NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
Michelle Morse, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner

2025 Health Advisory #16: Travel-Associated Infectious Diseases

Please distribute to all emergency medicine, infectious disease, internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatric medicine staff in your facility.

- Providers should remain vigilant for travel-associated infectious diseases at this time of year, as rates typically spike in New York City (NYC) after people return from their summer travels.
- For people who develop illness after spending time internationally, consider the travel-associated diseases most commonly reported in NYC:
  - Mosquito-borne diseases (e.g., dengue, malaria)
  - Enteric diseases (e.g., hepatitis A, typhoid fever)
  - Tuberculosis
- Additionally, consider other diseases for which there are current global outbreaks (e.g., measles, mpox, Oropouche).
- Provider resources and personalized travel advice for disease prevention are available on the Heading Home Healthy website.

August 22, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

New York City (NYC) providers should remain vigilant for travel-associated infectious diseases as people return from summer travel. Rates of many travel-associated diseases typically spike every August and September (Figure 1).

Every year, hundreds of people in NYC are diagnosed with infectious diseases after traveling to or coming from areas where diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis are endemic (Table 1). For example, this report summarizes the epidemiologic characteristics of everyone diagnosed with malaria in NYC from 2013–2024. The NYC Health Department also closely monitors travel-associated diseases related to current global outbreaks.

Inquire about recent travel for any person presenting with a febrile illness. Consider reportable travel-associated diseases in people who are ill and have a recent history of travel (Table 2). Immediately isolate people with suspected measles, MERS, mpox, or active tuberculosis disease. After isolating people, call the NYC Health Department at 866-692-3641; visit our website for additional information on reporting suspected and confirmed cases and for additional guidance.

Take these steps to reduce the risk of travel-related illness:

- Inquire about upcoming international travel during regularly scheduled appointments.

- Remind travelers to protect themselves from mosquito-borne diseases by wearing protective clothing and using insect repellant.
- Offer vaccines for travel-associated diseases, including hepatitis A and typhoid fever, for people traveling to endemic areas.
- Encourage all people traveling internationally, regardless of destination, to remain up to date with their measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. This includes an early, extra dose of MMR for infants aged 6–11 months prior to international travel. Children 12 months of age and older should complete the routine 2-dose MMR vaccine series prior to travel, as long as the second dose is given at least 28 days after the first dose.
- Direct people to Heading Home Healthy for personalized travel advice. Provider resources are also available on this website. A comprehensive list of endemic diseases by country is also available here.

Ensuring all New Yorkers have access to health care is a top priority of the NYC Health Department. Refer your patients for free assistance to sign up for health insurance by having them call 311, text CoveredNYC (SeguroNYC for Spanish) to 877877, or visit the website.

As always, we appreciate your continued collaboration to identify cases of these reportable diseases to help inform prevention and mitigation efforts.

Sincerely,

Celia Quinn, MD, MPH
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Disease Control

Figure 1: Number of NYC Residents Diagnosed with Travel-Associated Diseases by Month, 2024

