



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



KAREN L. SMITH, MD, MPH
Director and State Public Health Officer

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

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To: CCLHO
CHEAC
Communicable Disease Controllers

Dear Colleagues,

Thanks to everyone's extraordinary efforts during the Ebola response, we were able to rapidly mobilize and incorporate CDC recommendations for travel screening. Fortunately, the acute response to Ebola is no longer needed and targeted travel screening for Ebola exposure can end.

As we transition away from the acute Ebola crisis, to remain vigilant and build upon the existing infrastructure created for Ebola response, CDPH strongly recommends that:

- Effectively immediately, healthcare providers cease inquiring about recent travel focused solely on Ebola affected countries.
- Instead, all patients should receive and have documented a recent travel screening history especially those patients with fever, rash, and/or acute respiratory symptoms. The travel history should be incorporated into a patient's routine intake and screening.
 - This may provide an early warning for new and re-emerging infectious diseases.
 - If feasible, we strongly encourage the travel history be incorporated into Electronic Medical Records to trigger screening and facilitate documentation.
 - If new diseases emerge that require screening and acute triage, a system will already be in place to document travel history and any needed algorithm for isolation during patient care may be more easily incorporated into the patient intake form.
- Healthcare and emergency medical service providers maintain situational awareness of travel-related infectious diseases.

CDPH will keep you abreast of any emerging diseases that require specific screening through HAN releases, statewide calls and updates on the website. For all other non-acute, travel-related diseases that should be considered for patients with a travel



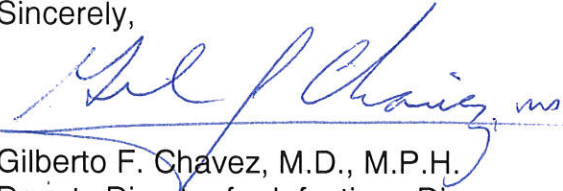
history, please refer to the CDC traveler's health webpage available at:
<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>.

CDPH would like to ask you to please share this information widely with all healthcare providers in your jurisdiction. It is important that healthcare providers adopt this recommendation uniformly.

Thank you for all your dedication and hard work with the Ebola response and your continued diligence in protecting the public's health from infectious diseases. Let us use this as an opportunity to ensure all patients receive a travel history so we are prepared for the next acute disease response.

If you have any questions please contact Dr. Neha Shah at neha.shah@cdph.ca.gov or (510) 620-3056.

Sincerely,



Gilberto F. Chavez, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases
State Epidemiologist
California Department of Public Health
Phone: (916) 445-0062
Email: gil.chavez@cdph.ca.gov