

Thank you for your referrals and work in refugee health. We see incomplete screening and variation in testing in children, which leads to missed healthcare, duplications in testing, and additional costs to the healthcare system. We aim to ensure screening is consistent with the [2016 Refugee Guidelines](#) with relevant updates for new arrival groups.

The following tests are recommended for **children** arriving in Australia as refugees/seeking asylum:

All	Risk- or country-based
FBE/film Ferritin Hepatitis B serology - HBsAg, HBsAb, HBcAb Tuberculosis screening TST or IGRA. TST preferred <5y Strongyloides serology* Faecal specimen* - cysts, ova, parasites <i>*not required for Ukraine</i>	Active B12/folate - risk factors, all Afghan, Gazan and Rohingya arrivals. Also check homocysteine & urine methylmalonic acid if risk low B12 <u>and</u> disability or neurological symptoms Vitamin D, Ca, PO4, ALP - risk factors, all Afghan and Gazan arrivals Consider MMR and varicella serology in adolescents to assess vaccination Schistosoma serology - endemic: Africa, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Iraq, Syria; <i>not other Middle East/Afghanistan/Ukraine/other Asian countries</i> Malaria RDT and thick/thin films - arrival <3m endemic area (<12m if fever): Africa (<i>except Egypt</i>), Myanmar, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan; <i>not Middle East/Egypt/Sri Lanka/Ukraine</i> Hepatitis C serology HCVAb - endemic: Congo, Egypt, Iraq, Pakistan, Rohingya cohorts, consider Syria, Ukraine; <i>not other African/Middle East/Afghanistan/Asian countries</i> Hepatitis A serology – all Gazan and Rohingya arrivals until more information available HIV serology - 15y and older, all UHM, clinical concerns any age STI screening (HIV, syphilis, urine NAAT chlamydia/gonorrhoea, consider rectal/throat swabs) - if risk factors Syphilis serology - all UHM, where parent has syphilis, if risk factors Extended nutrition screen - low weight for age, poor food access. All new Gazan and Rohingya arrivals should have vit A, Vit C and zinc levels (+/- other) Pb – all Gazan and Rohingya until further information, if developmental issues, consider if history thanaka use (Myanmar, Rohingya) TFT - if developmental issues Helicobacter pylori faecal antigen if upper gastrointestinal symptoms Others - based on clinical findings as needed

UHM = unaccompanied humanitarian minor – term also used for any unaccompanied/separated child

These guidelines are summarised on our website (see [Initial assessment](#), and specific guidelines for [Afghan](#), [Ukrainian](#) and [Palestinian](#) refugees). We would be grateful for any suggestions/feedback. We look forward to working together, and are happy to answer questions, provide catch-up vaccination plans, or meet remotely or directly (if useful). Our team can be contacted on 9345 5522 pager 7142 or email: refugee.fellow@rch.org.au.