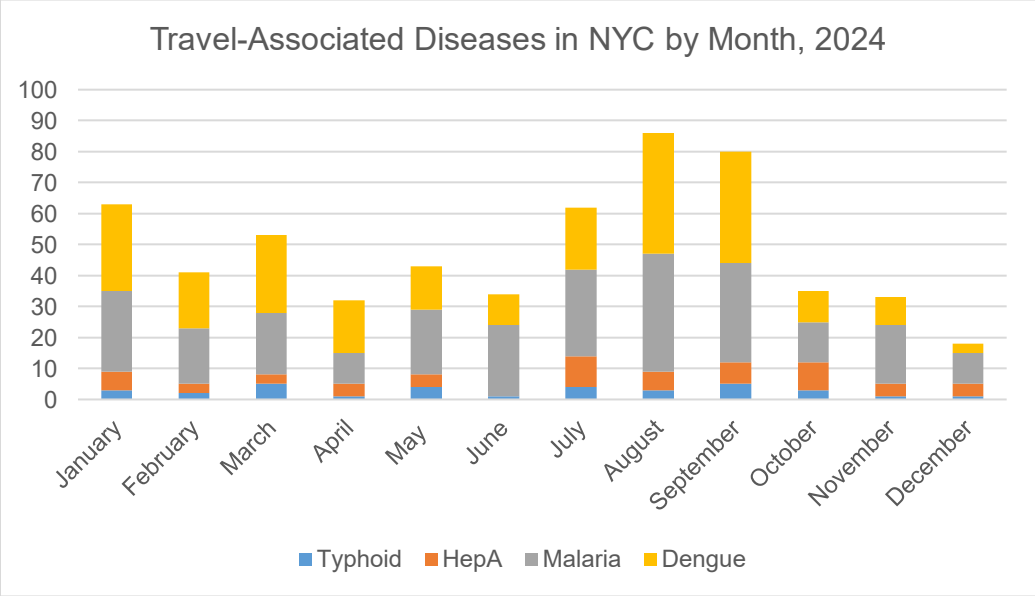

Table 1: Number of NYC Residents Diagnosed with Travel-Associated Diseases*, 2017–2025									
Disease	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020****	**2021****	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025 (as of 8/1/25)**
Chikungunya	13	7	6	6	1	4	14	8	4
Dengue	32	22	108	34	19	59	169	229	18
Hepatitis A	45	23	29	14	12	20	40	42	20
Malaria	228	203	243	61	211	231	338	257	43
Measles	1	59***	605***	0	0	0	1	14	8
Paratyphoid fever	13	13	15	5	5	10	10	11	6
Tuberculosis	608	553	559	444	529	535	679	839	Data not available
Typhoid fever	36	39	30	15	11	35	42	29	20
Zika	148	19	13	1	0	0	0	0	0

* Reported case counts include all cases in NYC, regardless of where the disease was acquired.
** The decrease in reported cases in 2020-2021 is likely a result of less international travel and changes in healthcare-seeking behavior during the COVID-19 pandemic.
*** This includes cases associated with an outbreak in NYC which originated with an internationally imported case.

Table 2: Infectious Diseases to Consider in International Travelers			
Disease	**Regions at Highest Risk**	**Current Outbreaks**	**More Information**
Chikungunya	Caribbean, Central and South America, Africa, Asia, Pacific Islands	There are current outbreaks in Bolivia, China (Guangdong	• NYC Health Department: Chikungunya

		Province), Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mayotte, Reunion, Somalia, and Sri Lanka. France and Italy have reported several locally acquired cases.	
Dengue	Caribbean (including Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, Central and South America, Africa, Middle East, Asia, Pacific Islands	Dengue is the most frequently reported cause of acute febrile illness among returning U.S. travelers. Globally, cases are declining following a record number of cases in 2024, but with ongoing activity in known endemic areas and a small number of locally acquired cases in the U.S., including Florida and Puerto Rico.	• NYC Health Department: Dengue • NYC Health Department: Testing for Dengue, Chikungunya, Zika, and Oropouche • European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control: Dengue Worldwide Overview
Hepatitis A	Caribbean, Mexico, Central and South America, Africa, Eastern Europe, parts of Asia	-	• NYC Health Department: Hepatitis A
Malaria	Tropical or subtropical areas of: Africa, Asia, Central and South America	-	• NYC Health Department: Malaria • NYC Health Department: Malaria Epi Data Brief
Measles	Global	Measles remains a common disease in many parts of the world including Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. There has been an increase in measles cases globally and an ongoing measles outbreak in the US in 2025.	• NYC Health Department: Measles
Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)	Countries in and near the Arabian peninsula (Bahrain, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen)	-	• NYC Health Department: MERS
Mpox	Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and neighboring countries in Central and Eastern Africa (for clade 1 mpox)	The global mpox outbreak that began in 2022 is caused by clade II. Clade II mpox is still circulating in the U.S. at	• NYC Health Department: Aug 2024 Mpox Health Alert

		low levels. An outbreak of clade I, which can cause more severe disease, began in DRC in 2023 and has since spread to other countries. There have been five reported cases of clade I mpox in the U.S. to date, all among people who had recently traveled to affected areas in Central and Eastern Africa.	• NYC Health Department: Mpox
Oropouche	South America, Caribbean (including Cuba and the Dominican Republic)	Following the surge in 2024 of cases in South America and the Caribbean, a low number of cases continue to be reported in parts of Brazil, Columbia, Cuba, Panama and Peru.	• NYC Health Department: Aug 2024 Oropouche Health Alert
Tuberculosis	Caribbean, Central and South America, Africa, Asia, Pacific Islands, Eastern Europe	Tuberculosis is endemic in many parts of the world and is a leading cause of death among all infectious diseases globally. The number of tuberculosis cases in NYC increased 24% between 2023 and 2024.	• NYC Health Department: Tuberculosis
Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever	Southern Asia (Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan), Africa, Caribbean, Central and South America, Middle East	There is an ongoing outbreak of extensively drug-resistant (XDR) typhoid fever in Pakistan.	• NYC Health Department: Typhoid Fever
Zika	Caribbean, Central and South America, Africa, Asia, Pacific Islands	-	• NYC Health Department: Zika