

## Leah, 29 and Mark, 28

### Soccer fans vaccinated against Yellow Fever in preparation for FIFA World Cup in Brazil, Brisbane

Public servant, Leah, 29, and technical officer, Mark, 28, Brisbane, are both avid soccer fans and supporters of local team, Roar Football Club. They are planning to travel throughout South America this coming June to July for nine weeks, with five of those travelling around Brazil for the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

Leah and Mark have visited their local travel health clinic in preparation.

**This is their story.**



Having previously visited Brazil, Leah is cognisant of the high risk of contracting yellow fever, although she knew little about the disease itself until visiting Dr Deb's Travel Medicine Clinic in Brisbane, where both she and Mark were vaccinated against the virus two months before their departure.

"Although I don't know much about yellow fever, the fact that the vaccination is compulsory in countries such as Brazil screams 'This is serious!' said Leah.

Mark attended his first FIFA World Cup in Germany in 2006, however, this will be the first time he will be travelling to a country endemic to yellow fever and so he too knew very little about the potentially life-threatening mosquito-borne disease until a trip to his local travel health clinic.

"Since visiting the Travel Medicine Clinic in Brisbane, I've become much more aware about the severity of the disease and ways in which you can take precautions, including vaccination," Mark said.

Although Leah was vaccinated against yellow fever for her first trip to Brazil, this was more than 10 years ago and so she has had to have a second vaccination.

Many of the areas the couple will be visiting on their upcoming trip to Brazil are considered 'high-risk' for yellow fever, according to the Brazil Ministry of Health.

"After our initial four weeks of travelling throughout other regions of South America, we will move onto Brazil and visit areas such as Iguacu Falls, Sao Paulo, Cuiaba, Porto Alegre, Curitiba, Florianopolis, Fortaleza, Salvador and finally Rio de Janeiro," Mark said.

"This is our first FIFA World Cup and we're huge soccer fans, so we're really excited about this trip!" said Leah.

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