

## Migration Health Assessments for Australia-Bound Migrants

All applicants are required to undergo a migration health assessment as part of their visa application process for Australia. In this document, you will find important information related to your upcoming migration health assessment at IOM Pakistan at its Migration Health Assessment Centre (MHAC) in Islamabad, Karachi, or Lahore.

You will also be able to download this document at the end of the appointment-making process.

### MHAC IOM Islamabad Contact Information

**Address:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Maroof International Hospital, F-10 Markaz Islamabad

**Phone Number:** +92 51 111 466 472

**Email address:** [mhdislamabad@iom.int](mailto:mhdislamabad@iom.int)

**Opening Hours:** 8:00 am to 4:45 pm Monday to Thursday & 8:00 am to 12:30 pm Fridays

### MHAC IOM Lahore Contact Information

**Address:** House No. 70, H- Block, Gulberg III, Near D-Ground, Lahore

**Phone Number:** +92 51 111 466 472

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**Opening Hours:** 8:00 am to 4:45 pm Monday to Thursday & 8:00 am to 12:30 pm Fridays

### MHAC IOM Karachi Contact Information

**Address:** Plot F-14, PECHS Block-6, Shakra-e-Faisal near KFC Karachi

**Phone Number:** +92 51 111 466 472

**Email address:** [mhdislamabad@iom.int](mailto:mhdislamabad@iom.int)

**Opening Hours:** 8:00 am to 4:45 pm Monday to Thursday & 8:00 am to 12:30 pm Fridays

## What Should I Expect at My Appointment?

The scope of the migration health assessment varies depending on factors such as your visa category, age, gender, and current health status. The list below shows some of the procedures that you or your family (if they are applying to migrate with you to Australia) might receive:

- Registration.
- Counselling to explain the health assessment process (at the end of the counselling you will sign an informed consent form).
- *Medical examination*, which may include the following:
  - A review of your medical history and current symptoms.
  - Taking your measurements and vital signs.
  - A detailed physical examination to assess your physical and mental status.
  - A chest X-ray.
  - A tuberculin skin test (TST) or Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA – blood test) for tuberculosis.
  - Urine analysis HIV test (*applicants applying for certain visa categories may also be tested for syphilis, hepatitis B and C*).

**Breakdown of Migration Health Assessment Procedures, by Age of Applicant:**

< 2 years old	Medical examination
2 - 4 years old	Medical examination; blood test for tuberculosis
5 - 10 years old	Medical examination; urine analysis; blood test for tuberculosis
11 - 14 years old	Medical examination; urine analysis; chest X-ray
≥ 15 years old	Medical examination; urine analysis; chest X-ray; laboratory blood tests

*All basic requirements are done on the same day, during the same appointment.*

**Will I need additional tests or procedures?**

Additional tests, treatment, or immunizations may be needed to complete the health assessment and/or to comply with the requirements of the immigration authorities, based on health conditions identified during your health examination. In such an event, you will be provided with additional counselling and more information during your health assessment.

**Will I receive any vaccines?**

Immunizations are not currently required as part of the migration health assessment for Australia unless special arrangements apply (such as immunization in case of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in the country of origin). However, you are strongly encouraged to complete recommended immunizations before you travel to Australia and bring your immunization record with you. If you wish, the IOM physician can review your record and provide advice on recommended vaccinations. For further information, please refer to the:

<https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/national-immunisation-program>

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/topics/what-are-immunisation-requirements/35396>

**Important Notes**

**Minors:**

Applicants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a **parent or a legal guardian who cannot provide consent and make decisions on their behalf.**

- **Proof of relationship (of a parent or legal guardian) is necessary when consenting to conduct IMEs for children.**
- **FRC (Family Registration Certificate) for Pakistani nationals.**
- **Marriage certificate of the mother, wherein, Father's name of the accompanying children is entered.**
- **We can request legal papers (court or government orders) allowing the legal guardian to take custody of the child.**

**Pregnancy:**

If you are pregnant and undergoing a migration health assessment, you may choose to either get the chest X-ray with double leaded shielding to protect you and your unborn baby, **after**

completion of the first trimester **or** wait to proceed with the migration health assessment until after giving birth.

If you choose to proceed with the chest X-ray, you will be requested to sign an additional consent form.

