

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TRAVEL MEDICINE

Promoting Healthy Travel Worldwide

TRAVEL MEDICINE News

Happy memories from CISTIV118



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Prof. Gerard Flaherty, MD, PhD ISTM President

Dear ISTM members,

his is the first of regular communications from me as your new President. Thank you for placing your trust in me. As a volunteer in full-time employment in Galway, Ireland, I am deeply grateful to my colleagues at University of Galway, and especially to University President, Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, for their support and encouragement as I take up this challenging role. I am mindful of the excellent caliber of the ISTM presidents that have served you in the past. I will do my best to live up to your expectations, to serve you with integrity and passion, and to help you to offer your skills and service to the Society.

We have just returned from a wonderful CISTM in Basel, Switzerland, which was preceded by a constructive GeoSentinel site directors' meeting in Munzingen, Germany, and followed by productive Leadership Council and Executive Board meetings in Alsace, France. I greatly enjoyed being able to rekindle old friendships and make new friends in pleasant surroundings.

The atmosphere at CISTM18 was most congenial, and it was evident that our delegates, numbering over 1200, savored the opportunity for their first in-person ISTM conference since 2019. Christoph Hatz and his colleagues extended a very warm welcome to us, and we all enjoyed the opportunity during the conference to tour around their beautiful city, of which they are justly proud.

The excellence of the CISTM18 scientific program was testament to the hard work and creativity of the scientific program committee (SPC). skilfully led by David Hamer as SPC Chair, ably assisted by his Co-chairs, Eric Caumes and Camilla Rothe, and Associate Chairs, Colleen Lau and Miguel Cabada. Thank you to all our abstract reviewers, speakers, session chairs, research award judges, and Secretariat for making this successful conference possible. The initial feedback from delegates has been very positive. We await formal evaluation data which will inform our preparations for CISTM19, due to be held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside hotel (May 11-15, 2025).

We are very excited about taking CISTM to the friendly and effervescent city of New Orleans, Louisiana for the first time. Preparations are already underway, and I am pleased to announce that Eric Caumes (France) has been appointed as Chair of the CISTM19 SPC. As a respected academic, clinician, and former ISTM Counselor and Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Travel Medicine. Eric will bring boundless energy, fresh thinking, and integrity to this role. One of our first steps will be to solicit members of the SPC so we hope that you will respond positively to this invitation.

Our outgoing Executive Board members have served this Society with distinction. Sincere thanks to

our indomitable Past President Lin Chen and to our two ex-Counselors, Rebecca Acosta and Jenny Visser, for all their valuable contributions. Peter Leggat's term as ISTM President was marked by multiple notable successes, not least of which were the achievement of charitable 501c3 status for the organization and completion of an external operational review of the Society. I look forward to working with Peter as Immediate Past President.

A warm welcome to our new President-elect. Anne McCarthy (Canada), who brings experience and abundant common sense to the role, and to our incoming Counselors, Christina Coyle (USA) and Nahoko Sato (Japan), both of whom will offer significant strengths to the Board. We are grateful to Mike Jones for agreeing to serve as Secretary-Treasurer for a third two-year term. A search for Mike's successor will get under way shortly. This is a demanding role, but one which Mike fulfills with professionalism and admirable attention to detail.

We are in a period of exciting activity and flux within ISTM, with the imminent search for an Executive Director, and launch of several new executive committees, including the Membership Committee led by Jenny Visser and the Development and Planning Committee (DPC). We are grateful to Lin Chen for agreeing to chair our DPC which will have an important fundraising role. My inaugural presidential speech and subsequent Leadership Council discussions underscored the need. despite budgetary constraints, to expand our Secretariat, who have been short-staffed for some time. This is an essential exercise if we are to modernize our operations, meet our 501c3 obligations, and restore our membership to its former levels.

As your new President, my stated goals are to unite the Society, to nurture our travel medicine community. and to identify all opportunities to extend our reach and to broaden our appeal. Unity is strength. During our strategic breakout session at the recent Leadership Council, the theme of our discussions was 'Shaping the Future of ISTM'. I was impressed by the energy, enthusiasm, and innovative perspectives of our leaders as they considered the strengths. weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that face our Society. As we say in Gaelic, "Tús maith, leath na hoibre" (a good start is half the work).

