Health care leaflet for cruise participants on board the research vessels METEOR, MARIA S. MERIAN and SONNE

(Version status 13.04.2017, leitstelle@ifm.uni-hamburg.de)

Participants in a research cruise must be in good physical condition. Please see a physician and a dentist for precautionary medical examinations before the cruise. If you regularly need special medication, please make sure to bring sufficient amounts of medication with you and inform the ship’s doctor that you are taking medication.

Research cruises with the METEOR and SONNE are always accompanied by a ship’s doctor, while MERIAN cruises are accompanied by a ship’s doctor only in the majority of cruises depending on the operating area. All medical care on board is free of charge. In case of uncertainties regarding your medical condition or in case of relevant illnesses please contact the ship’s doctor prior to the cruise:

R/V METEOR: schiffsarzt@meteor.briese.research.de
R/V MERIAN: schiffsarzt@merian.briese.research.de
R/V SONNE: schiffsarzt@sonne.briese.research.de

Please be aware that from the 4th month of pregnancy pregnant women are not allowed to work on board, pursuant to the Maternity Protection Act (MuSchG). For this reason, they are excluded from participating in a cruise.

Generally, the ship’s doctor can exclude a person from participating in a cruise for medical reasons. If a participant has provided incomplete information concerning their health, this can also happen after the cruise has started, forcing the vessel to return to the port.

Yellow fever vaccination

Occasionally Port authorities refuse entry or demand an on-site vaccination for any cruise participant lacking immunization against yellow fever or if more than 10 years have passed since their last yellow fever vaccination. This has even occurred in countries without compulsory yellow fever vaccination, but are instead classified as a “Country with risk of yellow fever transmission” in the WHO list “Countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and countries requiring yellow fever vaccination”. Concerning yellow fever vaccinations, the WHO changed the duration of protection from 10 years to a lifetime on 11 July 2016. However, some port authorities do not yet apply the new WHO specifications.

To reduce the likelihood of a sudden demand for an on-site vaccination, the ship’s doctors recommend a yellow fever vaccination for all cruises with at least one port in a country the WHO classifies as a “Country with risk of yellow fever transmission”, notwithstanding official compulsory vaccination regulations.

The chief scientist is informed in writing about an existing recommendation for yellow fever vaccination at least 2 months before the cruise.

The scheduled departure must not be delayed by the vaccination status of single participants. If local port authorities require that a cruise participant(s) accepts a vaccination on-site, the participant(s) must oblige the request or they may be excluded from participation in the cruise.
The purpose of this „Health care leaflet“ is to ensure that all necessary measures and precautions (e.g. medication, special dietary needs, information for the ship’s doctor) can be taken on board to ensure the health and safety of each participant, even in case of an emergency.

Please confirm by signature the acknowledgement of this leaflet and submit it to the chief scientist before the cruise.

Please note: Generally the vaccination certificate must be provided on all cruises!

We wish you a successful cruise and a healthy return.

Yours
Leitstelle Deutsche Forschungsschiffe

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SIGNED CONFIRMATION

I have taken note of the contents of this Health care leaflet for cruise participants on board the research vessels METEOR, MARIA S. MERIAN and SONNE. I am able to meet the health requirements of the coming journey.

Name: ___________________________   Cruise No: ___________________________

Date: _______________   Signature: ___________________________