

Inbound Migration Health Assessment Center

Counselling Message to Applicants

Welcome to the Inbound Health Assessment Programme conducted as a part of the Government of Sri Lanka's Health Protection Plan

It is very important that you attend this session and get a clear understanding of the procedures that you need to undergo. The Sri Lankan government considers this process to be of utmost importance to protect its citizens and residents from the reintroduction and control of these selected diseases as well as to ensure health services for the long stay residence visa applicants to Sri Lanka. Therefore, it is important that you comply with the disease screening requirements of Sri Lanka. Default at any stage of this health assessment may affect your visa status.

In the current health assessment, the residence visa applicants to Sri Lanka will be screened for four main diseases; Malaria, Filariasis, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Pulmonary Tuberculosis (PTB).

1. Sri Lanka has been declared as a Malaria free country by the World Health Organization.
2. Filariasis has also been eliminated from Sri Lanka as a public health problem. It has a very low case incidence and is working towards zero new cases of internal transmission.
3. HIV/AIDS is under control with a lower number of new cases in Sri Lanka.
4. Tuberculosis, also, has a very low number of new cases and Sri Lanka is working towards the prevention of the introduction of Multi Drug Resistant TB (MDR TB) and Extensive Drug Resistance TB (XDR TB) to the country.

During this counselling session, you are allowed to raise questions and request any clarifications on the procedures that you may have to undergo. Please note that if the screening tests, the history or examination are found to be suggestive of any of the above four health conditions, you will be referred for further investigations to confirm the diagnosis.

Please also;

- Understand that if you are diagnosed with one or more of these diseases, you will be provided treatment free of charge, from the relevant national disease control programmes or will be given the option to obtain treatment from the private health sector with your own cost.
- Note that strict confidentiality of your identification and personal information will be maintained at all times, including at the relevant government institutions.
- Note that, during your medical examination, if you are found to be with any serious health condition other than the above four diseases, your physician will refer you to a relevant clinical specialist of your choice at the private sector or in the government health sector for further investigations and management.

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Steps of the Health Assessment Process:

All applicants will have to undergo the counselling session, and read and sign the consent form to undergo the health assessment. Consent form for children below the age of 18 years will have to be signed by a parent or an adult guardian. In the absence of the parents or the guardian, they must be accompanied by an adult bearing an original letter or a document signed by the parents or the legal guardian of the child.

All female applicants between 15-50 years of age, have to sign the pregnancy declaration form prior to performing chest X ray

Once the consent form is signed you will have to pay the service fee of 75 USD in LKR to the Cashier.

You will then have to undergo blood tests for Malaria, HIV and Filariasis at the Sample Collection Area.

1. All applicants will be screened for Malaria with Rapid Test and Microscopy
2. All applicants will be tested for Filariasis
3. All applicants >15 years will be screened for HIV rapid test
4. All applicants more than 11 years will have to undergo chest X-ray

Please note:

Children below the age of 11 years

Do not need to undergo the X-rays, unless requested by the physician following suspicious findings in the clinical assessment. If the clinical assessment reveals information about the risk of being diseased or a disease carrier state, the physician may request X-ray or sputum test.

Pregnant women

Pregnant women will need to undergo the blood investigations. However, with regard to the chest X-ray, the applicants can choose between the following options:

1. Undergo the chest X-ray wearing a double lead shield below the chest area or
2. Undergo sputum testing instead of the X-ray (Please note that the sputum test process will require collection of sputum samples and the process may take 10 to 12 weeks)

If any applicant of 15-50 years are unsure about their pregnancy status, they can undergo Pregnancy Test

Once all the above tests are completed, you will have to wait 1-2 hours until your test results are ready for your **doctor consultation**.

The doctor will ask questions on relevant medical and exposure history and then perform a medical examination if considered necessary.

Applicants who do not have any positive or abnormal investigations/examination will be issued with health certificate and Health Protection Plan card and the process is considered complete.

Applicants who are found to have any abnormalities will be referred for further investigations and management based on the health conditions detected and a health certificate will be issued. Health

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Protection Plan card will be provided only after completion of further steps of consultation from the relevant unit of Ministry of Health .

Once the health assessment is complete, your information will be sent to the Department of Immigration through the Immigration Health Unit of the Ministry of Health.