I look forward to listening to and supporting you during my presidential term. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your ideas and proposals at my new email address – President@istm.org. I will check in with you as frequently as possible to keep you all up to date on our collective progress. All roads lead to the vibrant city of New Orleans for CISTM19, where we will indeed let the good times roll! I look forward to meeting you as friends and colleagues at different points along the journey.

Prof. Gerard Flaherty, MD, PhD *ISTM President*



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

It's Still Not Too Late to Save the World

fter I returned home from CISTM18, my friends asked how our trip to Switzerland was (before the meeting, gorgeous but most of the time the Alps were shy and hid their faces), and also about the meeting. I said repeatedly, "I am so grateful that there are still passionate intelligent people out there trying to save the world." For the days of the conference, I allowed myself a refreshing respite from the negative news of the world and immersed myself in the moments of the meeting. And fine moments they were: from the excellent pre-conference workshops. to the drums and sweet pipes trilling at the opening ceremony, the terrific plenary and pharma sponsored lunch talks (although the paper bag rustling must be distracting to the speakers), workshops, excellent Alan Magill malaria lecture, Meet the History Basel talks (loved the LSD one), and all

the informative talks in-between. The CISTM18 app was environmentally-friendly, efficient, and easy to use, as were the poster sessions (although the screens could have been bigger). And Goodbye Peter, Hello Gerard.

Climate extreme was in abeyance for the most part during the meeting as participants enjoyed lovely Basel weather sprinkled with few spring showers, but most thankfully, not during the tour night and Altes Kraftwerk event. What a staggering amount of scrumptious food and libations!

I thought the most entertaining talks were by Sarah McGuiness who had to pivot from what she thought was a talk on vectorborne diseases to the actual vectors, and Scott Norton, who performed a strip tease (but not the full Monty) with his performance talk on sun protection. I appreciated the direction from the scientific program committee to encourage speakers to create clever titles for their talks great hooks for getting participants to attend a talk, but we all needed clones to not miss any. On the last day, I heard Andrea Rossanese remark to Christoph Hatz. "There are no words...". Hats off to Christoph and all who made this terrific meeting possible, all the more enjoyable after

so many years of not seeing each other in person.

Pivoting to...the vigorous discussions on TravelMed are gratifying – everything seems to be back in full swing, including discussions about the usual suspects (YF vax and elderly, number of rabies PrEP doses, dex for altitude prophylaxis, etc.), a new and intriguing topic – traveling for marriage, and a very thoughtful discussion on live vs. online CISTMs. See my note for effective use of TravelMed that appears later in this newsletter.

The climate may be fickle, but in a beautiful country, it can always generate a smile (my husband Dave on The North Face Trail in Mürren).

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



SECRETARY TREASURER'S

report

Mike Jones Secretary-Treasurer



Climbing CISTM Mountains

hus far this year I have made three overseas visits, all memorable for different reasons.

The Scientific Program Committee elected in February 2022 to hold their second meeting in the Galapagos. At that juncture airfares were low in the wake of Omicron, and the venue cost was comparable to reasonable alternatives and convenient for North Americans. One year later air fares had become very expensive after unexpected postpandemic airfare price hikes and travel itineraries involved multiple flights and were exhausting for some committee members. The optics were also clearly flawed, and such locations will be excluded in the future. David Hamer and his colleagues nevertheless produced a great CISTM18 Program in the cool, wet, and power-cut prone highlands of Santa Cruz Island, so the output was superb.

In April Gerard Flaherty, Sheena Volmer and I visited New Orleans for a few days. It was sadly evident that hotel costs were too expensive to consider Bangkok for CISTM19 in 2025 but in NOLA the clear winning location was the Riverside Hilton. A memorable finale, arranged by the Convention Bureau was a river cruise with on board jazz band on the Creole Queen and we were all delighted when New Orleans was announced as the venue for CISTM19 in Basel. Immediately afterwards I flew to Atlanta to meet with each member of Secretariat staff individually and attended a full F2F staff meeting.



