

監測及流行病學處



Surveillance
And
Epidemiology
Branch

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02 November 2004

Dear Doctor,

**Recommendations on Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccination schedule
for travellers to endemic areas**

Your attention is drawn to the recommendations on the vaccination schedule for JE made jointly by the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Disease and the Scientific Committee on Vector-borne Disease established under the Centre for Health Protection (CHP).

The recommendations are based on a review of local epidemiology and current evidence on the efficacy of the inactivated mouse-brain-derived JE vaccine, the only JE vaccine currently registered in Hong Kong. The recommended schedule consists of three doses of the vaccine to be completed at least 10 days before travelling. The vaccine is recommended for travellers to JE endemic areas in Asia and Western Pacific Region particularly in rural areas and staying for one month or longer. A summary of the recommendations, the contraindications and special precautions for the vaccine are attached for your information.

For more information on JE, please visit the website of CHP at <http://www.chp.gov.hk> or the Hong Kong Travellers' Health Service at http://www.info.gov.hk/trhealth/e_HKTHS.htm.



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轄下執行疾病預防
及控制的專業架構
The Centre for Health
Protection is a
professional arm of the
Department of Health for
disease prevention and
control

Yours sincerely,

(Dr Thomas TSANG)

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Recommendations on Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccination schedule for travellers to endemic areas

Vaccination schedule (inactivated JE vaccine – Nakayama strain)

- Three doses to be given on days 0, 7 and 30 for primary immunization of travellers to endemic areas in Asia and Western Pacific Region particularly in rural areas and staying for one month or longer
- An abbreviated schedule (days 0, 7 and 14) can be considered when the longer schedule is impractical or inconvenient because of time constraints. A two-dose schedule one week apart should only be considered in rare exceptional cases
- Booster to be administered between 2-3 years and thereafter every 3 years

Contraindications to inactivated JE vaccine

1. Acute infection and fever
2. Allergic reaction to a previous dose of the vaccine, gelatin, other rodent-derived products, or thimerosal
3. History of acute disseminated encephalomyelitis, Guillain-Barre syndrome, multiple sclerosis or other demyelinating diseases

Special precautions for the following groups:

1. Pregnancy
2. Immunocompromised
3. Persons with a history of allergic disorders

Note:

Vaccinees should be observed for 30 minutes after vaccination and advised to remain in areas with ready access to medical care in the 10 days after receiving a dose of JE vaccine