



Applications of Travel Medicine and Its Uses

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DESCRIPTION

Travel medicine encompasses more than preparing travelers for trips to ostensibly dangerous regions throughout the world. Travel medicine has traditionally been used to prepare people traveling from developed and industrialized countries to poor countries. The travel medicine plays a key role in protected against key diseases such as malaria is prepared to self-treat diseases such as diarrhea, and is immunized with as many illnesses and injuries as is cost-effective for the type of travel and destination. The wealthy can afford all of the necessary medical precautions yet they are occasionally put at danger due to the safety inherent in 'package deals' to relatively safe if exotic and who are most likely in need of but unable to purchase travel health services.

Many recent advancements in vaccination technology promise additional protection options in the coming years. So-called DNA vaccines promise the development of vaccinations for diseases that have defied vaccine research in the past. More crucially DNA vaccine technology and the arrival of low-cost immunizations that may finally be within reach of developing countries. Vaccines that require refrigeration or injections are unlikely to make a significant difference in developing countries which cannot afford such luxuries. New vaccine delivery techniques promise simple and low-cost delivery systems, which could lead to low-cost and effective vaccination in underdeveloped countries. Clearly eliminating diseases in the world through vaccination eliminates the threat to travelers, regardless of their immune level. The elimination of polio in the Western Hemisphere is an example as a result a polio booster is no longer required for travel to this region of the world.

The vaccine formulations are a practical new development. Travel medicine is a new discipline of medical that is advancing toward knowledge about risk analysis and steps to protect travelers' health. The majority of travel medicine focuses on visitors from North America and Europe departing for international destinations, many of which are poor or middle income countries with a higher risk of infectious disease transmission. This worldview is increasingly shifting. With the growing mobility of populations, whether migrants, tourists, merchants, students, soldiers, humanitarian workers, pilgrims, refugees or medical tourists, it is clear that the travel medicine community is facing new issues. Risk perception, behavior, risk exposure, and access to health care all differ dramatically. Regardless, everyone contributes to the worldwide circulation and dissemination of known and new viruses. A more global, all-encompassing approach to health issues associated to population mobility is urgently needed from an immunological and public health. A large increase in family travel is occurring as a direct result of the current growth in worldwide mobility. Traveling children's immunity against vaccine-preventable diseases is important from both an individual and a public health standpoint pre-travel vaccination protects children while also preventing the viruses that can spread across the community. Immunization of children presents special issues in travel medical practice some vaccines cannot be administered before a certain age for a variety of reasons and it is sometimes necessary to alter the regular schedule of routine vaccines to assure early protection. Furthermore children are more susceptible to certain travel-related disorders. The goal of this review is to examine the major epidemiological and clinical aspects of traveling children's immunization and to give travel medicine specialists with a functional approach.

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