Recharging at Sevenum in the Netherlands



Gerard, Sheena, and Mike on the Creole Queen in New Orleans

And then of course there was CISTM18 in Basel. The Secretariat, understaffed and mostly with no prior experience of organizing a F2F conference climbed a mountain, gaining valuable experience and worked their socks off to make this a success under the leadership of Whitney, Acting ED. It was a bumpy ride at times, both for them and others but they delivered a great conference, and we were all relieved that total

registrations reached 1200 of which about 1100 attended in person. The main conference, 21st to 25th May, was bracketed by the GeoSentinel Site Directors gathering at the Schloss Reinach Hotel near Freiburg and the Leadership Council/Executive Board meetings at the Les Violettes Hotel in neighbouring Alsace. Since Peter Leggat and I had taken a lead role selecting these locations in February 2022, we were hugely relieved that they proved more than adequate and were enjoyed by both groups. Most of us are worried about climate change and following acquisition of a battery electric vehicle (BEV) in December, Elizabeth and I cut our carbon emissions compared to air travel by about 80%, driving all the way and taking a P&O North Sea ferry from Hull to Rotterdam. The electric charging network in the Netherlands. and Germany is superb, better than

the UK, and I was delighted to find that at least two Dutch colleagues also chose to drive their BEVs to Basel from the Netherlands. All three hotels in Freiburg, Basel and Alsace provided chargers, although at Les Violettes it was annoying to find one charger permanently obstructed by a Tesla, the driver unaware that this is considered poor etiquette by electric car drivers. Many Europeans used the excellent electric rail connections to travel to Basel.

The conference offered many star quality presentations and one veteran commented that the Basel Convention Centre now stands out as the venue against which all future conference venues will be compared. It takes several months after a conference to reach a conclusion about net revenue, and I will report on that before the end of the year. I am hopeful for a

moderate surplus. Christoph Hatz and his colleagues at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute delivered a wonderful cultural program for guests and delegates and Robert Steffen, the Liaison Committee Chair, organised a wonderful evening gathering for delegates from Africa for which the Finance Committee at ISTM allocated funds from the Liaison Committee budget.

Fulton and Kozak, our Auditors, published their Audit of 2021-22 accounts in March and copies of that audit are now available to members on request.

Warm greetings to all our members.

Mike Jones Secretary-Treasurer

ISTM FOUNDATION

ISTM was established in 1991, building upon the success of the first Conference of International Travel Medicine in 1988, and has grown to become the largest organization of professionals dedicated to the advancement of the specialty of travel medicine. To further ISTM's mission through private and philanthropic support, the ISTM Foundation, Inc was established in 2014 as a full charity under Internal Revenue Service regulation (501c3) to enable US charitable contributions to qualify for tax relief. After three years sustained work ISTM has now itself received 501c3 status and the Board of the ISTM Foundation has decided to dissolve and transfer its assets to the Development and Planning Committee of

ISTM which now takes over the functions of the ISTM Foundation.

The Board of ISTM Foundation is grateful for your support over the years, funding research and educational projects, promoting and fostering healthy and safe travel, focused not only on travelers, but also on their destination and home communities. The need has never been greater, and the Foundation Board looks forward to your continued direct support of the ISTM, now enhanced by the assets and focus of the dissolved Foundation.

Board of ISTM Foundation



Plenos FROM THE SECRETARIAT

ISTM18, ISTM's first hybrid congress in Basel, Switzerland ■had more than 1100 in-person delegates from 67 countries representing Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, Oceania and South America. On the first day of the conference, nearly 70 individuals sat for the CTH® Exam. Aside from Switzerland, the top 10 countries represented at CISTM18 were United States of America, Australia, Canada, United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, France, the Netherlands and New Zealand.

