

## **Frequently Asked Questions: Travel Policy at Boston Medical Center**

### **Information regarding Boston Medical Center Patients**

1. [What is the current Massachusetts Travel Advisory?](#)
2. [What is Boston Medical Center's Travel Policy for individuals with in-person visits? Who is exempt?](#)
3. [How will patients be screened for recent travel prior to an in-person appointment?](#)
4. [What steps should a clinic follow for patients who have traveled internationally within 10 days of an appointment?](#)

1. **What current advisories are in place for travel to Massachusetts from a domestic or international location?**
  - **Massachusetts Travel Advisory:** All individuals all visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, are advised to **quarantine for 10 days** upon their arrival. Individuals in the categories below are exempt from this quarantine advisory (additional information can be found on [the State Advisory Website](#)).
    - Travelers who are **fully vaccinated** (i.e. who have received two doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines OR who have received a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, 14 days or more ago) and who do not have symptoms
    - Travelers who have received a negative COVID-19 result on a test administered not more than 72 hours prior to their arrival in Massachusetts. Travelers may also test out of the quarantine advisory after arrival in Massachusetts, as long as they quarantine until receiving a negative test result.
    - Anyone who is entering Massachusetts for fewer than 24 hours.
    - Anyone who is returning to Massachusetts after being out of the state for fewer than 24 hours.
    - Workers who enter Massachusetts to perform critical infrastructure functions (as specified by the Federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency) during required commuting to or from work and while at work.
  - **CDC International Travel Policy:** All air passengers coming to the United States, including U.S. citizens and fully vaccinated people, are **required to have a negative COVID-19 test result** no more than three days before travel or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months before they board a flight to the United States. This order applies to all air passengers, two years of age or older, traveling into the US, including US citizens and legal permanent residents (additional information can be found on [the CDC website](#)).
    - **Vaccinated Individuals:**
      - Must self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
      - Follow all state and local recommendations or requirements after travel.
    - **Unvaccinated Individuals:**
      - Must stay home and self-quarantine for a full seven days after travel.
      - Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full seven days.
      - If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected.
      - If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
      - Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
      - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

**2. What is Boston Medical Center’s travel policy for individuals with in-person visits? Who is exempt?**

- BMC screens all patients for international travel.
- **Domestic Travel:** BMC’s policy is consistent with the Massachusetts Advisory.
- **International Travel:** BMC’s policy is consistent with the CDC International travel guidance

**3. How will patients be screened for travel prior to an in-person appointment?**

- BMC will screen all patients for international travel.
- Patients should be asked about recent international travel when 1) scheduling an appointment, 2) via pre-visit phone call to patient (screening questions), and 3) in the Lobby upon arrival at Boston Medical Center.

**4. What steps should a clinic follow for patients who have traveled internationally within 10 days of an appointment:**

If a patient is flagged for recent international travel via screening in advance of appointment date, clinics should follow-up with the patient to assess:

Scenarios	Guidance for clinic
A. Patient has received a <u>negative test result</u> and is <u>fully vaccinated</u>	Proceed with in-person Ambulatory visit
B. Patient has received a <u>positive test result</u> and is <u>fully or not fully vaccinated</u>	Clinics should reach out to patient in order to make any of the following changes: 1) Convert the encounter to a telemedicine visit 2) Reschedule the appointment for greater than 10 days after symptoms first appeared (or positive test date if asymptomatic) and at least 24 hours with no fever
C. Patient has received a <u>negative test result</u> and is <u>not fully vaccinated</u>	Clinics should reach out to patient in order to make any of the following changes: 1) Convert the encounter to a telemedicine visit 2) Reschedule the visit for 7 days after travel
D. Patient has <u>no test results</u> and is <u>not fully vaccinated</u>	Clinics should reach out to patient in order to make any of the following changes: 1) Convert the encounter to a telemedicine visit 2) Reschedule the visit for 10 days after travel