



NaTHNaC

Annual Report

2021-2022



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OVERVIEW

Statement from the Chair

We are pleased to present the annual report for the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) which covers the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

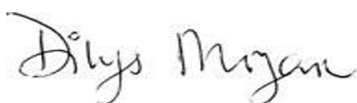
Although the COVID-19 pandemic still had a major impact world-wide and on almost all aspects of our lives, there was a cautious return to travel during the year. This is reflected in this year's NaTHNaC annual report with an increased demand for travel services and advice as restrictions were gradually lifted in many countries.

Although still not returned to pre-pandemic levels the work of NaTHNaC increased gradually throughout the year. From over 12 million page views to the TravelHealthPro website during 2019/20, the number of page views fell to 4,675,120 during 2020/21 and then increased back to almost 10 million during 2021/22. COVID-19 continued to dominate the nature of the calls, and a COVID-19 traveller email service was introduced which deals with complex traveller enquiries and this answered 399 enquiries during the year. Calls to the Telephone Advice Line offering support to health professionals by specialist nurses for those with complex travel needs during the year were still significantly down from 4938 calls pre-pandemic, but calls started to gradually increase with the number of calls doubling to 797 during 2021/22.

As we welcome this return to normality and the travel industry starts to build up its capacity, the NaTHNaC team are well positioned to manage the increased demand on their services. They continued to respond to the changing situation during the year by developing topics and advice as required and worked flexibly as the situation changed. I would like to thank them for their resilience, hard work and patience during this time as they continue to protect the health of British travellers as outlined in this report.

We would also like to thank the continuing support of our commissioners UK Health Security Agency, hosts University College London Hospitals (UCLH), and partners on NaTHNaC's Technical Advisory Group (TAG).

This has been a challenging time for all, but as we welcome the return to "normality" I know NaTHNaC will continue to respond to any developments required to best serve the needs of British travellers.



Professor Dilys Morgan

GOVERNANCE

The National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) was created by the Department of Health in 2002. We are now commissioned by UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and work in partnership with our network founders:

- The Hospital for Tropical Diseases
- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Public Health England (now UK Health Security Agency [UKHSA])
- University College London Hospital (UCLH) NHS Foundation Trust

NaTHNaC's broad aim is to protect the health of the British traveller, and it does this by providing evidence-based advice and information to health professionals, travellers, the travel industry, and national government, as well as training for health professionals and the travel industry.

NaTHNaC Technical Advisory Group

The NaTHNaC Technical Advisory Group was formed in April 2014 and has representation from each of the NaTHNaC partners plus UKHSA and UCLH NHS Foundation Trust. NaTHNaC is grateful for the support of each member organisation.

Technical Advisory Group Members:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Prof Nick Beeching | Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine |
| Dr Michael Brown | University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust |
| Joanne Cayford | Journalist and Radio Producer (observer) |
| Dr Vanessa Field | NaTHNaC |
| Dr Hilary Kirkbride | UK Health Security Agency |
| Prof James Logan | London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine |
| Dr Nicky Longley | Hospital for Tropical Diseases |
| Prof Dilys Morgan | Chair |
| Dr Dipti Patel | NaTHNaC |
| Prof Bertie Squire | Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine |
| Dr Fiona Yung | University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust |

NaTHNaC Senior Management Team (SMT)

