



International Society of Travel Medicine

Promoting healthy travel worldwide

Established 1991

TRAVEL MEDICINE News

August 2022

ISTM PRESIDENT WELCOME LETTER



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to invite you to the 18th Conference of the ISTM that will be held in Basel, Switzerland, from 21-25 May, 2023.

After several years of COVID-19 impacting our ability to meet face-to-face, we are looking forward to meeting each other once again, while

having some virtual options. After a long wait, what a wonderful place to meet again – Basel, Switzerland's third largest city based on the beautiful Rhine River and located close to the French and German borders and the rest of fabulous Switzerland. Basel is the cultural and historic capital of Switzerland and home of the famous Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, which has recently expanded into an amazing sustainable four story headquarter building in Allschwil on the outskirts of Basel.



The Scientific Program Committee led by David Hamer has built a superb program that addresses many of the contemporary issues in travel medicine and migrant health. We hope we can share this wonderful event with you. We also look forward to your participation and discussions. There will be state-of-the art lectures, prominent speakers, workshops and debates, ample opportunities to discuss controversies in travel medicine, as well as free oral communications on latest research findings.

The Local Organizing Committee led by Christoph Hatz has ensured that participants of CISTM18 will engage closely with Basel and its culture and history. You won't be disappointed by their efforts.

Peter Leggat,
ISTM President



THE 18th CONFERENCE
of the International Society of Travel Medicine

IN-PERSON+VIRTUAL

CISTM18

Basel, Switzerland
21-25 May 2023



ISTM.ORG/CISTM18

Dawn of a New Era in Travel Medicine



Click to learn more about CISTM18.



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Planes, Trains, Cars, Trails; Boats, Bikes. Travel Tales: We're Back!

Wow, it's refreshing to see the uptick in vigorous discussion on the TravelMed forum. We're back to back-and-forth of complex rabies PrEP and PEP schedules, YF vaccine in people over 60, hepatitis A boosters, JE, dengue, ayahuasca, TBE, leptospirosis, and new topics - Ukraine-specific questions, monkeypox, and a refreshing and informative discourse about vaccine temperature storage and stability, and malaria, and of course there's always something about COVID-19. It all feels so *normal*. Yes, there are terrible things still going on in the world, and catastrophic climactic events, unaffordable gas and flight prices, inflation, but I'll stop here, and focus instead on the positive. See Luis Furuya-Kanamori's "Contributions from TravelMed", a new column highlighting clinical case discussions and patient management recommendations posted on TravelMed.

Some of the most exciting news from our society is the return to a live (with a virtual option) CISTM18 21-25 May 2023 in Basel, Switzerland, a most lovely destination. The theme is "Dawn Of A New Era in Travel Medicine." Registration opens in September, so [sign up](#) as soon as you can. And hope those flight prices come down (and the airlines are able to hire more employees) or better yet, use those frequent flyer or credit card miles that have been languishing in your accounts during the pandemic. Scroll through the stimulating scientific program for the meeting listed below. But the best part will probably be the handshakes, hugs, cheek kisses, and high spirits as we all reunite.

Please read on for messages from ISTM's leaders, especially about CISTM18. We mourn the passing of two respected and loved members of the society, Lee Baker and Michel Ray – words on their lives and legacies appear below. A tribute to the esteemed Dr. David Freedman, as he retires from Shoreland Travax after 25 productive years, Lin Chen, ISTM Past President. The Professional Education Committee has done a stellar job maintaining the quality of webinars on [hot travel medicine topics](#) (Monkeypox! New rabies vaccination recommendations! COVID-19 and kids!). "ISTM On the Go" podcasts will be a new and mobile offering for busy practitioners. Also

offered on the learning site are challenging cases curated by Derek Evans – test your knowledge and keep your skills sharp.

More exciting news: *Journal of Travel Medicine* now has risen to an impact factor of 39.124 (that's even higher in fahrenheit) – it is hot! If you haven't done so already, sign up for alerts that go right to your inbox, and don't miss an issue (you must be a member of ISTM to receive the [journal](#) for free).

This issue of *Travel Medicine News* is chock full of more reports from your leaders, committee members, etc. Please reinvigorate your engagement with ISTM and be positive that this is hopefully indeed the beginning of the dawn of a new era in travel medicine. And if you are reading this and are not a member of ISTM or have let your membership lapse, register now! We're back....

Nancy Pietroski,
ISTM *Travel Medicine News* Editor-in-Chief



"Some of the most exciting news from our society is the return to a live CISTM18 21-25 May 2023 in Basel, Switzerland, a most lovely destination."

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SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

A busy half year

A personal highlight in June was a flight in a de Havilland Chipmunk two seat trainer from Eshott airfield in Northumberland. The aircraft was almost as old as I am but, like me, also airworthy. Arranged as a birthday gift by my GP daughter, I took the controls after take off, flying past the notable landmarks of beautiful Bamburgh Castle, and nearby Lindisfarne (Holy Island), reviving memories of my time in the RAF University Air Squadron at Aberdeen University half a century ago, where I was taught a full range of aerobatics whilst studying for my medical degree. On this flight there were no aerobatics but it was a hugely enjoyable experience. My instructor took the controls for landing which was a relief for both of us!

I finished working as a Covid vaccinator at the end of January, which synchronized nicely with an increase in travel for ISTM. In February the Scientific Program Committee (SPC) made a memorable visit to Basel where Christoph Hatz acted as a wonderful guide, chauffeur, and companion. Christoph, Jodi Metzgar, Peter Leggat, and I inspected multiple potential sites for the pre-CISTM18 GeoSentinel meeting and post CISTM18 Executive Board (EB) meeting in May 2023. *Schloss Reinach* near Freiburg in Germany and *Les Violettes*, near Mulhouse in France, both Spa hotels, promise to be great, and competitively priced, locations for both events. Under David Hamer's expert leadership, the SPC made excellent progress mapping a program for CISTM18. The Local Organizing Committee, chaired by Christoph Hatz has worked on an exciting program and we are hugely grateful to Jürg Utzinger and his colleagues at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute for their great support and involvement. The huge shock as I flew home from Basel was glimpsing TV news in a Heathrow Airport lounge on 24th February. A chill wind blew through my soul, as I watched Russia commence its invasion of Ukraine.

