

# Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)

## Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

### Travel advice for those going to areas that may be affected by SARS

*Update 8 February 2005*

***This page remains current***

As from 24 June 2003 the UK, in line with the World Health Organization (WHO), has removed all restrictions on travel to areas of the world previously affected by SARS. Also from 18 May 2004, WHO has announced that the last human chain of transmission of SARS had been broken.

We are now in a post-outbreak period and the UK is remaining vigilant for the possible recurrence of SARS.

WHO is continuing to monitor the global situation and if necessary, give medical advice accordingly. The latest information can be found on the WHO website at

<http://www.who.int/csr/sars/en/>

***Travellers should continue to be aware of the symptoms of SARS.***

#### **Symptoms**

The symptoms of SARS are: high fever (above 38°C) and one or more respiratory symptoms including cough, shortness of breath and/or difficulty in breathing.

People who experience these symptoms and who in the last 10 days have travelled should seek medical advice. They should telephone their GP who can arrange for a health assessment. Do not visit your GP surgery in order to prevent transmission to others in the healthcare setting.

ALL TRAVELLERS SHOULD CARRY ADEQUATE HEALTH INSURANCE.

#### **Health Screening**

Although there are no current WHO recommendations to screen travellers, some areas have decided to continue to implement some travel-related measures, such as the screening of travellers for fever, or providing them with health information.

*8 February 2005*