

**Yellow Fever**

**Definition:**

Yellow fever is an arboviral disease primarily found in tropical and subtropical areas of South America and Africa.

**Signs and symptoms:**

Symptoms include sudden onset of fever, chills, severe headache, back pain, general body aches, nausea, vomiting, fatigue and weakness. Many infections are mild, but an estimated 5%–25% of patients progress to more severe disease, including jaundice, renal insufficiency, cardiovascular instability, or hemorrhage. The case-fatality rate for severe yellow fever is 30%–60%.

**Transmission:**

Yellow fever is spread by the bite of infected *Aedes* or*Haemagogus* species mosquitoes. These mosquitoes are not endemic to Maine. Symptoms appear 3-9 days after being exposed.

**Diagnosis:**

Yellow fever is diagnosed through travel history, mosquito exposure, and laboratory testing of blood.

**Role of the School Nurse:**

**Prevention**

* Students and staff should visit a travel medicine provider before traveling internationally. Depending on the destination, yellow fever vaccine may be recommended or required.
* Travelers should take precautions against mosquito bites when in areas with yellow fever transmission.

**Treatment Recommendations**

* There is no specific treatment for yellow fever. Supportive therapy may include rest, and fever reducing medications.

**Exclusions**

* No exclusions

**Reporting Requirements**

Yellow fever is a reportable disease – report to Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821

**Resources:**

* Federal CDC yellow fever website <https://www.cdc.gov/yellowfever/index.html>