The opening plenary session, Climate Change and Health – Our Future, was dedicated to the challenges that climate change poses to human health and health systems in the 21st century. This plenary helped set the tone for congress and cement the conference theme of Dawn of a New Era in Travel Medicine. This plenary was a thoughtprovoking discussion that explored the incidence of infectious diseases and the importance of different drivers for disease emergence, and learning how health systems can be made more resilient and sustainable in a changing climate. Other plenary themes included: COVID-19 and International Travelers,

Travel Associated Mortality— A Dead End, and Antimicrobial Resistance – An Increasing Global Threat.

The entire CISTM18 scientific program was recorded and is available for 12 months to registered attendeesincluding those who attended in-person and virtually. Did you miss CISTM18? You can still register and have access to all of the rich content. Simply register as a virtual attendee here.

On behalf of the ISTM, many thanks are extended to the CISTM18 Scientific Program Committee, the Local Organizing Committee. ISTM Officers and Executive Board, the Swiss Tropical Institute. Basel Tourism and the Secretariat team for developing, planning and executing such a rich and invigorating conference experience.

The 19th Conference of the ISTM will be in New Orleans, Louisiana! Please mark your calendars for 11-15 May 2025. We look forward to seeing you there!

Whitney Alexander ISTM Acting Executive Director







CISTM18 Scientific Program Committee Chair

18th Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine

ISTM18 was held in the lovely, historic Basel, Switzerland from May 21st to 25th. The conference was attended by a total of 1,247 people including 1,140 who were there in-person, representing 63 different countries. The conference focus was "Dawn of a New Era in Travel Medicine". Many of the talks at CISTM18 addressed this theme and, in addition, efforts were made to make this an ecofriendly, paperless conference with minimal plastic waste.

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC), led by Christoph Hatz, did a stellar job organizing a fun and informative opening ceremony with local music and a provocative talk on climate change and the future of our planet. The LOC also coordinated several interesting Meet the History presentations and a special networking event on Tuesday May 23rd preceded by enlightening tours of Basel.

The quality of the scientific presentations at CISTM18 was outstanding with several excellent plenaries, which covered climate change and emerging diseases, COVID-19 treatment and prevention, accident-related mortality of travelers, and antimicrobial resistance. There

were many excellent symposia on a broad range of topics including imported infections (malaria, leishmaniasis, dengue, and others), mass gatherings, migrant health, and wilderness medicine (altitude sickness and environmental exposures ranging from hyperthermia to envenomation and animal bites). There was a total of 220 abstracts submitted with 20 rejected by the Scientific Program Committee (SPC), and 13 withdrawn by the authors, leaving 187 oral and poster presentations. The quality of the oral abstracts presented in the four Free Communication sessions was excellent.

One of the best aspects of the conference was an opportunity to see and interact in-person with colleagues and friends from all over the world. After having been obliged by the COVID-19 pandemic to hold CISTM17 completely virtually, it was a great pleasure to be able to meet in-person in Basel. Special efforts were made to facilitate attendance of colleagues from low- and middle-income countries, which served to showcase the growing importance of travel medicine in resource-limited areas from Africa to Asia to Latin America.

The full SPC, especially the leadership team (David Hamer, USA; Camilla Rothe, Germany; Eric Caumes, France; Colleen Lau, Australia; and Miguel Cabada, USA/Peru), deserve kudos for their hard work

which ultimately resulted in a high quality CISTM. Similarly, the ISTM and Congress Secretariat must be acknowledged for the incredibly hard work behind the scenes to make this conference a great success.

David Hamer, CISTM18 SPC Chair

CISTM18 Local Organizing Committee Chair

Basel at the center of travel medicine: The 18th Congress of the International Society of Travel Medicine (CISTM18)

rom May 21-25, Basel was the global center of travel medicine.
The 18th Congress of the International Society of Travel Medicine (CISTM18) attracted around 1140 participants from all over the world to Basel. In addition to high-level scientific presentations, the congress also promoted informal exchange and new research projects among researchers.

