



News Release
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Yellow Fever Vaccine Shortage

SLVHD International Travel Clinic is advising residents with international travel plans to “plan ahead” and visit the clinic 3-4 weeks before they depart

(Salt Lake County) – In light of the CDC’s recent announcement that there is a shortage of single-dose vials of yellow fever vaccine (VF-VAX), the Salt Lake Valley Health Department is encouraging residents with international travel plans to give themselves more time to visit the travel clinic before they depart, approximately 3-4 weeks.

According to the VF-VAX manufacturer, there is a shortage of single-dose vials and not the vaccine itself. VF-VAX is produced in both single- and five-dose vials, and while the five-dose vials are still available, there are limitations. All five reconstituted shots must be administered within 60 minutes.

“Because we only have access to five-dose vials, we have to schedule five patients who need VF-VAX at once,” explains Holly Birich, SLVHD international travel clinic manager. “Since patients who require a yellow fever vaccine will need an additional visit to the travel clinic, we are encouraging residents with international travel plans to schedule their initial appointment with the travel clinic three to four weeks before they leave the country.”

Single-dose vials are expected to be back in stock in March 2008.

SLVHD International Travel Clinic is located at 2001 South State Street, S-2400 in the Government Center. To schedule an appointment call (801) 468-2813, additional information is available at www.slvhealth.org.

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