



## **“Know Before You Go” Information Sheet**

### ***Africa Regional Workshop on Improving Routine Data for Child Health in National Health Information Systems***

***September 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> 2017 Johannesburg, South Africa***

Important information regarding visas, hotel accommodations and airport transportation is provided below. Please read through this information carefully to ensure you are fully prepared in advance of your arrival. We look forward to your attendance at this Workshop!

#### **Visa and Vaccination Requirements**

The South Africa visa process can take up to six weeks and thus we recommend for invited participants to initiate this process as soon as possible, if required. It is required that you have at least two (2) blank pages in your passport and you must ensure that your passport expiration date is at least thirty (30) days after the intended return date.

United States citizens do not need apply for a visa to visit South Africa provided that the duration of the trip is ninety (90) days or less and for tourism/business purposes only. Please refer to the South African Government’s website on [visas](#), as requirements and fees vary by country of origin.

If the traveler is coming strictly from the United States, there is no vaccine requirement before entering South Africa. Travelers who originate from or transit through [WHO-designated yellow fever countries](#) must get the yellow fever vaccination at least ten days before arrival in South Africa, with physical proof at customs.

#### **Hotel Accommodation**

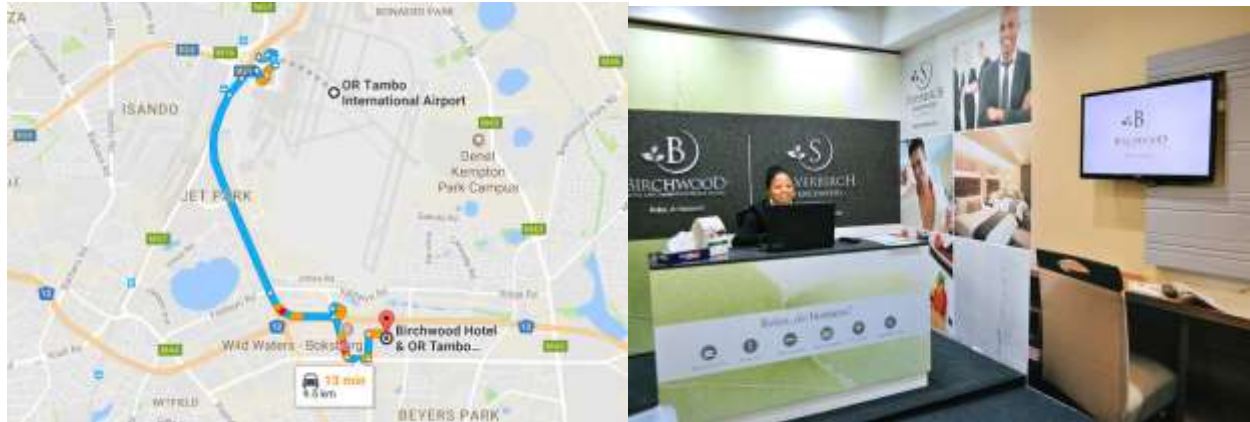
The workshop will be held at the Birchwood Hotel and OR Tambo Conference Center. The hotel address is: Viewpoint Street Bartlett, Boksburg, 1459, Johannesburg, South Africa. Hotel contact: +27 11 897 0000 <http://www.birchwoodhotel.co.za/>

As illustrated above, the hotel is located about 10km from the airport and highly accessible. Upon arrival to the hotel you will be greeted by the hotel staff to check-in to your room.

Single accommodation bed and breakfast is offered at the price of 1,200 Rand per night. When booking your accommodation [please use the following link](#) and enter the promo code “USAID” to ensure group pricing is given for your attendance to this Workshop. **Please book your accommodation by August 31<sup>st</sup> to ensure the above rate.**

## Airport Shuttle

The Birchwood Hotel offers a **free hotel shuttle service** at the OR Tambo International airport. Workshop attendees will find the airport kiosk outside of the International Arrivals terminal (*image below to right*) and ask for more information about this service. The airport shuttle departs every hour from the airport to the Birchwood, from 06h10 – 00h10 and from the Birchwood to the airport from 05h30 – 23h20.



## Security Advisory

Workshop participants are advised to exercise caution and situational awareness at all times due to the crime levels in Johannesburg. It is recommended that all valuables are transported in carry-on luggage to avoid any potential theft. Travelers should register with their respective embassies (e.g. US personnel can enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) <https://step.state.gov/step/>). Security experts recommend avoiding all large gatherings, demonstrations, and protests as they may turn violent. Travelers should liaise with the local contacts and remain aware of local events and developments.

The South Africa Mission strongly recommends that travelers arriving at JNB (OR Tambo) on international flights do so during daylight hours to avoid “follow home” robberies and commutes from the airport in hours of darkness. Night Time flights are defined as: arriving after 16:30 during September.

## Stay Informed! Workshop Website

<http://ccmcentral.com/child-health-routine-data-workshop-2017/>

## Workshop Contact Information

General inquiries: [ChildHealthData@mcsprogram.org](mailto:ChildHealthData@mcsprogram.org)

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