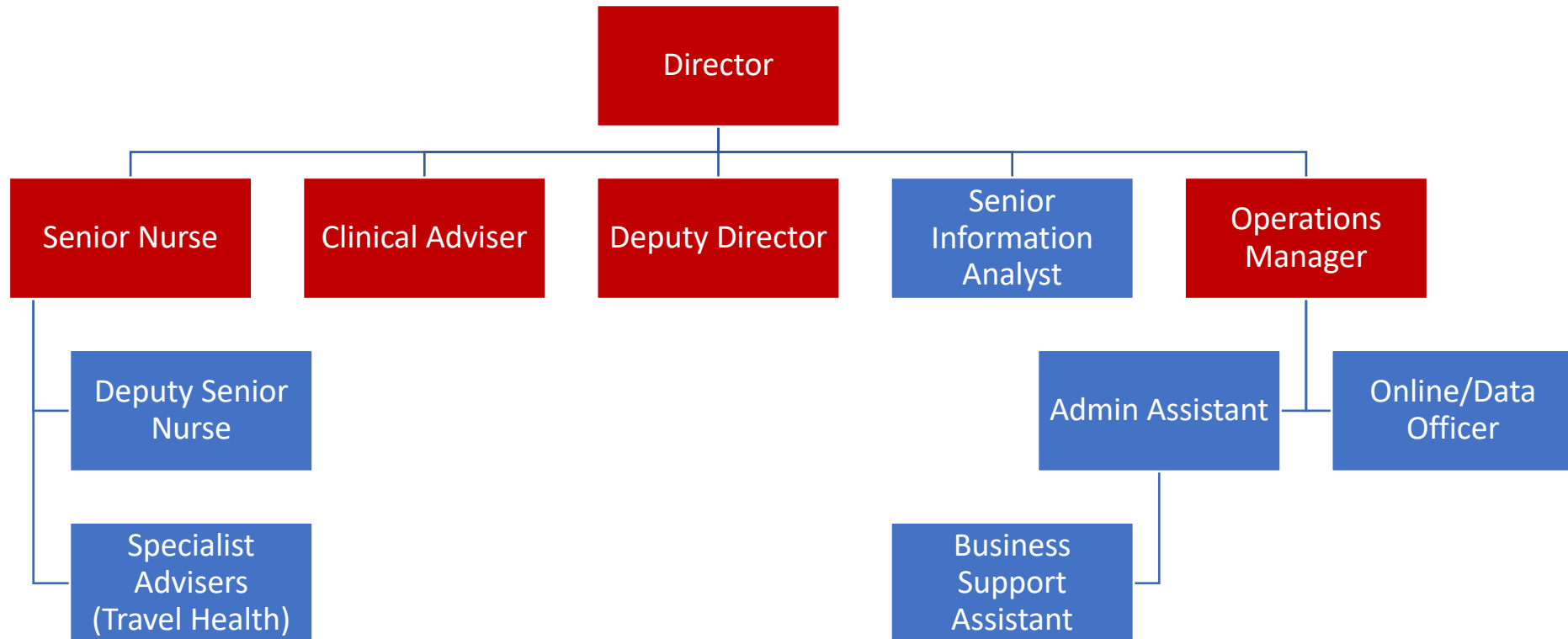
The current NaTHNaC SMT was established in June 2012. The NaTHNaC SMT consists of the director, deputy director, operations manager, senior nurse, deputy senior nurse, and clinical adviser. It is chaired by the director and meets on a quarterly basis. The SMT is responsible for the strategic and operational management of NaTHNaC and implementing any policies and strategies as agreed by the TAG.


NaTHNaC Team

NaTHNaC's expertise is provided by 15 staff and has two bases in London and Liverpool. Staff include doctors, a pharmacist, nurses, an information analyst, and administrators (see organogram on page 5).

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Fatima Abba | Specialist Pharmacist Adviser, London |
| Lynda Bramham (LB) | Specialist Nurse Adviser, Sheffield |
| Terence Corrigan (TC) | Online Communications & Development/Data Officer, London |
| Dr Vanessa Field (VF) | Deputy Director, Hampshire |
| Rachael Fletcher (RF) | Specialist Nurse Adviser, London |
| Dr Lisa Ford (LF) | Clinical Adviser, Liverpool |
| Mary Gawthrop (MG) | Specialist Nurse Adviser, London |
| Sanch Kanagarajah (SK) | Senior Information Analyst, London |
| Masum Miah (MM) | Operations Manager, London |
| Linda Pang (LP) | Administrative Assistant, London |
| Dr Dipti Patel (DP) | Director, London |
| Sheena Ryan | Business Support Assistant, London (from December 2021) |
| Hilary Simons (HS) | Senior Specialist Nurse, Liverpool |
| Alexandra Stillwell (AS) | Specialist Nurse Adviser, London |
| Rose Tucker (RT) | Specialist Nurse Adviser, Derbyshire |

NaTHNaC Organogram



 Senior management team

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial statement covers the period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

NaTHNaC receives operating funds from three sources:

1. Public Health England (UKHSA from October 2021)

PHE/UKHSA provides core funding for NaTHNaC on an annual basis, and commissions NaTHNaC to carry out its work, including the programme for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres (YFVCs). NaTHNaC is hosted by the UCLH NHS Foundation Trust, and its headquarters are at 250 Euston Road, London. All monies received from PHE/UKHSA are administered through the Trust, and all London-based NaTHNaC personnel (with the exception of the Directors) are employed by the Trust. The Directors are employees of PHE/UKHSA, and Liverpool staff are employees of Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

2. The Yellow Fever Vaccination Programme

Income from the yellow fever programme comprises both YFVC registration fees and training fees. Registration fees from YFVCs are assigned to the year of receipt and the subsequent year depending upon the period of registration of the individual centre (YFVCs have the option of registering for one or two years).

Yellow fever training programme fees are targeted to recover costs and may be carried over into subsequent years.

3. Other Income

NaTHNaC has additional income streams including provision of data feeds and training (non-yellow fever). These contribute a small amount to the operating budget.

