ISTM Military Travel Interest Group Charter

Are you a healthcare provider interested in medical readiness of or caring for military service members?

The ISTM Military Travel Interest Group, created in 2017, is free to join with your ISTM membership and will give you the opportunity to collaborate with other ISTM members who work with deployed military personnel.

Throughout history, military medicine has and continues to contribute to major scientific advances in the fields of epidemiology, vaccinology, psychiatry, infectious diseases, tropical medicine, and as a consequence of travel medicine. Deployed military personnel represent a unique travel cohort typically characterized as young, disciplined, trained, predominantly male, strictly selected, controlled, and regularly monitored population, travelling in groups for occupational reasons.

The ISTM Military Medicine Interest Group is aimed at uniting all healthcare providers interested in military medical readiness, travel health challenges on or off duty, and caring for military service members and their families. Its basic operational structure is detailed on the group’s ISTM official website (www.ISTM.org/militarytravel) and may evolve in the future.

The ISTM Military Travel Interest Group Charter

Scope

✓ Medical readiness and deployment-related health issues in military travelers.

Objectives

✓ Increase cooperation between military providers for improving pre-, during, and post-deployment care.
✓ Improve international networking between military providers.
✓ Facilitate the development of the best practices regarding prevention and treatment of deployment-related health issues.
✓ Promote visibility and support of military travel medicine within the ISTM.
✓ Advance the science of military medicine and provide professional education about military travellers.
✓ Alert and educate non-military health care providers who deal with service members to the unique requirements, exposures and needs of the military.
✓ Introduce travel medicine to military health care providers in order to expand their knowledge, attitude and practices.

Sample initiatives

✓ Establish main characteristics of the military traveller on the ISTM website.
✓ Monitor the literature for timely, evidence-based, peer-reviewed deployment-related articles.
✓ Promote collaborative research in infectious diseases, vaccinology, epidemiology, non-combat injuries, and psychological health in military travellers.
✓ Provide a forum within ISTM for members interested in military medicine to communicate with each other.
✓ Develop military-oriented sessions at ISTM conferences.
✓ Encourage military researchers to publish travel-related material in the Journal of Travel Medicine and in other relevant journals.
✓ Communicate with ISTM sub-groups, committees, professional, and interest groups on issues of shared interest.
✓ Encourage non-ISTM members interested in military medicine to join ISTM.
✓ Establish contact with local military medical services during CISTM, RCISTM and regional and local travel medicine meetings to exchange information.

Exciting things are planned in the future and we will need all our current and future members’ support and collaboration! All those who share our interest are invited to join us in this exciting adventure!