### Tuberculosis (TB):

TB is a contagious bacterial infection that is spread from person to person through tiny droplets in the air. TB can be either:

- (1) **Latent TB:** when you have the bacteria in your body, but you do not have any clinical manifestations. To diagnose latent TB, active TB should be ruled out.
- (2) **Active TB:** when you have the bacteria and have clinical, radiological, or laboratory manifestations.

**You might be asked to undergo further testing if the doctor suspects you have TB.** In such an event, you will be provided with additional counselling and more information during your appointment.

You will be requested to provide three (3) sputum samples over 3 consecutive days. These samples are then tested in a laboratory; **it can take up to 8-10 weeks to obtain a result.**

If you are required to complete this test, your health assessment certificate will be put on hold until the results are received. If you are found to have TB, you will need to complete treatment before resuming the immigration process.

Good news! **TB is treatable** and most people can be cured with a few months of oral antibiotics.

## What Do I Need to Bring to My Appointment?

### Identification:

- Original and valid passport with one photocopy (primary and preferred form of identity document) **or** (only for exceptional cases) a clear-readable photocopy of a valid passport along with an original and valid Computerized National Identity Card issued by NADRA.
- For Refugees: refugee identity card issued by NADRA/UNCHR or Tazkira is an acceptable alternate ID document.
- Health examinations list (HAP Letter) with HAP ID.

### Medical Records:

- **You are requested to please bring your valid Polio vaccination certificate at the time of your appointment.**
- Any medical reports on past or current medical conditions.
- Vaccination records (optional).
- Child Health and Development Record for children, if available.

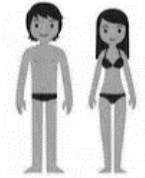
### Other:

- Eyeglasses or lenses if you wear them.

▸ Address in the country of origin printed.

### Advice for the Migration Health Assessment

▸ For your physical examination, you will be asked to remove your clothes and will be provided with a medical gown, but **please keep your underwear on (see image at right)**.



▸ You **may request a chaperone** to be present at your physical examination.

▸ **Please do not conceal any medical conditions**; deliberate attempts to hide them will be reported to the Australian immigration authorities.

▸ For female applicants, **please do not conceal your pregnancy**; being pregnant will have no impact on your immigration prospects.

▸ **Please postpone or reschedule your appointment if you or your child are ill** with a fever or have a rash.

▸ For female applicants, **please postpone or reschedule your appointment if you are menstruating**, as it may affect the urine test result.

▸ There is **no need to fast** before your appointment.

▸ For Children Aged 2 to 11 years: TST (Mantoux test) is required and will be injected on the child's forearm; the induration (not the redness) on the skin will be measured after 48 hours (up to 72 hours) by our staff. So, you need to bring back your child for a skin test reading after 48 hours of the initial medical. You may alternately opt for the IGRA test recommended by DIBP which is a blood test to determine TB infection.

### Migration Health Assessment Fees and Payment Information

#### Fees, by Age of Applicant \*:

AUSTRALIA			
Age group	Medical includes	Islamabad-Karachi-Mirpur	Lahore
Below 5 yrs.	Physical Examination (PE)	21,500.00	
From 5 yrs. and less than 11 yrs.	PE, Urine Test	22,000.00	
From 11 yrs. and less than 15 yrs.	PE, Urine Test, CXR	32,500.00	
From 15 yrs. and above	PE, Urine Test, CXR	36,500.00	
If needed below tests, please add the cost			
HIV Test		800.00	
Hepatitis B Test		1,500.00	
Hepatitis C Test		1,000.00	
Serum Creatinine		1,200.00	
Cases with Chest X-rays only		9,000.00	
TST test		600.00	
IGRA	Islamabad	11,384.00	
	Lahore		
	Karachi	12,700.00	

*\* The above-mentioned fees are variable & subject to change.*

*\* The IOM MHAC in Lahore applies an additional 16% general service tax (GST) on laboratory and radiology tests, included in the service fees.*

*Additional fees will apply if other investigations are requested.*

#### **How to Pay for the Migration Health Assessment:**

- Payments are made at the IOM MHAC on the day of the migration health assessment **in PKR**.
- The service fees will be accepted at the medical centre in cash/ Debit or Credit card except for American Express Card.