Expenditure is divided between the two sites where NaTHNaC operates: the UCLH NHS Foundation Trust in London and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

NaTHNaC Financial Report

2021/22

| INCOME | | £ | £ |
|--------------------|--|-----|------------------|
| | Annual Funding (PHE) | | 257,479 |
| | Registration Fees - released & collected | | 394,556 |
| | Training Fees | | 359,270 |
| | Other Income | | 5,530 |
| | TOTAL INCOME | | 1,016,835 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | |
| | | UCL | |
| | Pay | H | 409,662 |
| | | LST | |
| | | M | 114,744 |
| | | | 524,406 |
| | Training Costs | | 949 |
| | Rent, Rates and Utilities | | 35,388 |
| | General Expenditure | | 125,746 |
| | | | 162,083 |
| | TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | 686,488 |
| | OPERATING PROFIT / LOSS | | 330,346 |
| | SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | | 330,346 |
| | Surplus Carried forward | | (96,670) |
| | Registration Fees carried forward to future years | | (233,676) |
| | Total Income carried forward | | (330,346) |

Notes/Assumptions

- *Registration fees carried forward related to cash received for registrations relating to future years*
- *Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine overheads are charged at 25% costs*
- *UCLH overheads are charged at 15% of PHE/UKHSA income plus partial accommodation costs.*

OPERATIONS

This section reviews NaTHNaC's five key service areas, describing how they helped meet our core objectives for 2021–2022, and achieve the broad aim of “**Protecting the Health of British travellers**”.

Operations continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The whole NaTHNaC team moved to remote working during the week of the 20th March 2020 and moved to hybrid working in March 2022.

Key Service Areas

1. Advisory Services
2. Communication and information services
3. Education
4. International health surveillance
5. Partnerships and collaboration
6. Yellow fever vaccination programme

Core Objectives

1. Develop consistent and authoritative national guidance on general health matters for health professionals advising the public travelling abroad, and to disseminate this information widely.
2. Provide guidance on specific situations relating to the health of travellers.
3. Carry out surveillance of infectious and non-infectious hazards abroad, producing accessible regular outputs of such surveillance.
4. Administer Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres (YFVCs) in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
5. Engage the major stakeholders concerned with travel health, especially the travel industry, insurance industry and government bodies, to assist in sentinel surveillance and to engage in constructive dialogue towards a unified approach.
6. Facilitate, in collaboration with other training providers, the training of health care and other personnel in the provision of best quality travel health advice, based on such evidence as is available.
7. To define short-term and long-term research priorities in relation to travel medicine.

ORGANISATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Advisory Services (core objective: 2,6,7)

Offering support to health professionals who are consulting with complex travellers

797
Calls

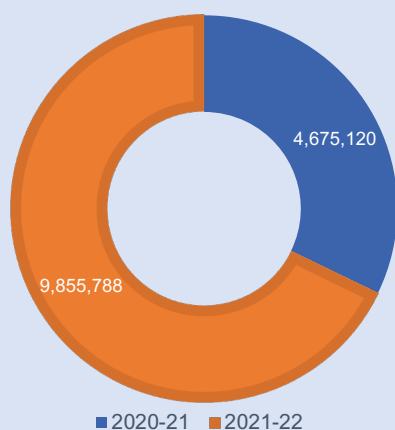
From 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 specialist nurses answered **797** calls. Numbers of calls have increased since 2022.

The COVID-19 traveller email service answered **399** enquiries.

The yellow fever certificate email service answered **40** enquiries.

2. Communication and Information Services (core objective: 1,2,3,5,7)

Website: Dynamic, evidence-based information for health professionals and travellers

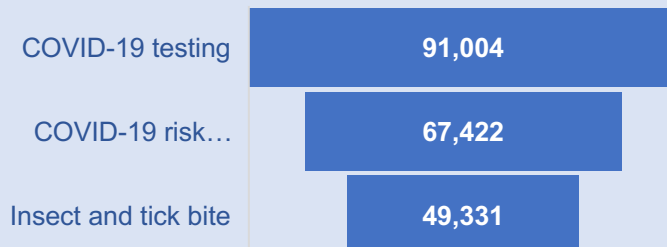


Between April 1st 2021 and March 31st 2022, the total number of page views to the TravelHealthPro website was **9,855,788** (up 62% from 4,675,120 in 2020-21).

There were **6,072,670** users in 2021/22 (an increase of 30% from 2020-21).

