

## SAMS COVID-19 Preparedness Policy for Medical Missions Volunteers

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### General Information

SARS-CoV-2, the causative agent of COVID-19, is a novel (new) coronavirus. It is transmitted through large respiratory droplets and direct contact. The average incubation period is 5 to 6 days, but can be up to 14 days. There is currently no specific treatment or vaccine against COVID-19

As of March 5, 2020, there has been one confirmed COVID-19 case in Jordan and 16 in Lebanon, the two countries where SAMS conduct regular medical missions. The authorities in Jordan have imposed travel restriction on its citizens to countries identified with widespread ongoing transmission (China, Iran) or ongoing transmission (Italy, South Korea) and all arrivals will undergo health screening for fever and respiratory illness symptoms. Those positive will be referred to a public health facility for isolation and proper diagnostic sampling and testing. Similar measures are being conducted in Lebanon. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) does not currently have a COVID-19 travel health notice for Jordan or Lebanon.

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### SAMS COVID-19 Preparedness Policy for Volunteers:

SAMS consults closely with its staff in the respective countries to develop proper trigger points for mission cancellation and updates based on local authorities' restrictions.

Volunteers should be aware of the possibility of cancellation and are advised to get refundable tickets and travel insurance, if possible.

All volunteers are expected to carefully read the following policy (customized to the country where they are traveling to) and respond as required prior to getting the final mission participation approval

1. SAMS' in-country staff, volunteers and other mission participants will follow guidelines set by local health authorities, health cluster, UNHCR, and camp regulations regarding precaution and reporting measures in addition to SAMS-specific policies. Information will be shared with volunteers prior to deployment and during orientation session upon arrival:
  - Volunteers will wear masks, gloves and other relevant personal protective gear (like long sleeve gowns) during mission activities that involve patients care as instructed by mission leaders.
  - Volunteers will use alcohol-based hand sanitizer and soap and water for handwashing within the mission location's facilities.
  - Volunteers will be trained on the identification and handling of suspected cases.
  - SAMS will create a plan for designating special waiting areas for triaging patients with respiratory symptoms and/or fever, alerting providers of suspected cases and referring for proper care.
2. **Volunteers coming from or through countries designated by the CDC as level 3 or level 2 warning countries will not be allowed to travel or participate in SAMS missions (China, Iran, South Korea, Italy, Japan).** Volunteers must consult the CDC's updated designations at the

following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>.

3. **Volunteers coming from or through countries designated by CDC as level 1 warning country or a country with no warning, who are experiencing any of the following symptoms will not be allowed to travel or participate in the mission:**
  - Fever
  - Cough
  - Sneezing
  - Shortness of breath
4. **Volunteers coming from or through cities in the US with sustained inter-personal transmission of COVID-19, may be removed from the mission if deemed necessary by SAMS' staff and mission leaders.**
5. SAMS' dedicated evacuation provider, International SOS, has created a [frequently updated page](#) with travel advice and precautions. All staff and volunteers travelling outside their country of origin will have access to SAMS travel medical insurance, and can call International SOS to receive referrals to local medical care. As authorized by local authorities, International SOS is able to evacuate traveling staff members infected with Coronavirus back to their country of residence.

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### Screening Questionnaire:

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge:

1. From which country are you traveling?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Through which country are you transiting?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. In the past 14 days, which countries have you visited?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. If you are traveling from the USA, what city and state are you traveling from?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. If you reside or have traveled in the USA in the past 14 days, which cities did you visit?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the last 14 days?
- a. Fever
  - b. Cough
  - c. Sneezing
  - d. Shortness of breath
  - e. None of the above
  - f. If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Have you had contact with any person with suspected, probable, or confirmed COVID-19?
- a. YES, I have had contact with someone with suspected, probable, or confirmed COVID-19
  - b. NO, to the best of my knowledge I have not had contact with any person with suspected, probable, or confirmed COVID-19.
  - c. If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Have you in the last 14 days, traveled in a country designated by the CDC as a level 3, 2, or 1 travel warning? Volunteers must consult the CDC's updated designations at the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>.
- a. YES, in the last 14 days, I have traveled to a country designated by the CDC as a level 3, 2, or 1 travel warning.
  - b. NO, I have not traveled to a country designated by the CDC as a level 3, 2, or 1 travel warning.
  - c. If yes, in which countries have you traveled? \_\_\_\_\_
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**Acknowledgement:**

I, the undersigned, have read, fully understand, and hereby agree to comply with the rules, regulations, and requirements presented and explained within this "SAMS COVID-19 Preparedness Policy for Volunteers." I attest that my responses to the above questionnaire are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that my involvement with SAMS is a privilege, not a right, and that I may be removed or excluded from any mission at any time, for any reason. I understand that my participation in this mission is contingent on my responses to the above screening according to the policy detailed within. I understand that my participation is voluntary, and that I may terminate my involvement with SAMS at any time, for any reason. I understand that failure to adhere to the "SAMS COVID-19 Preparedness Policy for Volunteers" or other policies shared with me could result in my expulsion from current and future volunteer opportunities or the inactivation of my SAMS membership (when applicable).

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_