In mid-May I flew to Madrid for back-to-back EB and GeoSentinel Annual meetings. These were the first face-to-face meetings for Site Directors and the EB since 2019 and both were wonderful and harmonious occasions. In late May I flew to Bangkok as one of several potential sites for CISTM19 with President-Elect Gerard Flaherty and Jodi. In June I returned to Basel

for a few days to inspect two hotels that we had been unable to view in February as potential HQ sites for the Basel CISTM18. My wife Elizabeth and I marvelled at the courage of those who swam with the current in the Rhine carrying their clothes in sealed plastic bags as they drift past barges and other river traffic. We explored Basel as tourists, trying to identify moderately priced options for eating out and free and reduced cost options for travel using the Basel Card, which includes transport from the airport to hotels.

ISTM finances are roughly where I expected for this phase of our two year cycle, albeit lower than in June 2021 due to the return of travel costs and preparatory expenditure for CISTM18. Not surprisingly our investments with the Royal Bank of Canada have fallen in value in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and our Investment Advisor, Todd Weiland, described the first 6 months of this year as the worst start to any year on the last half decade. We sit tight with the portfolio that he manages at RBC and hope for better times.

Lastly, it is my great delight to join our members in welcoming new Secretariat staff, LaVelle Johnson, Membership Coordinator, and Jaclyn Simon, Accountant. LaVelle has already done great work to help build back our membership base, and Jaclyn, who will be responsible for bookkeeping and budgeting has in a few days of work already revised the budget spreadsheet.

Warm greetings to all our members.

Mike Jones
Secretary-Treasurer



MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- » **American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) 2022 71st Annual Meeting**
Seattle Convention Center, Seattle, Washington, United States of America
30 October – 3 November 2022
www.astmh.org/annual-meeting
- » **11th International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases (ICEID)**
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America
7-10 August 2022
www.iceid.org
- » **International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID)**
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
17-20 November 2022
<https://isidcongress.org>
- » **18th Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine (CISTM18)**
Congress Center Basel, Basel, Switzerland
21-25 May 2023
www.istm.org/cistm18

[Read more about courses and additional happenings on the ISTM Meetings Calendar.](#)





NEWS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat is brimming with activity and anticipation as we prepare for the 18th Conference of the ISTM (CISTM18) in Basel, Switzerland before May 2023. The Scientific Program Committee has been hard at work under SPC Chair, David Hamer's leadership and the program is shaping up nicely. We will continue to [update the website](#) as we get closer to the event.

While all are encouraged to attend the in-person CISTM18 in Basel, 21-25 May 2023, the ISTM Executive Board thought it was prudent to offer a virtual option and we will offer a hybrid registration. The Local Organizing Committee headed up by Christoph Hatz is working with the Secretariat office to ensure in person attendees have a remarkable visit to Basel and truly experience all that the city has to offer. Registration will open September 2022!

The ISTM Secretariat has two new employees I would like to introduce you to:

LaVelle Johnson, ISTM Membership Coordinator

LaVelle joined the Secretariat team in April of this year. As Membership Coordinator, she will be the first line of contact within the Secretariat for most members and non-members alike. In her role she will also be working with ISTM Professional and Interest Groups and focus on membership retention and growth. In her previous job, LaVelle worked for a company that helped onboard physicians at the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC). She is a quick thinker, great problem solver and a fantastic addition to the secretariat team.

Jaclyn Simon, ISTM Accountant

Jaclyn is the new part-time Accountant for ISTM. She has just begun working with us (July 2022) and will be absorbing previously outsourced accounting functions. In addition to her time with us, she is the Director of a pre-school in the Atlanta area where her children previously attended school. She is smart and has a great eye for detail; we are excited to have her on our team!

ISTM will offer our 22nd Certificate of Knowledge™ in Travel Medicine Examination 24 September 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America. This is the first in person exam that we have offered since the pandemic began. 24 August 2022 is the last day to register for this in-person examination. [Read more about the exam](#) on the website.

ISTM is excited to engage once again with conferences to promote our society and develop membership and engagement. In June, ISTM had an exhibitor booth at NECTM7 Conference in Rotterdam, and it was great to talk with attendees about CISTM18 and see many members who were in attendance. August 7-10 we will have an exhibitor booth at the International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases (ICEID) in Atlanta, Georgia. ISTM will also be at the 2022 American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington 30 October – 3 November 2022.

ISTM is excited about our recent team additions and hope to see many of you at CISTM18 in Basel!!

Please join me in welcoming them to the Society.

