



Service. Healing. Transformation.

Updated Guidelines for Phase III of Medical Mission Reopening Plan

Assumptions: Most medical volunteers have already been fully vaccinated. Most US volunteers 16 and over will have access to the vaccine by the end of April 2021. Vaccination of children under 16 may begin in Fall 2021.

Volunteers

- Increase capacity from 15 to approximately 30 volunteers for both sites. Maximum capacity will depend on housing space, as only family members and fully vaccinated individuals may share bedrooms at this time. Volunteers will be asked to report their vaccination status on the medical mission application.
- Vaccinated volunteers are preferred. Only unvaccinated volunteers who contribute to a crucial role will be accepted. This includes clinical volunteers and general volunteers who contribute to the minimum number of general volunteers needed to support a mission. Volunteers will be asked to report vaccination status so OWS can ensure the majority of volunteers on any trip are vaccinated.
- **Honduras:** Allow general volunteers 16 years and older. Volunteers will only work in the surgery center and will not participate in ranch workstations or interact with NPH children. *Minimum of 5 general volunteers are needed to support the mission for 1 OR trips and minimum of 10 for a 2-3 OR trip.* Unvaccinated general volunteers will be placed on a COVID waitlist. At 2 months prior to the trip, if the minimum number of general volunteer roles has not been filled, volunteers on the waitlist will be contacted and approved to attend. Individuals on the waitlist may also be approved if they become fully-vaccinated before the trip.
- **Dominican Republic:** Allow general volunteers 16 years and older. *Minimum of 5 general volunteers are needed to support the mission.*

Activities

- Permit off-site dinners in the Dominican Republic as long as locations comply with local COVID-19 protocols.

Testing

- **Honduras**-Government requires PCR or rapid antigen test within 72 hrs. prior to arrival in Honduras. No exceptions for fully vaccinated travelers at this time.
- **Dominican Republic**-No government testing requirement. OWS requests a PCR or viral antigen test within 72 hrs. prior to travel for travelers who are not fully vaccinated.
- PCR or viral antigen test within 3 days prior to travel required for US reentry. No exceptions for fully vaccinated travelers at this time.
 - **Dominican Republic**-Volunteers go to a local lab to receive a viral antigen test for reentry.
 - **Honduras**- Specimens are collected on site and sent to a local lab to perform a PCR test. Due to logistical constraints in Honduras, it is not feasible for all volunteers to go to a lab for an antigen test. If a volunteer tests positive on their PCR test, they are taken to a local lab to receive a viral antigen test. Volunteers with a negative antigen test may return to the US. Volunteers with a positive antigen test will be required to quarantine according to current CDC guidelines.



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Patients

- Resume ENT surgeries in Honduras. ENT patients should receive a viral antigen test prior to surgery. Currently, all surgical patients are tested on-site with a viral antibody test. The local team is currently researching the possibility of PCR or rapid antigen testing for all surgical patients.

Restrictions to Continue

- Maintain masking, social distancing, and frequent handwashing/use of sanitizer.
- Maintain enhanced, more frequent cleaning of facilities and vehicles.
- Continue to restrict contact with NPH children and staff. No activities scheduled with NPH children, and NPH workstations remain closed to nonmedical volunteers.
- General volunteers may only observe surgical cases if they are fully vaccinated.