation of avian products is prohibited</b></li> </ul> <p>Avoid eating or handling undercooked or raw poultry, eggs, or duck dishes</p>		
References	<a href="#">WHO. Assessment of risk associated with influenza A(H5N6) virus</a> . 2021 <a href="#">CDC. Highlights in the History of Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) Timeline – 2020-2023</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Myanmar / Kayin: Malaria</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>The political situation is affecting health care. Malaria in Kayin and Kayah states is showing a sharp increase, reversing years of progress. Local health workers report that the military is blocking access to medicines and drugs in Kayin and Kayah states while restricting traffic on the main roads.</p> <p>According to the Burma Medical Association, an organisation that has been providing health services in conflict areas for more than two decades, Kayin State (Karen people) had a total of 8707 malaria cases in 2020, rising to 15,848 in 2021 and 36,691 in 2022. In the first six months of this year (2023) - before the onset of seasonal rains - the BMA already recorded 20,547 cases.</p>		



	<p>The vast majority of malaria cases are caused by P. vivax, but P. falciparum-also occurs. There is resistant malaria.</p> <p>Malaria cases are expected to rise sharply again during the rainy season from June to October.</p> <p>Kayah is home to about 100,000 internally displaced people, one third of the province's population.</p>
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Optimal mosquito protection 24/7 (at dusk and at night against <a href="#">malaria</a>, during the day against dengue and other arboviruses).</p> <p>In case of fever, <a href="#">malaria should</a> always be ruled out by blood test.</p> <p>For stays in high risk areas chemoprophylaxis against malaria is recommended.</p> <p>For stays in risk areas, it is recommended to carry a standby emergency treatment (SBET) in special risk situations (see <a href="#">Travel Medicine Recommendations on Malaria of the Swiss Expert Committee on Travel Medicine 2022, FOPH</a>).</p>
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Conflict shoots up malaria cases on the Thai-Myanmar border</a> . 17 July 2023

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Nepal: Dengue increase. 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	As of 15 July, 2930 infections have been reported. 1571 from Sunsari (Koshi) district in the Outer Terai (E).		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Optimal mosquito bite protection 24/7, also in cities (during the day against <a href="#">dengue</a>, <a href="#">chikungunya</a>, <a href="#">Zika</a> and other viruses, at dusk and at night against <a href="#">malaria</a>). In case of fever, paracetamol products and hydration. Do not take medication containing acetylsalicylic acid (e.g. Aspirin®), as this increases the risk of bleeding in the event of a dengue infection.</p> <p>In case of fever, <a href="#">malaria</a> should always be ruled out by blood test.</p>		
<b>References</b>	Ministry of Health and Population Department of Health Services Epidemiology and Disease Control Division. Situation update of Dengue 2023 (As of 15 July, 2023 <a href="#">Weekly Bulletin: Nepal 28th Epidemiological Week, 2023 Sunday, 23rd July, 2023</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Philippines: Dengue and Leptospirosis and rainy season</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p><b>Dengue:</b> From 1 January to 15 July this year, a total of 80,318 cases have been registered, 299 patients have died. Since EW 14, the numbers have been increasing steadily, by 16% in the last 3 weeks</p> <p>All regions except Cagayan Valley, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and Caraga recorded an increase in cases in the last three to four weeks.</p> <p><b>Leptospirosis:</b> The Department of Health (DOH) reports 2'079 cases and 225 deaths due to leptospirosis nationwide by 15 July. From 18 June to 1 July, 180 new cases were registered, a 42 % increase over the 128 cases reported two weeks earlier. Between 1 January and 15 July, 225 people died from the disease (CFR 10.8%)</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Dengue: Optimal mosquito bite protection 24/7, also in cities (during the day against <a href="#">dengue</a>, <a href="#">chikungunya</a>, <a href="#">Zika</a> and other viruses, at dusk and at night against <a href="#">malaria</a>). In case of fever, paracetamol products and hydration. Do not take medication containing acetylsalicylic acid (e.g. Aspirin®), as this increases the risk of bleeding in the event of a dengue infection.</p> <p>In case of fever, <a href="#">malaria</a> should always be ruled out by blood test</p> <p>Leptospirosis: Wear waterproof protective clothing/boots when wading through water! Cuts or scratches should be covered with waterproof bandages. Vaccination is not available for travelers.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">DOH warns vs dengue, leptospirosis. 1 August 2023</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Türkiye: Salmonellosis</b>		



<b>Description</b>	241 confirmed salmonella infections ( <i>S. enteritidis</i> ) since the beginning of 2023 in the United Kingdom are associated mainly with "all-inclusive" travel to Türkiye, especially to the Antalya region.
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	Optimal food and drinking water hygiene (see <a href="#">diarrhoea factsheet</a> ) and personal hygiene (regular hand washing and disinfection)
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">UK records hundreds of Salmonella cases after travel to Turkey</a>


Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>United Arab Emirates (UAE): MERS-CoV</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>On 10 July 2023, the UAE notified WHO of a case of MERS-CoV in a 28-year-old man from the city of Al Ain in Abu Dhabi. The patient had no direct or indirect contact with dromedaries, goats or sheep. On 23 June 2023, the diagnosis was confirmed by PCR.</p> <p>All 108 identified contacts were monitored for 14 days. No secondary cases have been identified so far.</p> <p>Since July 2013, when the UAE reported the first case of MERS-CoV, 94 confirmed cases (including this case) and 12 deaths have been reported. Globally, the total number of confirmed MERS-CoV cases reported to WHO since 2012 is 2605, including 936 associated deaths.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>The Middle-East respiratory syndrome (MERS) is a viral disease that occurs in the Arabian Peninsula. The exact mode of transmission of MERS-CoV is unknown. However, contact with camels and camel milk as well as direct contact with infected persons is associated with a risk of infection. Travellers to the Arabian Peninsula should be made aware of the existence of MERS-CoV and the low risk of infection.</p> <p>The following precautions are recommended for individual protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wash or disinfect your hands regularly.</li> <li>● Avoid contact with dromedars and their waste products.</li> </ul> <p>Do not eat or drink raw products coming from dromedary camels, for example dromedary milk.</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Middle East Respiratory Syndrome - United Arab Emirates</a> . 24 July 2023. WHO		

<b>EUROPE</b>
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Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>Europe: Measles 2023</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<p>In 2022, 825 measles cases were reported in the WHO/EURO Region. This year, 5699 cases were reported between January and May, almost seven times as many as in the whole of last year. This increase in measles cases, both in young children and adults of all ages, demonstrates the susceptibility of the EURO Region to infection.</p>		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p>Measles infections remain a reality. Review of measles protection should always be part of a travel medicine consultation. All persons born after 1963 who do not have documented protection against infection (antibodies or 2 documented vaccinations) should be vaccinated twice with MMR vaccine. In case of an epidemic in the area or contact with a measles case, vaccination is recommended from 6 months of age</p>		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">WHO/EURO 19 July 2023</a>		

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
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<b>Title</b>	<b>Spain / Valencia: Cryptosporidia in Central Park (Jardín del Turia Park)</b>
<b>Description</b>	Valencia City Council has ordered the precautionary closure of the central park and its facilities to empty the park's water fountains and pools after the provincial government's epidemiology department expressed

	a suspicion of cryptosporidia in the fountains/ponds. 7 children between 2-9 years old have fallen ill with cryptosporidia after exposure. The (very many!) water basins and wells are to be cleaned. The Jardín del Turia gardens are one of Spain's largest urban natural parks, a green space of more than nine kilometers in length.
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	<p><b>At the pool, lake, and other places we swim</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not swim or let kids swim if sick with diarrhea. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If crypto is diagnosed, wait 2 weeks after diarrhea has stopped to go swimming.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Do not swallow the water.</li> </ul> <p><b>Avoid Water That Might Be Contaminated</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not drink untreated water or use untreated ice from lakes, rivers, springs, ponds, streams, or shallow wells.</li> </ul>
<b>Jardín del Turia Park</b>	 <p>The Jardín del Turia Gardens are one of Spain's largest urban natural parks, a green space more than nine kilometers long that crosses the city with trails, recreational and sports areas, large fountains and ponds. From the Parque de Cabecera to the Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias (City of Arts and Sciences), the Turia Gardens are a place for runners, cyclists, families and nature lovers. The old riverbed is crowned by 18 bridges that mark centuries of history.</p>
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">CDC. Parasites - Cryptosporidium</a> <a href="#">El diario</a> 20 July 2023

Type of news	New recommendations	<b>Epidemiological news</b>	Author: Maia Funk
<b>Title</b>	<b>United Kingdom: E. coli O183</b>		
<b>Description</b>	Health authorities are searching for the source of an outbreak caused by Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC) O183. Since May, 24 cases have occurred in the UK, 19 in England, two each in Northern Ireland and Scotland and one in Wales. One person has died (HUS).		
<b>Consequences for travellers</b>	Disease: E. coli O183 is an extremely rare serotype, with only 15 cases in the UK since 2016. Transmission can occur through direct or indirect contact with animals or their environments, contaminated food or water consumption, and person-to-person spread. <b>Prevention:</b> Optimal food and drinking water hygiene (see <a href="#">diarrhea factsheet</a> ) and personal hygiene (regular hand washing and disinfection)		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">Rare E. coli type behind deadly UK outbreak; 2 dozen sick</a> . 2 August 2023. FoodSafetyNews		

<b>OCEANIA</b>
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<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>
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	New recommendations	Epidemiological news	<b>Publication</b>
<b>EMA</b>	<b>Respiratory Syncytial Virus – Vaccine</b> <b>Arexvy: RSV vaccine approved by EMA (for people &gt;60y)</b>		
<b>Arexvy®</b>	Recombinant prefusion F protein of the RS virus adjuvanted with AS01E. Arexvy is a vaccine for adults ≥60 years of age to protect against lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD) caused by respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).		
<b>References</b>	<a href="#">EMA. Arexvy</a> . 22 June 2023. GSK		

The epidemiological news reflects the recommendations of the Swiss Expert committee for travel medicine (ECTM). The authors cannot be held responsible for the content.

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