ISTM Executive Director,
Jodi Metzgar



Elena Axelrod



Aisha Rizwan



Whitney Alexander



Jaclyn Simon



Hannah Emetulu



Carol Tinnie

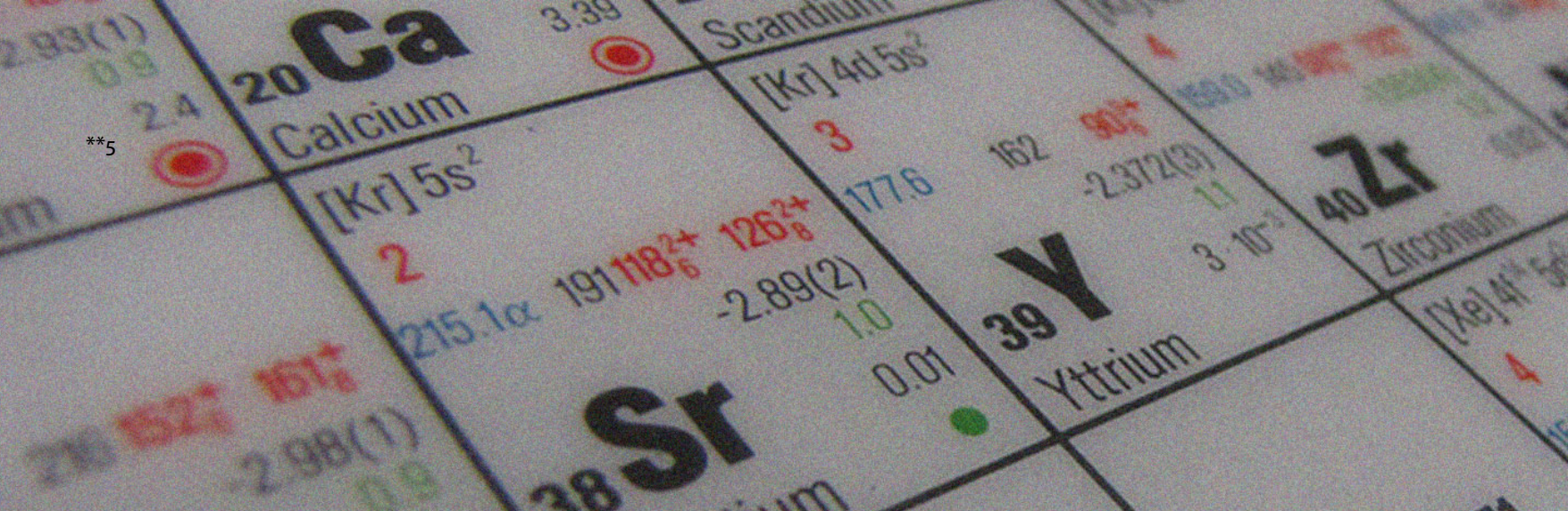


LaVelle Johnson



Jodi Metzgar





CISTM18 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR WELCOME LETTER

It is my great pleasure to invite you to attend the 18th Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine! The last two years have been extremely challenging as the global COVID-19 pandemic has greatly disrupted international travel and has resulted in many of our travel medicine practices being substantially curtailed and even temporarily suspended. We are pleased therefore that the world is re-opening and that international travel volumes are steadily increasing.

We are planning an exciting in-person meeting in Basel, Switzerland with the theme "Dawn of a New Era in Travel Medicine". Basel is a wonderful city on the banks of the river Rhine with a well-equipped, modern conference center, excellent museums, great restaurants, and close proximity to France and Germany. Given the widespread disruptions in global travel secondary to the COVID-19 pandemic, the unfolding tragedy in Ukraine with a resultant massive outflow of refugees to neighboring countries (many of which have active ISTM members), and the profound impact of climate change, the world is changing and we as travel medicine practitioners will need to be prepared to adapt to these changes. Our conference will address these and other topics of importance to the travel medicine community.

We have convened a highly experienced Scientific Program Committee, which has been hard at work developing a comprehensive and attractive program for you. Some of the program highlights include plenary and symposia on the impact of COVID-19 and climate change on travel, antimicrobial resistance, tick-borne diseases, migrant health, and the rising threat of artemisinin treatment failures in malaria-infected travelers. We will also have many excellent workshops including several introductory sessions for new travel medicine providers as well as others on highly specialized topics such as migrant health, a focus on leishmaniasis, human trafficking, and dengue. In addition, Christoph Hatz and the stellar Local Organizing Committee are planning some exciting events for the meeting including special entertainment at the opening ceremony, an opportunity to explore Basel on the third day of the meeting, and a special dinner for all attendees.

We look forward to seeing you in Basel. Please mark your diaries for 21-25 May 2023!

David Hamer, Scientific Program Committee Chair, United States of America
Eric Caumes, Scientific Program Committee Co-Chair, France
Camilla Rothe, Scientific Committee Co-Chair, Germany
Colleen Lau, Associate Chair, Australia
Miguel Cabada, Associate Chair, United States of America and Peru



"We look forward to seeing you in Basel.
Please mark your diaries for 21-25 May
2023!"



David Hamer



Eric Caumes



Camilla Rothe



Colleen Lau



Miguel Cabada





CISTM18 LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CHAIR WELCOME LETTER

Dear Colleagues,

An early warm welcome in Basel, Switzerland from the Local Organizing Committee to the 18th Congress of the International Society of Travel Medicine from 21 to 25 May 2023.

Although Switzerland's third-biggest city has just 200,000 inhabitants and a surface area of only 37 km², it nonetheless boasts a vibrant social and an astounding cultural life. The appeal of this region lies both in its unique position at the point where three countries (Switzerland, France and Germany) meet – offering direct access to all the key transport routes and the world's oceans – and in its long tradition as a science and research location.

May 2023 is still many months away, but the preparations of the local organizing committee for the CISTM18 in Basel are already in full swing. After an on site meeting of the ISTM earlier this year, the local organizing committee started shaping **a novel format within CISTM18: we will offer a cultural program on Tuesday 23rd May 2023 (starting at 16.00h)** for all participants and accompanying persons. Thanks to generous contributions of additional, mainly local sponsors, and a very modest contribution from you, we will offer you a wide selection of tours and activities in and around Basel, sports activities, visits of scientific institutions such as the oldest University of Switzerland or its latest institution building of the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute. Town walks with special themes (e.g. architecture, view from the top of a pharma building, urban social science experience of the past and present) for all ages and background will bring the host city's pearls and realities closer to you. One of the highest museum densities worldwide is reflected by an offer from art exhibitions to natural science insights and many surprises.

At the end of a two and a half hours leisure program, we intend to bring together all participants for a joint dinner in one of Basel's hip places, the old power station, enjoying local food and the company of our international travel medicine family.

You can see that your physical presence makes a lot of sense, not only for enjoying a stunning cultural program with a taste of the famous 'Laeggerli',

but above all profiting from a sublime scientific program which will offer the long awaited exchange of ideas and lively discussions beyond avatars. So please make sure you start planning your trip to the very heart of Europe in the trinational area of Basel.

Obviously, we have also compiled a pre- and post-Congress program of various duration for you and your companions. Please see below some options, so you can already plan your leisure time in Switzerland, including the personal choices of the LOC. We will be happy to provide you with further advice on request.

We acknowledge that travel to Basel may contribute to climate problems, but we are convinced that getting together after more than three years will be important for our constituency. The Congress aims to set landmarks in environment conscious behavior in dealing with water and other resources, in reducing material and food waste and – hopefully – in convincing those who come from Europe to use the train rather than airplanes.

We will provide you with more information as the meeting gets closer, and look forward to seeing you in Basel.

Christoph Hatz, Chair,
on behalf of the LOC/CISTM18



For more
information or
to join the ISTM
visit our site:
www.ISTM.org



And much
more.

Keep Your Membership Current to Continue Receiving These Member Benefits!

The ISTM, with more than 4,300 members in 100 countries, is the largest worldwide organization of travel medicine healthcare professionals. Members include physicians, nurses, and pharmacists from the private sector, academia, and government entities. Join ISTM today to take advantage of these exclusive benefits:

- ✓ Online Member-only community offering access to and discussions with the only worldwide network of people working in travel medicine.
- ✓ Clinic listing in the Online Global Travel Clinic Directory linked to the WHO, CDC, and other government agencies.
- ✓ Weekly medical and safety travel alerts.
- ✓ Member Benefit Webinars and Online Programs as well as informational and educational white papers and case studies free to ISTM Members.
- ✓ Special discounts on products travel medicine professionals use every day, only available to ISTM Members.
- ✓ Access to the *Journal of Travel Medicine*, a peer-reviewed scientific publication.
- ✓ Eligibility to apply for Research Grants and Bursaries.
- ✓ Member discounts for online and in-person educational programs and conferences.





