



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



24th DIRECTING COUNCIL

28th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 27 September – 7 October 1976

RESOLUTION

CD24.R34

SMALLPOX VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS IN THE AMERICAS

THE 24th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Considering that there has been no endemic smallpox in the Americas since April 1971, that the transmission of the disease is at present restricted to remote areas of Ethiopia and Somalia, that the risk of smallpox importation into the Americas is low, and that there is a slight but definite risk associated with smallpox vaccination,

RESOLVES

1. To recommend that Member Countries abolish routine smallpox vaccination requirements for international travelers within the Americas.
2. To recommend also to the countries that smallpox vaccination for international travelers be retained as a routine requirement only in the case of those who within the previous 14 days have been in any country declared to be an infected area.

3. To recommend further to the Member Governments that they maintain epidemiological surveillance and develop selective smallpox vaccination programs for the most exposed population groups.

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