



Health and Medical for Vanuatu

The American Embassy assumes no responsibility for the professional ability or integrity of the persons, centers, or hospitals appearing on this list. The names of doctors are listed in alphabetical, specialty or regional order. The order in which this information appears has no other significance.

The U.S Government assumes no responsibility for payment of medical expenses for private individuals. The Social Security Medicare Program does not provide coverage for hospital or medical outside the U.S.A. For further information, please see our information sheet entitled "Medical Information for Americans Traveling Abroad at www.travel.state.gov

HEALTH REGULATIONS:

No vaccinations are required, but anti-malaria medication is recommended, especially for visits to the outer islands

MEDICAL FACILITIES:

Hospital and medical facilities in Vanuatu are limited. Cost for treatment, including for pharmaceuticals, can be very expensive. Doctors and hospitals often expect immediate cash payment for their services. In the event of a serious illness or accident (including diving-related injuries), medical evacuation to a destination with appropriate facilities would be necessary. A medical evacuation can cost more than ten thousand US dollars, and the nearest reliable medical treatment is in Australia or New Zealand. There is only one hyperbaric chamber in Vanuatu, located in Port Vila, Efate. Many of the popular dive sites are located on other islands, and it may take several hours to reach the facilities in the event of an accident. Rescue and emergency services are much less comprehensive than in the United States. There is a paramedic service in Vanuatu called ProMedica operated by Australia and New Zealand personnel that handles any medical evacuations.

Pharmacies in Vanuatu are found only in urban centers and at missionary clinics. They are small and may be inadequately stocked. You should bring adequate supplies of medications for your stay in Vanuatu.

Basic medical services are available in most populated areas.

Hospitals are located in Port Vila and in Luganville on Santo Island. Other medical aid posts are found throughout the islands, although there may be no facilities in remote rural areas. In Port Vila, the Central hospital is manned by qualified doctors, surgeons, and specialists. The city also has qualified dentists and general practitioners available 24 hours. Vanuatu has no dangerous animals or insects.

If you anticipate the possible need for medical treatment in Australia you should obtain entry permission for Australia in advance. Entry permission for Australian can be granted by the Australian High Commission in Port Vila, but it may be easier to obtain a visa or ETA prior to leaving the United States (See section above Entry/Exit Requirements).

You can find good information vaccinations and other health precautions, on the CDC website (<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx>). For more information about outbreak of infectious diseases abroad, consult the World Health Organization (WHO) website: http://www.who.int/topics/infectious_diseases/en/. The WHO website also contains additional health information for traveler, including detailed country-specific health information

FOOD AND WATER PRECAUTIONS:

Do not drink tap water unless it has been boiled, filtered or chemically disinfected. Do not drink un-bottled beverages or drinks with ice. Do not eat fruits and vegetables unless they have been peeled or cooked. Avoid cooked foods that are no longer piping hot. Cooked foods that have been left at room temperature are particularly hazardous. Avoid un-pasteurized milk and any products that might have been made from un-pasteurized milk, such as ice cream. Avoid food and beverages obtained from street vendors. Do not eat raw or undercooked meat or fish. Some types of fish may contain poisonous bio toxins even when cooked. Barracuda in particular should never be eaten. Other fish that may contain toxins include red snapper, grouper, amberjack, sea bass, and a large number of tropical reef fish.

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY NUMBERS

AMBULANCE/EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police- (678) 22222 (Port Vila)
(678) 36222 (Santos)

Fire – (678) 22333 (Port Vila)

(678) 36333 (Santo)

AMBULANCE SERVICE / MEDICAL

Tel (678) 122 (Vila Central Hospital)
Tel (678) 37112 (Santo Hospital)
Tel (678) Lenakel Hospital – Tanna
Tel (678) Lolowai Hospital – Ambae
Tel (678) Norsup Hospital - Malekula

MEDEVAC

Pro Medical
Tel (678) 25566 (24 hour service – 7 days)
Fax (678) 27125
Servicing all Efate

Emergency paramedic services are provided by Pro Medical Vanuatu at **678 25 566**. For further information, go to the Pro Medical's website at www.promedical.com.vu

Medical evacuation (medevac) from the outer islands is conducted by local aircraft with paramedic and advanced life support equipment. Overseas medevac for non-critical patients (seated or on stretchers) is onboard Air Vanuatu's Boeing 737-300 to Brisbane, Sydney, or Auckland. Seriously ill patients are evacuated by Queensland-based air ambulance with a medical team.

AMR Air Ambulance

8001 South InterPort Blvd
Ste. 150
Englewood, CO 80112
U.S. toll free: (800) 424 7060
Int'l: 01 (720) 875-9183
Fax: (720) 875-9183
Website: www.amr-airambulance.com

Angel MedFlight Worldwide Air Ambulance

17851 N. 85th Street, Suite 350
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
United States of American
Phone Int'l: (480) 634-8017
U.S. toll free: 877-264-3570
Website: www.angelmedflight.com

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS (PRIVATE)

Dr. Kaiva Tulimanu
Dr. J.L. Bador
Dr. F. Spooner
Port Vila Medical Center
PO Box 704, Port Vila Vanuatu
Tel (678) 22826 (Work)
Tel (678) 25860 (Home)
Tel (678) 44593 (Cell)

Email: jlbdr@vanuatu.com.vu

DENTAL SURGEONS

Dental Surgery (Dr. Collard)
P.O. Box 217
Tel (678) 22306
Fax (678) 25641
Tel (678) 24381 (Home)

Dental Center, Dr. Ken Hutton
P.O. Box 1001
Tel (678) 22604
Fax (678) 23057

Vila Bay Health Center and Private Hospital
P.O. Box 1494, Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel (678) 27777
Fax (678) 26677
Mobile (678) 77 44777
Email: vbhc@vanuatu.com.vu

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS – PORT VILA

Vila Central Hospital (only hospital in the capital city)
PMB 9013, Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel (678) 22100 (main switchboard: connects with all other departments)

Australia Medical Staff (*based at Vila Central Hospital*)

Specialist General Surgeon: Dr. Basil McNamara (ASAS)
Tel (678) 22100
Specialist Anesthetist: Dr. Richard Harris
Tel (678) 22100
Obstetrician & Gynecologist: Dr. Warren Brooks
Tel (678) 22100
Specialist Physician: Dr. Rachel Wells
Tel (678) 22100

HOSPITALS – PROVINCES

AMBAE

Lolowai Hospital
PMB 9009, Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel (678) 38302
2nd Line (678) 38830

Health Center- Nduindui (Sr. Hanson Willie)
Tel (678) 38345

MALEKULA

Norsup Hospital

Tel (678) 48410

LUGAINVILLE/SANTO

Northern Districts Hospital
PMB 9006

Tel (678) 36345

2nd Line (678) 36618

Fax (678) 36602

Medical Service Manager (678) 36216

National Emergency (678) 36993

Emergency Ambulance/Medical (678) 37112

Northern Care Youth Clinic

P.O. Box 320, Lugainville, Santo

Tel (678) 37352

TANNA

Lenakel Hospital

Tel (678) 88659

(Dr.Tracey's House 68625)

CHILD HEALTH CARE/IMMUNIZATIONS

Many child health care services are available.

Pre-natal and post-natal advice is available wherever there is a birthing center and at some dispensaries where there is a nurse available. Dispensaries and first aid posts without nurses will be able to perform examinations of babies but will not provide immunizations.

At this time all hospital and health centers provide a free service with the exception of Vila Bay Health Center in Port Vila.