CISTM18: DAWN OF A NEW ERA IN TRAVEL MEDICINE

Scientific Program Committee

Chair: David Hamer, United States of America

Co-Chairs: Eric Caumes, France
Camilla Rothe, Germany

Associate Chairs: Colleen Lau, Australia
Miguel Cabada, United States of America and Peru

Members:

Alykhan Abdulla, Canada
Kristina Angelo, United States of America
Olivier Aoun, France
Naomi Aronson, United States of America
Lucille Blumberg, South Africa
Sarah Borwein, Hong Kong
Yen Bui, Canada
Jasper Chan, Hong Kong
Pornthep Chanthavanich, Thailand
Santanu Chatterjee, India
Jane Chiodini, United Kingdom
Bradley Connor, United States of America
Heather Connor, Canada
Christina Coyle, United States of America
Albie de Frey, South Africa
Derek Evans, United Kingdom
Luis Furuya-Kanamori, Australia
Made Kurnia Widiastuti Giri, Indonesia
Effrossyni Gkrania-Klotsas, United Kingdom
Sandra Grieve, United Kingdom
Ralph Huits, Italy
Regina LaRocque, United States of America
Karin Leder, Australia
Eyal Leshem, Israel
Susana Lloveras, Argentina

Tara Lombardo, Canada
Wolfram Metzger, Germany
Deborah Mills, Australia
Salim Parker, South Africa
Androula Pavli, Greece
Jose Antonio Perez Molina, Spain
Watcharapong Piyaphanee, Thailand
Corneliu Popescu, Romania
Karis Rodriguez, Brazil
Alfonso J. Rodriguez-Morales, Colombia
Andrea Rossanese, Italy
Priscilla Rupali, India
Mauro Saio, Kenya
Sophie Schneitler, Germany
Marc Shaw, New Zealand
Patrick Soentjens, Belgium
Mugen Ujiie, Japan
Fernando Velez, Spain
Thomas Weitzel, Chile
Max Winkler, South Africa
Paul Yonga, Kenya
Yukihiro Yoshimura, Japan

Plenary Sessions

Monday, 22 May 2023

Prevention of COVID-19 in Travelers

- COVID-19 Vaccines
- Non-vaccine Measures to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 (and other respiratory pathogens) During Travel

Tuesday, 23 May 2023

Climate Change - impact on Travel and How Travelers Can Help Preserve the Future

- Climate change and Evolving Disease Risk
- Responsible Travel- Strategies to Reduce Environmental Impact on Planetary Health

Wednesday, 24 May 2023

Travel-Associated Mortality - A Dead End

- Causes of Death in Travelers
- Homicide, Road Accidents, and Drowning

Thursday, 25 May 2023

Antimicrobial Resistance Worldwide - an Increasing Risk for Travelers

- Epidemiology of AMR and Implications for Treatment and Prevention of Hospital-Acquired Travel-Related Diseases

Alan Magill Memorial Lecture

- Malaria Treatment, Resistance

Symposia

COVID-19 Spread, Collateral Damage, and Impact on Migrants

- COVID-19 Global Spread through Travel
- Collateral Damage Due to COVID-19

Africa - Country Level Risk and Local Travel Medicine Resources

- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Zimbabwe

continued on next page





CISTM18: Dawn of A New Era In Travel Medicine

CISTM18: DAWN OF A NEW ERA IN TRAVEL MEDICINE, CONT.

A South American Tour of Febrile Diseases

- Malaria
- Yellow Fever
- Emerging Viral Infections

Leishmaniasis - A Global Perspective

- Eurasia
- Middle East and Africa
- Latin America

Improving the Health of Migrants and Refugees

- Healthcare Provision for Migrants and Refugees
- Screening of Infectious Diseases in Migrants and Refugees
- Vaccination Strategies in Recent Migrants and Refugees

Human Trafficking

- Adult Human Trafficking Implications for Travel Medicine Providers
- Unaccompanied Children and Adolescents as Victims of Human Trafficking -- Preventable Options
- Role of the Travel Medicine Practitioner in Counter-Trafficking and Caring for the Victim

Global Spread of Emerging Infections through Vectors and Travelers

- Emerging Diseases in Europe, One Health Approach
- Emerging Infections in South and Southeast Asia
- Emerging Infections in the Americas, Northern Hemisphere

Update on Malaria Epidemiology and Prevention

- Global Epidemiology and Travel-Related Risk
- Malaria Vaccine
- Malaria Prevention in Travelers

International Association for Medical Assistance to Travelers IAMAT

- TBD

Insects, Sun, Food and Water

- Anti-Vector Measures
- Sun Safety
- Food and Water Safety

Dengue - The Next Decade

- Evolving Global Epidemiology
- Aedes Vectors, Climate Change, and Modern Control Methods
- Dengue Vaccines

Innovative Vaccination Schemes

- Yellow Fever
- Japanese Encephalitis
- Tick-Borne Encephalitis
- Rabies

Hot, Cold and Deep

- Heat Illness
- Cold Illness
- Diving

Tick-Borne Infections - Don't Let it Get Under Your Skin

- Severe Fever with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome
- Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever
- Tick-Borne Rickettsia
- Tick-Borne Encephalitis

Risk of COVID-19 Spread at Mass Gatherings

- COVID-19 and Large Sporting Events
- Pilgrimages and Infectious Disease Spread
- Hajj During COVID-19

Ukrainian Refugees

- TBD

Education

- ABC Workshop: Travel Vaccines
- ABC Workshop: How to Start and Run a Travel Clinic

Workshops

Emergencies in Travel Medicine

- Tropical Diseases in South America: Case Discussions from the Gorgas Course

Challenging Topics in Migrant Health

Military

- Medical Kits for Expedition and Adventure Travel

Debate

Chemoprophylaxis of Acute Mountain Sickness - Pros and Cons

MODERATOR & PANELISTS TBD

COVID-19 Border Closures and Quarantine Mandates

MODERATOR & PANELISTS TBD

Panel Discussion

Protecting and Saving Long Term and Expatriate Travelers

MODERATOR & PANELISTS TBD

Malaria Chemoprophylaxis Guidelines Amongst Non-Endemic Countries

MODERATOR & PANELISTS TBD





IN MEMORIAM

In Memoriam: Michel Rey (1931 – 2022)

