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## Health Considerations among Arrivals from Afghanistan

### September 14, 2021

As evacuees from Afghanistan are arriving and resettling in California, health care providers should remain vigilant for signs and symptoms of vaccine preventable diseases (i.e., measles, mumps, pertussis, polio) in this population. Afghanistan ranks seventh in the world for measles cases and is one of only two countries with circulating poliovirus. Vaccination coverage for these diseases is low. Though many arriving from Afghanistan have received the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) and inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) as part of processing into the United States, some may still be seeking these vaccinations within days of their arrival.

Please see attached advisories and guidance on medical screening and recommended vaccinations as listed below:

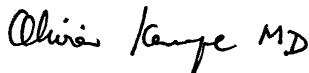
1. Department of Health & Human Services: “News/Updates: Health Recommendations and Considerations for Arrivals from Afghanistan – Multiple Locations, 2021”
2. CDPH Health Advisory: “Maintain Vigilance for Measles, Polio, and other Vaccine-Preventable Diseases among Arrivals from Afghanistan; Provide Recommended Vaccines”
3. CDPH Office of Refugee Health Guidance: “Recommended Health Screening Guidelines for Physicians who Serve Asylees in California”

[Report](#) cases of vaccine preventable diseases per [Title 17](#) California Code of Regulations to Sacramento County Public Health. Measles should be reported immediately by phone at (916) 875-5881.

#### Resources

1. Refugee Health Clinic (SCPH): <https://dhs.saccounty.net/PRI/Pages/Refugee%20Health/GI-Refugee-Health.aspx>
2. Office of Refugee Health (CDPH): <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/ORH/Pages/Home.aspx>
3. Reportable Diseases and Conditions (SCPH): <https://dhs.saccounty.net/PUB/Pages/Reportable-Diseases-and-Conditions.aspx>

Sincerely,



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Public Health Officer