The atmosphere at the 18th Congress of the ISTM (CISTM18) was as focused as it was exuberant, the program packed with science and social activities. After a Covid-19-related gap of four years, the International Society was once again able to host a physical and high-profile congress. This time Basel was the venue and Cantonal **Government Councilor Beat Jans** could not hide his pleasure to warmly welcome the participants on behalf of the two Cantons of Basel-Stadt (Standortförderung) and Basel-Landschaft. In his opening speech, he described the way Basel wants to develop into a "Green City" through a sustainable energy policy and urban planning measures.



Safari Carnival Team

The Anthropocene

The climate, which has been altered by human activity, was also the topic of Thomas Stocker's keynote lecture. The distinguished researcher from the University of Bern drew attention to the effects of global warming on the environment and health of the planet and its inhabitants. The influence of humans on climate has no precedent in history, Stocker recalls, hinting the famous notion of the Anthropocene by Paul Crutzen, According to Stocker. three topics especially need serious individual behavior change among which are consumption, energy use and mobility (mass tourism).



Alder Streichmusik, Appenzell

Science and culture city Basel

Science was undoubtedly at the center of the congress. But not only. CISTM18 also provided an opportunity for informal exchanges between travel medicine professionals and for soaking up Basel's cultural atmosphere on Tuesday afternoon and evening. "My goal was to give conference participants the opportunity to exchange ideas and get to know Basel intensively," says Christoph Hatz, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee. The concept of a networking event inside a scientific conference was highly appreciated. Participants could choose between 30 tours, numerous museum and city encounters, or visits to the Swiss TPH, Novartis Pavillon or the University of Basel. This immersion in the world of culture and science was highlighted by the participants as unique. A networking dinner brought together 843 participants from all academic positions and backgrounds after the tours and paved the way for new joint research between international and Swiss researchers. "This success of the social program and the quality of the informal exchange is due to



The Swiss travel and tropical medicine ladies

the good cooperation between Basel Tourism, Messe Basel, the Congress Organizer (Congrex), the ISTM and the Local Organizing Committee," says Christoph Hatz. The former head of department at Swiss TPH hopes that this example will set a precedent, given that there will be no deadly virus again which prohibits social interaction.



A tour group on Cathedral Square in Full swing



GeoSentinel 🌣



le were very excited for our second post-pandemic Network annual meeting which took place in Freiburg, Germany, just prior to CISTM18. Almost every site was represented. And of course, most of us were also able to attend CISTM and finally see so many of our colleagues we had only seen virtually for the past few years.

As we emerge from the pandemic, GeoSentinel has been picking up the pace with alacrity. Several projects had abstracts presented at CISTM18, including retrospective analyses on Chagas disease, dengue, malaria, and US site data. A poster was also presented on a machine learning project that is the fruit of a new collaboration with the medical artificial intelligence group in Eindhoven, Netherlands, and will likely revolutionize how we can use our surveillance data in near real time to identify outbreaks and sentinel events. Several manuscripts have recently been submitted or accepted for publication and we append a listing on the next page for your interest. Our first Delphi survey, which looks at controversial aspects of

schistosomiasis is moving forward on schedule; this project will demonstrate how we can use our extensive collective expertise to establish a framework for future research in this area and is our first project which does not rely on our data collection platform. Our ongoing dengue retrospective project has spawned a new collaboration with the climatologic research group in Heidelberg, which will show how our surveillance in travellers aligns with climate events in different regions of the world. Finally, our major research projects looking at genomic surveillance of malaria, neurocognitive outcomes of malaria in naïve travellers, advanced diagnostics and pathogen discovery in febrile and severe imported illness, and viral kinetics of Mpox infection have either begun or will shortly commence enrollment. It is an exciting time for the Network. We encourage all ISTM members to stay in touch with the investigators at GeoSentinel sites near you if they want to help with recruitment for any of these studies. If you missed our abstract presentations, you can still watch the recorded sessions, and if you would like to share any ideas don't be shy.

You can always contact us at geosentinel@geosentinel.org if you would like more information.

The Network continues to evolve with continued expansion. New sites are preparing to join or have already begun entering patient data, including sites in New Orleans (Tulane), Oklahoma City, Gainesville Florida, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, Brussels, and Vienna.