Authored by Eric Caumes and contributions by Phyllis Kozarsky and Robert Steffen

Michel Rey, the 4th president of the ISTM (1997-1999) died at the age of 91 in Paris, France on April 2, 2022. Born in Lyon, Michel was educated and graduated in infectious diseases in Paris, mostly at the Claude Bernard hospital where all the French ID specialists were trained before its destruction in 1988. Michel worked a great deal in Western Africa. From 1954 to 1957, during his military duty he served successively in Thies (Senegal) then in Gao (Mali). He came back in Paris for a four year-long residency before moving back to Senegal as the head of the ID department at the Fann hospital in Dakar from 1961 to 1971. There he acquired a huge experience in ID and tropical medicine. He became an expert in vaccine preventable diseases such as measles, tetanus and poliomyelitis. When he moved back to France he became Professor of ID and tropical medicine at the University of Clermont-Ferrand, a city close to Lyon, famous for its pneumatics industry ("Michelin"), and its rugby team. In 1980 he founded the department of ID at Clermont-Ferrand university hospital, and remained its head until he retired in 1994.

His field expertise and extensive knowledge about vaccines and vaccine preventable diseases was recognized in France and worldwide. In France, he founded the "Ligue pour la prévention des maladies infectieuses" in 1981, and was involved in the "Conseil supérieur d'Hygiène Publique de France" at the French ministry of health. He was a counselor at WHO in 1985 and 1986. He was the president of the French Society of Travel Medicine from 1994 to 2003, and the 4th president of the ISTM from 1997 to 1999 between Jay Keystone from Canada and Charles Ericsson from the United States of America. Before his election he closely collaborated with Maxime Armengaud from Toulouse who had been the driving force in the preparation of the 3rd Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine in Paris in 1993, but who did not speak much English. Michel had the

ambition to expand the ISTM in Africa. He was a leader who by his diplomatic and gentlemanly approach solved existing problems in the very early period of our Secretariat. As the ISTM president, he was a champion of the development of what eventually became the ISTM CTH exam, and against many strong voices who did not agree with the exam. He thought there should be a standard of care in the practice of travel medicine, and it was later decided to name a task force to explore an international examination.

Michel Rey was a well experienced and trusted clinician highly appreciated by his patients, and his colleagues. He was also a very good teacher performing entertaining and lively teaching courses. He mentored dozens of students, residents and fellows, including his two following successors at the head of the ID and tropical disease department in Clermont-Ferrand. After he retired he remained involved during two decades in different ID oriented French societies. During the last decade he was slowly retiring from all his activities due to health problems that impaired the last years of his life.

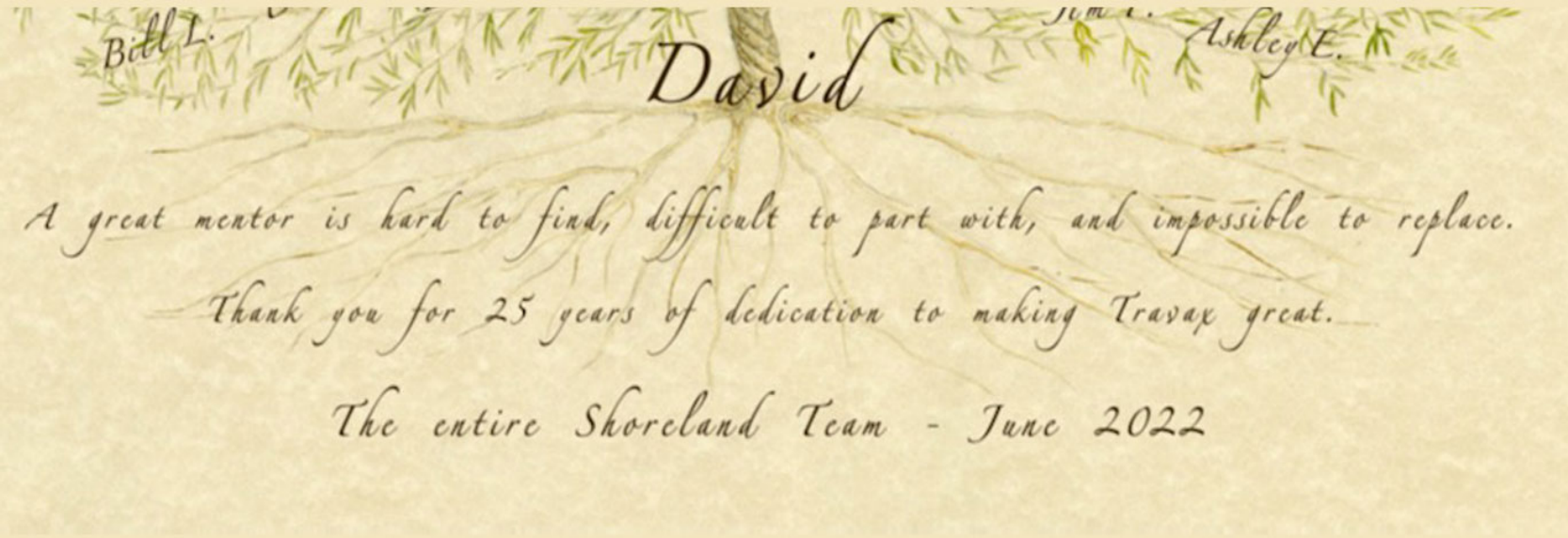
Remembering Lee Baker

Dear All,

On behalf of the Pharmacists Professional Group, I am very sad to report that Lee Baker, a founding member of the PPG and a former Chair, passed away on May 1st. Lee was a leading light for travel medicine in South Africa and actively involved in its development for many years. She was also involved in many of the PPG's group projects since its founding, and was a key figure at our conference events. More importantly, she was a great person that was always willing to sit and listen and talk sympathetically with others and share her experiences. Lee's passing is a great loss for travel medicine and she will be sorely missed at our future conferences.

