



An initiative of The Shoalhaven Division of General Practice

ACCESS TO TRAVELLER HEALTH ADVICE THROUGH THE SHOALHAVEN DIVISION OF GENERAL PRACTICE

The Shoalhaven Division of General Practice Immunisation Programme subscribes to an on-line Professional Travel Health Advice service on behalf of its members. This enables GP's in the Shoalhaven to access this service free of charge. A number of practices are already making use of the MASTA service through the Shoalhaven Division of GP and find it to be efficient and up-to-date.

The Traveller Health Service used by the SDGP is called "MASTA". The document produced on behalf of a patient intending to travel overseas is called a MASTA Health Brief.

What is a MASTA Health Brief?

A Health Brief provides travel and medical advice specifically tailored to your patient's journey. Each Health Brief is compiled from the MASTA database of information on 84 diseases and health hazards in over 250 countries.

The database is kept constantly up to date and provides individual written Health Briefs by matching countries to be visited, living conditions abroad and dates of travel.

Your Patient's Health Brief Provides Information On:-

- Recommended immunisations for their personal travel itinerary.
- Seasonal diseases.
- Malaria advice.
- The latest health news.
- Foreign Office travel advice.
- Up to 10 countries can be included in any singlebrief

What Are The Benefits To Your Practice?

- You are able to contribute to the health and protection of your travelling patients. You can assist them in being appropriately protected from disease through targeted vaccination and health advice
- You can be confident that information you give to patients about appropriate vaccinations for their destinations is up-to-date and accurate
- You are saved the time consuming process of researching the advice yourself
- The MASTA Travel Brief is presented in an attractive folder and can be presented to patients. Patients can then refer to the information at a later date if required
- The "turnaround time" for the generation of a MASTA Travel Brief is only 3 business days (except over the Christmas/January period when the Shoalhaven Division of General Practice is closed)
- The service is offered by The Shoalhaven Division of General Practice at no cost to your practice

How Do You Apply For A MASTA Travel Health Brief For A Patient?

- When a patient has an appointment at which they ask for travel health advice, the GP completes the MASTA Traveller Health Brief Request Form.
 - Once completed, the form must be returned to the Shoalhaven Division of General Practice (fax, post or email)
 - The form will be processed by the Division and the MASTA Traveller Health Brief should be delivered to your practice within 3 business days of the receipt of the original request
 - Intending travellers should make a follow-up appointment with you to receive their Brief and commence any vaccinations required
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