DATE: October 5, 2001
TO: Refugee Health Coordinator
FROM: Refugee Health Program, ITIH Section
PHONE: (612) 676-5530

SUBJECT: Refugee Health Assessment Forms

The accompanying forms contain information regarding refugees planning to resettle in your county. As you are aware, each individual has received a medical examination overseas to detect any excludable conditions before entry into the U.S. However, new refugee arrivals should also receive an initial domestic health assessment based on the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) screening tests listed in the Minnesota Initial Refugee Health Assessment Form.

We are asking that you assist in facilitating this assessment by either performing the screening at your agency or forwarding the appropriate information and forms to the medical provider caring for the individual. If the new arrival will be seen by another provider, please stamp your address at the bottom of each screening form so that it will be returned to you before you submit it to us. Please take note of the following:

1. The arrival form (ACVA form) which contains basic information on each member of a group traveling together;
2. A Medical Examination of Visa Applicants (DS-2053);
3. Any further medical documentation (such as TB Class A or B forms, if applicable);
4. A blank refugee health assessment form for each refugee to be screened which includes screening recommendations and protocols for each condition listed;
5. A personal Immunization Record Card for each refugee (fill out immunization dates and note any other pertinent information such as hepatitis B status or history of disease;
6. Outcome report form to be filled out for refugees not screened.

For specific information regarding the process of handling new refugee arrivals please refer to the document, “Refugee Health Assessment in Minnesota”. If, for some reason, the refugee(s) does not resettle in your county as originally planned, return these forms to MDH along with any locating information that you have obtained. The outcome report needs to be completed for each refugee.

Please encourage health care providers in your area to follow the same screening protocols for other immigrants they may be seeing. If you have any questions regarding the health assessment needed by refugees/immigrants, please call the Minnesota Refugee Health Program at (612) 676-5530. Thank you for your assistance in assuring that these new arrivals receive an initial health assessment and follow-up health care services.

AOF/jw
Enclosures