We also would like to thank the ISTM secretariat for providing us with much needed support in multiple areas: Jaclyn Simon now oversees our budget and contracts work. Dawn Keough for our website. Sheena Volmer for meeting planning, and LaVelle Johnson and Whitney Alexander for administrative support.

We enjoyed meeting and talking with so many of you in Basel, and until next time!

Michael Libman, for the GeoSentinel Office of the PI



GeoSentinel Publications

January-May 2023

Angelo KM, Smith T, Camprubí-Ferrer D, Balerdi-Sarasola L, Díaz Menéndez M, Servera-Negre G, Barkati S, Duvignaud A, Huber KLB, Chakravarti A, Bottieau E, Greenaway C, Grobusch MP, Mendes Pedro D, Asgeirsson H, Popescu CP, Martin C, Licitra C, de Frey A, Schwartz E, Beadsworth M, Lloveras S, Larsen CS, Guagliardo SAJ, Whitehill F, Huits R, Hamer DH, Kozarsky P, Libman M; GeoSentinel Network Collaborators. Epidemiological and clinical characteristics of patients with monkeypox in the GeoSentinel Network: a cross-sectional study. doi: 10.1016/S1473-3099(22)00651-X.

Díaz-Menéndez M, Angelo KM, de Miguel Buckley R, Bottieau E, Huits R, Grobusch MP, Gobbi FG, Asgeirsson H, Duvignaud A, Norman FF, Javelle E, Epelboin L, Rothe C, Chappuis F, Martinez GE, Popescu C, Camprubí-Ferrer D, Molina I, Odolini S, Barkati S, Kuhn S, Vaughan S, McCarthy A, Lago M, Libman MD, Hamer DH. <u>Dengue outbreak amongst travellers returning from Cuba-GeoSentinel surveillance network, January-September 2022</u>. doi: 10.1093/jtm/taac139

Grobusch MP, Weld L, Schnyder JL, Larsen CS, Lindner AK, Popescu CP, Huits R, Goorhuis A, Gautret P, Schlagenhauf P; for EuroTravNet. COVID-19 impact on EuroTravNet infectious diseases sentinel surveillance in Europe. doi: 10.1016/j.tmaid.2023.102583

Mayer AB, Consigny PH, Grobusch MP, Camprubí-Ferrer D, Huits R, Rothe C. <u>Chikungunya in returning travellers from Bali - A GeoSentinel case series</u>. doi: 10.1016/j. tmaid.2023.102543.

Piyaphanee W, Stoney RJ, Asgeirsson H, Appiah GD, Díaz-Menéndez M, Barnett ED, Gautret P, Libman M, Schlagenhauf P, Leder K, Plewes K, Grobusch MP, Huits R, Mavunda K, Hamer DH, Chen LH. <u>Healthcare seeking during travel: an analysis by the GeoSentinel surveillance network of travel medicine providers</u>. doi: 10.1093/jtm/taad002.

Posen HJ, Wong W, Farrar DS, Campigotto A, Chan T, Barker KR, Hagmann SHF, Ryan ET, LaRocque RC, Earl AM, Worby CJ, Castelli F, Fumadó VP, Britton PN, Libman M, Hamer DH, Morris SK. <u>Travel-associated extensively drug-resistant typhoid fever: a case series to inform management in non-endemic regions</u>. doi: 10.1093/jtm/taac086.

Seers T, Rothe C, Hamer DH, Denny S, Spindler R, Schwartz E, Johnston V. <u>Zika virus infection in European travellers returning from Thailand in 2022: A GeoSentinel case series</u> doi: 10.1111/tmi.13900

Tozan Y, Headley TY, Javelle E, Gautret P, Grobusch M, Pijper C, Asgeirsson H, Chen LH, Bourque D, Menéndez MD, Moro L, Gobbi F, Sánchez-Montalvá A, Connor BA, Matteelli A, Crosato V, Huits R, Libman M, Hamer DH. lmpact, health care utilization, and costs of travelassociated mosquito-borne diseases in international travellers: a prospective study. doi: 10.1093/jtm/taad060.



