



## 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](http://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/](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](http://www.promedical.com.vu)

#### **Medical Santo**

Servicing Northern Vanuatu  
Tel (678) 36400  
Emergency a/hours and MEDVAC: (678) 5536400

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](http://www.amr-airambulance.com)

#### ***Angel MedFlight Worldwide Air Ambulance***

17851 N. 85<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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: [jlbr@vanuatu.com.vu](mailto:jlbr@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](mailto: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  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Medical Santo  
Behind the Northern District Police Headquarters  
(5 day a week General Practice Clinic)  
Tel: +678 36400  
Emergency after hours: +678 5536400 and MEDVAC

### **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.