Respectfully,
Karl Hess





CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID FREEDMAN ON HIS "RETIREMENT"

David O. Freedman, MD, FISTM, FASTMH, FIDSA, Professor Emeritus Infectious Diseases at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (on Faculty since 1989), is well known to the travel and tropical medicine communities. David has recently retired as Managing Senior Director of Shoreland Travax, an online medical publisher for a range of international travel health resources for clinicians, corporations, and the military. During his 25+ year tenure, David was instrumental in shaping Shoreland Travax into the premier clinical decision support tool that it is. Throughout the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, David and the team provided crucial up-to-date information that have helped to guide travel medicine practitioners and many in related fields.

David has held numerous remarkable roles in ISTM being one of 287 founding members in 1991. He served as the ISTM Secretary-Treasurer (2005-2013); Counsellor (1999-2003); Chair, Electronic Communications Committee (1995-2005); Founder, ISTM TravelMed listserv; Chair, Scientific Program Committee for CISTM7 in Innsbruck and CISTM9 in Lisbon; Editorial Board of the Journal of Travel Medicine (2013-); Member, CTH® Exam Committee (1999-2005); FISTM (2017).

Notably, David served as Founding PI of the GeoSentinel® Surveillance Network 1995-2013, a major program of ISTM. This initiative developed the largest database of ill travelers available in collaboration with 65 ISTM travel/tropical medicine units on six continents with over 40 peer-reviewed publications under his leadership. A COVID paper "Isolation, quarantine, social distancing and community containment: Pivotal role for oldstyle public health measures in the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak" a prescient paper co-authored with Past-President Annelies Wilder-Smith in JTM in February 2020 is one of two JTM papers to have more than 1,000 citations. He is a co-author of the Infectious Diseases Society of America Clinical Practice Guidelines on Travel Medicine, co-Editor of the textbook, Travel Medicine (Editions 1, 2, and 3), and is an Associate Editor of both the Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal and Sanford's Guide to Antimicrobial Therapy.

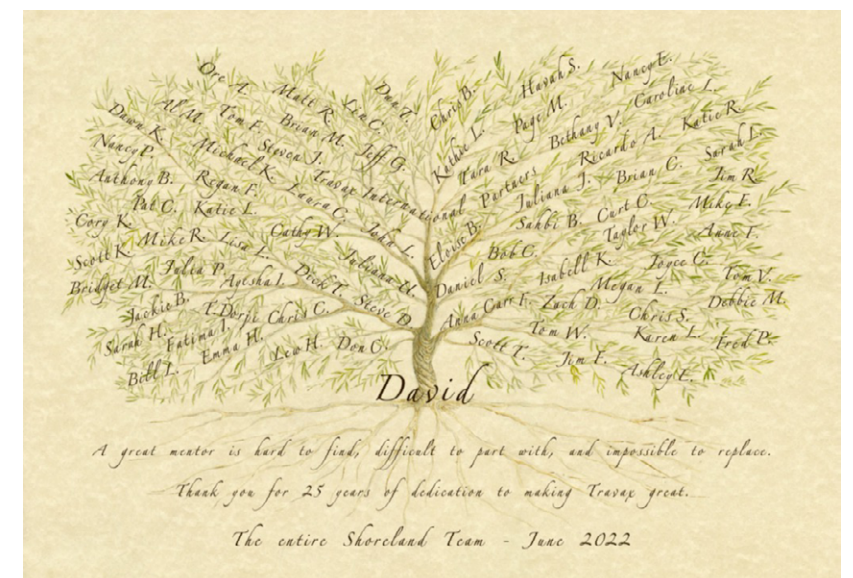
David received his undergraduate degree from McGill University in Montreal and his MD from the University of Toronto. After residency and fellowship in Internal Medicine and Infectious diseases at McGill University, he completed post-doctoral training with the Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, NIAID.

David has made highly recognized contributions in tropical medicine. He is founding Director of the Gorgas Course in Clinical Tropical Medicine that is given for 2 months each year in Peru. He is Past-President (2005) and Secretary-Treasurer of the ASTMH Clinical Group (1994-1997), and ASTMH Councilor (1998-2002). He chaired the CTropMed® Examination Committee (2002-2007) and the Electronic Communications Committee (1995-2002) and served on the ASTMH Scientific Program Committee (1995-2007). He held the role of President of the Gorgas Memorial Institute (2005-2016) which provided funding to ASMTH to support research fellowships in Latin America. For WHO he was on the International Health Regulations Roster of Experts from 2009-18 and served as a Member of the WHO IHR Emergency Committee on Zika in 2016.

David described his "pandemic-related existential reassessment" in which he and his wife Diane will move to the Blue Ridge Mountains (Asheville, North Carolina) when they complete construction of their house there. He will continue working with EID Journal, Sanford Guide, UpToDate, and periodic consulting and will retain his Emeritus Professorship at UAB (includes Gorgas teaching). David plans to remain active in the interesting and stimulating activities of ISTM.

The ISTM family certainly will look forward to his continued involvement!

Lin Chen,
Immediate Past President



COMMITTEES

PUBLICATIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

As summer approaches I am happy to report that despite continued workplace pressures the Publications Oversight Committee (POC) has continued activities in many directions.

We communicate regularly through email and continue to meet quarterly online to share and update information. I'm grateful to POC members who meet the challenges and liaise with other ISTM Groups and committees on our behalf.

We were sorry to lose Dr. Effrossyni Gkrania-Klotsas who stood down in June. Effrossyni has given great support to POC but with work commitments felt that she could no longer commit her time effectively. Thank you Effrossyni.

The POC congratulated the *Journal of Travel Medicine*, Editor-in-Chief, Annelies Wilder-Smith who shared exciting news on the rise of the *Journal of Travel Medicine's* Impact Factor for 2021 to 39.194. Annelies noted that this number was likely inflated by COVID-19 manuscripts and may be unsustainable in the longer term. Nevertheless, a great achievement and we are grateful to Annelies and her Editorial Team for reaching such an impressive position.

Nancy Pietroski (Editor in Chief) and Luis Furuya Kanamori (Associate Editor) continue to put tremendous effort into producing the Travel Medicine News. The publication relies on submissions from contributors, which when late, can lead to delays. These contributions are of course welcome and appreciated but as other team members are involved in the process, timely submissions to meet deadlines are essential. Luis has begun a new column inspired by discussion topics in the Travel Med forum which we hope you will enjoy.

Jak Pupaibool is POC liaison member on the Digital Communications Committee (DCC). There is cross-committee working in progress and we await the results of their collaborative efforts.