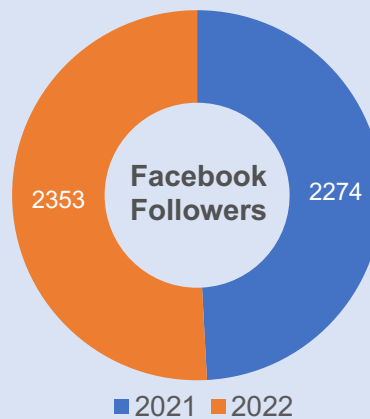
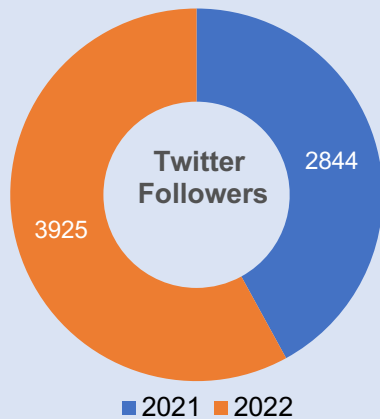
The Top 10 most popular pages included country information pages for Spain, Greece, Italy, United States, Mexico, and France as well as three news items for COVID-19.

Among the Top 10 most popular factsheets were COVID-19 testing for international purposes, COVID-19 risk assessment, and insect and tick bite avoidance, with **91,004**, **67,422** and **49,331** unique page views, respectively



The range of topics covered on TravelHealthPro was expanded to include factsheets on rheumatology conditions, volcanoes, wildfires and industrial fires, a yellow fever pre-vaccination checklist, and a 'disease in brief' article on monkeypox.

Social Media



NaTHNaC's Twitter and Facebook pages continue to attract an increased number of followers. By May 2022, NaTHNaC had **3,925** Twitter followers and **2,353** followers on Facebook.

3. Education (core objectives: 2,6,7)

Facilitate the training of health care and other personnel



A variety of educational events have been provided including the annual joint travel medicine conference with the Public Health Forum of the Royal College of Nursing.

NaTHNaC continues to work with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine to run the Professional Diploma in Travel Health, and a new travel medicine course for Infectious Disease Specialty Registrars was launched with the Hospital for Tropical Diseases.

NaTHNaC clinical staff continue to contribute as lecturers/examiners to courses run by a number of organisations including the Faculty of Travel Medicine, and the International Society of Travel Medicine. Clinical staff also presented at a number of national and international conferences.

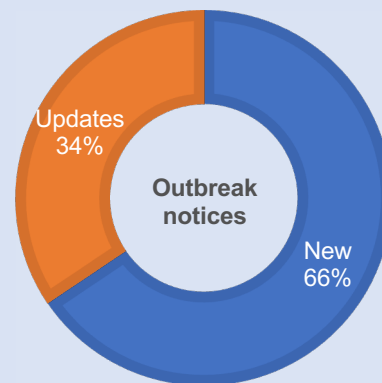
4. International Health Surveillance (core objectives: 1,2,3,5,7)

Identification and reporting of health events of importance to British travellers

48
News items

Between April 1st 2021 and March 31st 2022, NaTHNaC posted 48 news items which described global health events of importance to British travellers with recommendations as to how to reduce travel related health risks.

A total of 122 outbreak notices were entered on the NaTHNaC outbreak surveillance database during 2021-2022. Of these, 42 (34%) were updates to existing outbreak notices. The most reported diseases were polio, Ebola, yellow fever and influenza.



5. Partnerships and Collaborations (core objectives: 5,6)

Engage the major stakeholders concerned with travel health

NaTHNaC continues to have strong relationships with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) enabling clear and consistent messages to be communicated to the British travelling public.

NaTHNaC currently licenses data to two commercial organisations.

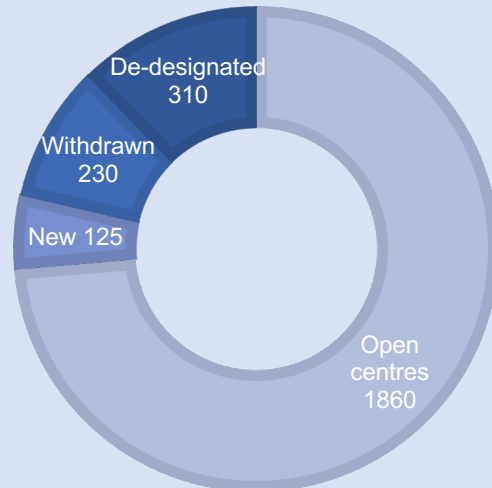
6. Yellow Fever Vaccination Programme (core objectives: 1,2,4)

Registration, clinical standards, training, and audit for Yellow Fever vaccination

Between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, there were a total of 1860 centres of which 125 were new centres. There were 230 YFVC that voluntarily withdrew their YF registration, and 310 were de-designated (had their registration removed) by NaTHNaC.

A total of 1461 health professionals completed yellow fever training during the year (1222 eLearning alone and 239 eLearning supplemented by a virtual classroom session).

The 71% response rate from YFVCs to the online Annual Return of YF vaccine use was less than previous years (88% in 2020, 87% in 2019).



NaTHNaC thanks our partner organisations for their support, expertise, and commitment to *'Protecting the Health of British Travellers'*

