

## AIRLINE - USA






Barbara Martin, RN  
General Manager – Occupational, Air Crew & Passenger Health




1

## WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS



- **Employees:**
  - Pilot assignments are fleet/aircraft specific
  - Flight attendant trips largely Atlanta and NYC/JFK-based
  - Chemoprophylaxis use, etc. is *strongly* recommended: "Malarone"/at-pro or doxycycline
    - FAAprohibits "Lariam"/mefloquine for pilots
  - Scant number of expats and other business travelers
- **Local business-partners:**
  - Local resident's self-management compared to that of a U.S. corporate strategy
- **Challenges:**
  - Inconsistent adherence to personal protection strategies, including chemoprophylaxis
- **Encouraging:** Improved symptom recognition and response.

4

## WHO WE ARE



- Our Corporate Flight Plan focuses on
- Our people
- Our customers
- Our owners
- Our partners and communities
  - Origins – 1928 crop-dusting company launched its first regional passenger flight in 1929.
  - Delta provides service to 325 cities worldwide, in 56 countries, across 6 continents.
  - Delta strives to become a truly global airline by working with alliance partners and demonstrating that *no one better connects the world*.
  - 80,000 employees worldwide; 3,000 based internationally. Mainline fleet of 870 aircraft. 130M passengers annually.

2

## MEDICAL SUPPORT



- ID-tropical medicine physician consultant expertise
- Global medical assistance: screening, referral and fit-to-fly clearance when traveling internationally.
- ED with/without Delta 24/7 malaria hotline referral: consider *P. falciparum*s differential diagnosis, DLRN follows until symptoms clear or alternate diagnosis made. ER may have Ebola-like concern. ER might miss malaria diagnosis. Timeline for lab results. In Atlanta, Emory Travel Well referral.
- Worker's compensation management with occupational health partnership.
- Malaria wallet card: prevention strategy, symptoms, global medical assistance and Delta Malaria Hotline phone numbers, information for the ED doc.

5

## WHERE WE OPERATE – Malaria endemic



- Delta launched service to the African continent in December 2006.
  1. Lagos, Nigeria (discontinued service to Abuja)
  2. Dakar, Senegal
  3. Accra, Ghana
  4. (Discontinued service to Monrovia, Liberia in 2016)
  5. Also flying to
    - Johannesburg, SA- excursions to Kruger Park
    - Port au Prince, Haiti
    - Punta Cana, Dominican Republic - low risk

3

## MALARIA GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS/ POLICY

- Web-based
  1. ID-TM physician consultant travel health video
  2. Malaria program FAQs
  3. Vendor online "Malarone" screening tool
  4. Exemption request template
  5. Delta malaria wallet card
- Business-unit managed
  1. Periodic communications
  2. New hire and recurrent training
  3. Pilot and flight attendant videos
  4. Challenge leaders to distribute malaria wallet cards

6

## MALARIA STATISTICS

December 2006 to present

- Crew: 34 cases. 11 ICU severity including 1 death
- Expat: 1
- Other business traveler: 1
- 2010 – 6 cases
- 2011 – 8 cases

Past 5 years

- Crew: 2 cases, 0 ICU severity

We discontinued incidence rate calculation due to low case volume.

Destination cities of west Africa seem to have similar risk/rates.

Several cases occurred during the initial crew trip to endemic area.

Zero cases associated with PAP Haiti or PJJ Dominican Republic.