Currently the website development is on hold while the new logo design is decided and agreed. We await the final design for POC approval and feedback before a recommendation is presented to the EB. The website creative design process will follow.

The Responsible Travel Interest Group is working on a new project and presented their proposal to the POC. The draft infographic was generally well received by the committee and will be resubmitted for final approval once edits have been made by the graphic artist.

We continue to be mindful of the need for recruitment to the POC and using every opportunity to engage with those who may be interested. This happened at NECTM8 in Rotterdam, and CISTM18 in Basel is also ideal to attract new committee members. POC member and experienced ISTM member Charlie Ericsson suggested that the "cream would naturally rise to the top" as far as good leadership candidates are concerned and it's important to keep diversity and multi-country representation on the committee. If you would like to consider joining the POC, have a look at our Charter and [get in touch](#).

Thank you to my fellow POC colleagues, it's a privilege to work with you, and to the Secretariat for your support.

Sandra Grieve, Chair Publications Oversight Committee

CONFERENCE REPORT

The Northern European Conference on Travel Medicine (NECTM8)

The Northern European Conference on Travel Medicine (NECTM8) took place in Rotterdam in The Netherlands on 8-10 June 2022.

Like many other events scheduled and postponed due to the pandemic, NECTM8 faced many challenges before finally opening the doors to a welcome live event. Entitled "Setting sail towards the future of travel medicine", and with an appropriate maritime theme running through the program, arriving delegates were entertained to traditional sea shanties performed by a group of jolly "sailors". A bonus was a happy Gerard Flaherty, ISTM President-elect, excited to hear the rendition of a song from his native Ireland. Meeting in person certainly has its advantages.

Although, perhaps unsurprisingly, delegate numbers were down when compared to previous NECTM events, those of us who attended



were treated to an excellent scientific and social program. Despite the challenges, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) had pulled out all the stops to make this a memorable conference. In "normal" times the field of travel medicine has no shortage of topics to address and with such a fast-moving discipline this was reflected throughout the three program streams. Specialist practitioners such as nurses, pharmacists, general practitioners, and academics were catered for through sessions covering the latest research and evidence, all presented by experts in the field. Dedicated symposiums for Nurses, COVID-19, and one in collaboration with the "Euregional Maastricht Symposium on Immune Compromised Traveller" (EUMICT) were well received and attended. One of the NECTM aims is to foster and share education and best practice between the NECTM partner countries, while accounting for the differing health systems and local guidance. Of course, there are differences and similarities, but no matter where you practice, a common theme was that good communication skills are key when advising travelers.

The exhibition included an ISTM stand which was a good hub for Whitney Alexander and Carol Tinnie to explain the Society's mission, promote CISTM18, and encourage new members. Immediate ISTM past-president Lin Chen was an invited speaker and spoke eloquently on "the future of travel medicine".

The conference dinner took place on a paddle steamer while sailing down the river Maas. The evening sun shone on the decks and networking got into full swing as people reconnected after a long absence.

The LOC had another surprise in store, when the conference ended with a troupe of Brazilian musicians and dancers taking to the stage, a sight to behold indeed.

A big thank you to all involved in NECTM8 and we look forward to the next event (NECTM9) which will take place in Copenhagen on 22-24 May 2024. [Mark your diary and see the website for update announcements.](#)

Sandra Grieve, Co-Chair NECTM Steering Group and Chair ISTM Publications Oversight Committee



COMMITTEES, CONT.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The **webinars** continue to bring the ISTM community together, thanks to the dedication of our international panels of speakers. For 2022, our program includes perennial favorites such as dengue and rabies, plus a special session on the impact of COVID-19 in children. In the planning stages are webinars on wilderness medicine, spiritual travel, and malaria vaccines.

ISTM on The Go, a podcast for travel medicine professionals, will launch this soon.

Our very own "A-Team" -- Albie de Frey and Anne McCarthy are busy recording engaging interviews with leading experts in travel medicine to bring you the stories behind the headlines. Their conversations will be archived on the Learning@ISTM platform; you'll be able to download and listen at your convenience. Topics will range from perspective pieces, personal interest stories to lively albeit respectful debates, and are designed to give you a more in-depth understanding of the field of travel medicine.

Sarah Kohl,
Professional Education Committee Chair

Yen Bui,
Professional Education Committee, Co-Chair



RESEARCH AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

On behalf of the whole Research and Awards Committee, we would like to thank you for all for time, effort, and excellent ideas that have been brought forward in proposals of good-to-excellent quality and reflective of the attractiveness of this funding scheme.

With the competition for limited funding, we were able to fund the following five proposals for a total of \$61,308 USD:

1. Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine Risk-Benefit Analysis Tool
Deborah Mills, Australia, Principal Investigator
2. The TRAVel VAccine Aids for Decision-making (TRAVAID) Project
Sarah McGuinness, Australia, Principal Investigator
3. Impact of Oral Iron Supplementation on Right Ventricular Function and Exercise Performance at Moderate to High Altitude – A Pilot Study
Lindsay Forbes, United States of America, Principal Investigator
4. Development of a recombinant protein immunoassay for cysticercosis screening in the United States
Lindsay Forbes, United States of America, Principal Investigator
5. The role of anti-parasitic treatment for returning travelers with persistent abdominal symptoms and negative molecular stool tests
Asaf Biber, Israel, Principal Investigator

Many thanks to the committee members listed below for their tireless work, engagement and dedication!

- Chair, Mark Riddle, United States of America
- Co-Chair Luis Furuya Kanamori, Australia
- Jose Flores, Mexico
- Katherine Gibney, Australia
- Stefan Hagmann, United States of America
- Susan Hills, United States of America
- Eyal Leshem, Israel
- Sarah McGuinness, Australia
- Francesca Norma, Spain
- Kyle Petersen, United States of America
- Harunor Rashid, Australia
- Mary Wilson, United States of America

ISTM EXAM COMMITTEE UPDATE

The third online CTH exam has just taken place end of March with 96 candidates and a new exam form, and the results are pending the standard setting process which took place in May. The committee has been reviewing unused questions in the bank and the new form since January, and each member has been assigned a list of new questions to write before summer.

For the first time since 2018, the Exam Committee will be meeting in person in September in Atlanta, to review the newly written questions and also the questions flagged in the last three exams.

Recently one member has stepped down after many years working with us and two new members have been accepted on the Committee, who need to learn the trick of the trade, and whom we are looking forward meeting in person, hopefully in September.