Rebecca Acosta, Chair



Sarah McGuinness, Leadership Council



Sarah Kohl, Leadership Council



Dipti Patel, Leadership Council



ISTM Website TASK FORCE

Update from the Website
Task Force-Steady Progress
towards a New Website

by the Executive Board (EB), began working on a fully revitalized and refreshed website in early 2022 collaborating with the Secretariat staff and a professional website design firm. An important part of this project has been the creation of the updated ISTM logo which has inspired exciting opportunities for the graphic design elements of the new website as well as updated branding for the Society. However, the primary goals of this project are to modernize and greatly improve the website experience for

members with updated navigation, organization of resources and access to important information for the ISTM community. With the new 501c3 status for the Society approved, the website will also have a new Traveler Resource section which will be able to offer basic travel health information to the public. The Task Force anticipates completion of the website by late 2023...stay tuned...

Submitted by the Website Task Force: Rebecca Acosta *(Chair)*, Sarah Kohl, Sarah McGuinness and Dipti Patel.



TASK FORCE

he ISTM Membership Task Force (MTF) was established in October 2022 with the aim to advise on membership categories and develop strategies to retain and grow membership of the society. A major driver being the change in the society's tax status to 501C3 which allows for new membership categories. The Covid pandemic had also resulted in a significant drop in membership renewals. The MTF has suggested refinements to our current membership categories as well as a number of new membership categories including individual public members and groups, including corporate members. The new membership categories, while not being health professionals, will have an interest in our society and in travel health. These new members will help

grow our society and its influence, to benefit all travellers. Current members can rest assured that the ISTM will continue to support travel health professionals through existing member benefits including high quality education events and collegial support. The newly established Membership Committee will build on the work begun by the MTF over the coming months to further refine membership categories.

MTF members: Jenny Visser (Chair), Francesca Norman (Co-Chair), Hilmir Asgeirsson, Rebecca Acosta and LaVelle Johnson



Jenny Visser, Chair



Francesca Norman , Co-chair



Rebecca Acosta



Hilmir Ásgeirsson

Professional Groups

NURSING



Left to Right: Lisa Scotland, Heather Connor, Khadka Bhawani. Catherine Keil. Tara Lombardo

Not present for photo: Caroline Nash, Jutarmas Olanwijitwong, Danielle Peel, Alex Stillwell



Distinguished Nurse Award



Jay Keystone Award

CISTM18

ISTM18 in Basel Switzerland presented a wonderful opportunity for Nursing Professional Group (NPG) members to network and engage with colleagues from all corners of the globe. The NPG Steering Council hosted a pre-congress workshop, titled 'Pre-Travel Health Consultation – the new normal' which was well attended. The NPG networking event (reception) and dinner were also opportunities for nurses to meet and network.

During the NPG networking event Claire Wong was presented with The Distinguished Nurse Leadership Award. An exceptional nurse and colleague of the NPG. Well done Claire, well deserved!

We would also like to pass on our congratulations to Jane Chiodini and David Shlim for receiving the Jay Keystone Award for Education.

News

In May, the 2023 updated edition of the RCN Travel Health Nursing: Career and Competence Development, was released. This publication provides information on current guidelines and standards of care expected from nurses advising travellers working in the UK.

RCN Travel Health Nursing: career and competence development | Publications | Royal College of Nursing

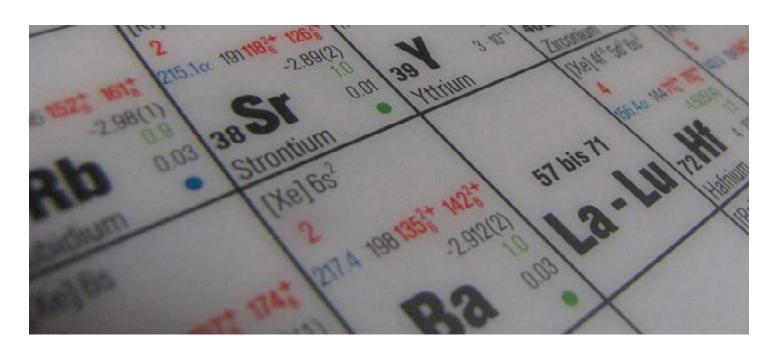
To assist us moving forward, please can you provide comments or feedback about the NPG and our role in the future to catherine@ travelhealthpractitioner.com.au.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Caroline Nash, the outgoing Chair, for all her contributions and guidance over the last two years. The NPG are delighted that Caroline has agreed to remain on the Steering Council.

