



SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Health and Medical Services

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13/12/2019 (UPDATED)

Measles Travel Advisory for travellers arriving in Solomon Islands: Protection Against Measles Importation to Solomon Islands.

The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) of the Solomon Islands Government (SIG) hereby issues this Travel Advisory due to the current measles outbreaks in many countries in the region.

Since 2017, a global resurgence of measles cases has been affecting all regions of the world.

In the Asia Pacific region, outbreaks and clusters of measles cases are being reported from countries where measles had previously been eliminated, including Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, as well as higher incidence in endemic countries such as Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam etc. In the Pacific, Samoa, Tonga, Fiji and American Samoa have reported measles cases.

Due to the current measles outbreak in several pacific countries, the Solomon Islands Ministry of Health and Medical Services is highly concerned towards the

likelihood of importing measles into Solomon Islands and subsequent measles outbreak in Solomon Islands.

The MHMS in accordance with the Immigration Act, Solomon Islands would advise the following travel requirements and measures be implemented to ensure safety to citizens of Solomon Islands:

- All persons arriving in Solomon Islands will be required to complete a Traveller's Public Health Declaration Card (Copy attached). This advisory becomes **effective from December 14, 2019**.
- All Solomon Islanders and residents of Solomon Islands planning to travel to affected countries (American Samoa, Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Australia, New Zealand and Philippines) are required to get vaccinated with a single dose of measles containing vaccine 15 days prior to their departure from Solomon Islands. This advisory becomes **effective from December 28, 2019**.
- Solomon Islanders and residents of Solomon Islands arriving from measles affected countries (including transit through these countries) should carry a certified proof of measles containing vaccination received 2 weeks prior to the arrival date in Solomon Islands. If it is not available, they will be allowed to board at the departing country but will be quarantined (home-based) for 21 days in Solomon Islands. This advisory becomes **effective from December 28, 2019**.
- Non-Solomon Islanders arriving from measles affected countries (including transit through these countries) should carry a certified proof of measles containing vaccination received 2 weeks prior to the arrival date and if it is not produced, they will not be allowed to board at the departing country. Non-Solomon Islanders arriving from measles affected countries (including transit through these countries), who fail to produce the certificate of vaccination in Solomon Islands will be deported. This advisory becomes **effective from December 28, 2019**

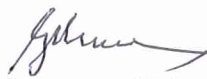
These requirements except #1 are not applicable for infants less than 6 months of age, pregnant women and persons carrying documentary evidence of contraindications for vaccine administration such as immune-deficiency and allergies (certificate from doctor is required).

For the purpose of this advisory measles-affected countries include American Samoa, Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Australia, New Zealand and Philippines.

For the purpose of this advisory certificate of proof of vaccination is an official documentation used as proof of vaccination against measles issued by the Government or authorized health care worker.

The necessary directive may be issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration to all countries with whom Solomon Islands has Diplomatic relations including regional bodies such as the SPC and Pacific Forum as well as airlines and shipping companies that serve the Solomon Islands to implement these measures.

Issued

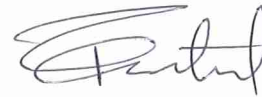


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Concurred



Ms. Pauline McNeil,

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