Pierre Landry,
ISTM Exam Committee Chair





CONTRIBUTIONS FROM TRAVELMED

In this issue we introduce a new section describing clinical case discussions and patient management recommendations posted on TravelMed. The ISTM Listserv, [TravelMed](#), is open to ISTM Members who wish to communicate with other members on clinical travel medicine discussions.

In this opportunity, Tara Lombardo presents a case of a young traveler to Madagascar. Tara is Travel Clinic Manager at Dawson Travel & Immunization Clinic in Ontario, Canada. Tara has been in travel medicine for 12 years, certified in 2019 in Washington, USA and is a Licenced Practical Nurse - graduated in 2005.

A single 23-year-old female graduate student was seen at the clinic for pre-departure consultation prior to her trip to Madagascar to collect data on lemur stool for 3-4 months beginning in May 2022. The patient is healthy with no comorbidities, although has suspected childhood penicillin allergy, her medication includes only birth control pills, and she follows a vegetarian diet. The patient is up to date with all recommended vaccines (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, polio, MMR, varicella, yellow fever, hepatitis A/B, rabies, typhoid, cholera, influenza, HPV, and 3 doses of COVID-19 vaccines).

The patient will visit the capital city of Antananarivo for 3-4 weeks, then travel to Ankarafantiska National Park for 6 weeks where she will spend two weeks in three different villages. While in the national park, she will be traveling by foot for 8-10 hours to the villages. Another female graduate student will accompany her for two months. The patient will make local connections while in the capital and through her supervisor's contacts with a local non-profit organization at a nearby research station to get urgent help if required. The patient will be living in a tent with the locals in rural villages, where there is no access to running water or electricity. She has the intention of using the nearby river for bathing and washing clothes, and will try to obtain bottled water for drinking. A nearby town will provide food and will supplement local food with non-perishable food brought from Canada including dehydrated vegetables and fruit, nuts, and seeds.

Following the standard recommendations, the patient requested further information regarding safe bathing, clean clothing safety, and how to more substantially keep water clean. In order to address this request, Tara posted a query on TravelMed for advice regarding these queries.

Valuable contribution from ISTM members reinforced the need for malaria, traveller's diarrhoea, rabies, and plague prevention as these diseases are endemic or outbreaks have occurred in recent years. In addition, schistosomiasis (also known as bilharzia) was listed at the top of common parasitic infections. Schistosomiasis is endemic in Madagascar and sub-Saharan Africa, and no realistic "Don't go in the water" advice nor effective preventive interventions are currently available.

While there is anecdotal evidence that vigorous towel-drying after exposure to infected water can reduce the risk of infection¹, travellers should not rely on this method to prevent schistosomiasis². Topical application of DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide) is effective in repelling biting insects³, and a small study has shown its efficacy as schistosomiasis prophylactic⁴. However, insect repellent when individuals are exposed to water are not effective in preventing cercarial dermatitis⁵.

It was pointed out the importance of treating water for showering and washing in general. *"The furcocercariae do not survive in still water for more than 36/48 hours without finding a host: they die! so the old system of two tanks used in lodges and tented camps is still very valid. Basically, one water container (tank or jerrican) is collected and left to stand for 48 hours, unused, while the content of the second tank is used. Then the content of the first tank, stood for 48 hours, should be non-infective and can be used".* This old (far back as 1915) two tank method is still one of the most effective for preventing schistosomiasis. Given the high carriage of *Schistosoma mansoni* in Madagascar, it was also recommended *"schistosomal antibody test 12 weeks post-return"*.

The patient was further advised as per recommendation on water borne illnesses and how to prevent them. No follow up is available at this time. Updates will be provided in the following issues.

Despite comprehensive recommendations from an experienced travel medicine provider and use of reliable sources of information, this case highlights the wide network and expertise from ISTM members around the world (some of them even with in-country experience), and how they can contribute to supplement information for patient management.

TravelMed is open to ISTM Members who wish to communicate with other members on clinical travel medicine discussions. It is an unmoderated discussion forum through email (or accessed from the [ISTM website](#) – that many ISTM members find of great benefit. Please follow the rules and etiquette when posting on TravelMed.

If you are interested in contribution to this section and/or to share your experience using TravelMed, please contact Luis Furuya-Kanamori (l.furuya@uq.edu.au).

Tara Lombardo, Dawson Travel & Immunization Clinic in Ontario, Canada
Luis Furuya-Kanamori, The University of Queensland, Australia

¹ Schistosomiasis. In: Control of communicable diseases in man. Twelfth edition. Benenson AS, ed. American Public Health Association, 1975:282-4.

² <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/schistosomiasis/prevent.html>

³ Ramaswamy et al. Trends Parasitol. 2003;19(12):551-5.

⁴ Jackson et al. Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg. 2003;97(4):449-50.

⁵ Caumes et al. Ann Trop Med Parasitol. 2003;97(2):157-63.







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We are pleased to share with you
that JTM's new Impact Factor has
risen to 39.194.

JOURNAL OF TRAVEL MEDICINE

Dear ISTM Friends and Colleagues,

The new Impact Factor for our Society's Journal of Travel Medicine has just been announced.

We are pleased to share with you that JTM's new Impact Factor has risen to 39.194.

We would like to congratulate the Society to this success, and thank those who submitted great manuscripts, did rigorous reviews, and worked tirelessly to support our Journal. In particular we would like to thank Associate Editors Kristina Angelo, Federico Gobbi, Anita Heywood, Colleen Lau, Eyal Leshem and Mark Riddle, as well as the Section Editors and Editorial Board at-large.

Annelies Wilder-Smith, Editor-in-Chief
Eli Schwartz, Deputy Editor
Sandra Grieve, Chair Publications Oversight Committee



Increased Influence & Impact
**#2 in Public, Environmental,
and Occupational Health**
#3 in Infectious Diseases

Source: Journal Impact Factor™ from Clarivate, 2022

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Professional Qualifications in Travel Medicine

Applications are now open for the next cohorts of the [Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow's 'Professional Development Certificate \(PDC\) in Travel Medicine'](#) and ['Postgraduate Diploma in Travel Medicine'](#). These courses are designed for those healthcare professionals who are considering the next stage of their career, with the PDC focusing on core aspects of travel health, and Diploma developed for those planning on becoming autonomous and reflective practitioners in travel medicine services. The next start date for the PDC course is 27 September, with the Diploma beginning on 30 January 2023. Full details are available on the College's [website](#).

