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**Invitation to become part of TravelRabNet**

Rabies is a disease with a nearly 100% fatality rate. It can be efficiently averted by pre-exposure immunization, avoiding contact with animals, and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP). Rabies appears to be unduly neglected in some parts of the world, most notably in Asia and Africa, where the spread of canine rabies is not under control and is far from being eliminated. Individuals from countries where elimination of canine rabies has been achieved will be potentially exposed to rabies when travelling in endemic countries. In such a context, pre-exposure vaccination against rabies is one of the many immunizations that health-care providers will have to consider during pre-travel consultations. The decision to vaccinate results from an individual risk assessment based on several determinants, including access to appropriate medical care in the country of destination. However, it should be acknowledged that reliable and up-to-date information on the supplies of rabies immunoglobulin (RIG) and rabies vaccine around the world is currently not available, difficult to find or out of date. In order to overcome this limitation, EurotravNet, the Travel and Tropical Medicine Network of the European Center for Disease Control and the International Society of Travel Medicine aim to set-up a network of health-care providers responsible for medical structures where PEP could be provided to international travellers in rabies endemic countries. Such information may help travel health advisers to decide whether or not a preventive vaccination against rabies should be proposed to travellers to rabies endemic countries and to give the travellers reliable information about where to seek care in their destination country in case of potentially rabid animal related injury.
The data collection process has now started and any health-care providers responsible for medical structures where PEP could be provided to international travelers in rabies endemic countries can add his or her details by using a quick, easy to access, on line questionnaire, available from EuroTravNet website (http://www.istm.org/eurotravnet/main.html). The brief survey consists of 3 questions that focus mainly on the identification of relevant centres, availability of rabies vaccine and RIG.

The information will be freely on the ISTM website (http://www.istm.org) website, and updated every 6 months.

To achieve our goals and be able to provide a comprehensive listing of resources worldwide, a large response to our questionnaire is needed. Therefore we call on all practitioners to complete the survey and become a part of TravelRabNet.

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