We would like to welcome Tara Lombardo to the position of Chair Elect and I especially look forward to working with Tara over the next two years.

Catherine Keil NPG Chair





PHARMACIST

t is my honor to contribute this update as incoming chair of the ISTM Pharmacist Professional Group (PPG). As the world continues to transition out of the emergency phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, the critical role pharmacists play in vaccinations and patient care worldwide becomes increasingly clear. My vision for my time as chair is to celebrate, highlight, and elevate the pharmacy profession within the travel medicine space.

The PPG Council was overjoyed to join everyone live and in person at this month's CISTM in Switzerland. At the Congress, we hosted a preconference session, including a year-in-review from current PPG chair, Karl Hess. This year's theme was Drug Holidays/ Drug Holidaze. Whether they are being used for treatment, prevention, or recreation, drugs have many significant implications for travel. In travel medicine, we think first of the

drugs that patients need to mitigate or prevent travel-related diseases, but less often discussed are managing chronic disease therapies during travel and how drugs and alcohol can interact with other travel-related risks.

Council members presented on the impacts of alcohol on travel health behaviors, and a new patient-oriented travel health mobile app that both provides information and monitors illness during travel. Talks on travelers with chronic diseases, Ayahuasca use in travel, and updating the PPG Carrying Medicines Across Borders project were included as well. The pre-conference meeting was followed by a reception.

As we discussed in the pre-conference session, the PPG is planning to revise and update our Carrying Medicines Across Borders database to be a more dynamic, living record. We are seeking input and collaboration from PPG members. If you are looking for a way to become more involved with ISTM and PPG, please reach out to Karl Hess (khess@chapman.edu).

Finally, the PPG would like to welcome newly elected council member, Atsushi Sato. Atsushi manages a pharmacy and runs a travel clinic, which he initiated in 2014, in British Colombia, Canada. He received his Master of Pharmacy degree in 2003 From Hoshi University Graduate School in Tokyo and went on to complete the Canadian Pharmacy Practice Program at the University of British Colombia. Atsushi also earned the ISTM Certificate in Travel Health in 2014.

Keri Hurley-Kim Pharmacist Professional Group Chair





EXPEDITION AND WILDERNESS MEDICINE

e are really proud to state that the balance sheet of our interest group's activity is more than satisfactory. We have organized a well-attended virtual pre-conference workshop prior to CISTM17 (May 2021); a webinar on Pre-Expedition Screening and Preparation (September 2022); and another well-attended workshop on Expedition Kits at CISTM18 (May 2023). The dedicated page on ISTM website has been recently updated and a number of interesting papers and documents, available for free for all surfers, have been uploaded. During the recent CISTM18 in Basel (Switzerland) the SIG Board met to explore ideas and possibilities for the future, among which the joint collaboration with the Responsible Travel Group, especially on ethical issues during expeditions. A lot can be done in the field of Expedition and Wilderness Medicine, but we need fresh energy! Every ISTM member, regardless of their personal experience, can be with us in this project! So, consider joining our Special Interest Group, going to this page https://www.istm.org/ expeditionandwilderness and following the instructions at the bottom of it.

Andrea Rossanese Expedition and Wilderness Medicine Chair

MILITARY TRAVEL

reetings everyone! I hope you are all doing well and made it back home safely after CISTM18. I was glad to meet some of you in Basel. For those who are interested, the military travel precourse session presentations will soon be available on **Learning @ ISTM** Hope to see you soon in New Orleans at CISTM19 11-15 May 2025!



Olivier Aoun Military Travel Group Chair



PEDIATRIC

Pediatric interest group post-CISTM 18 Update 6/23

embers of the Peds Interest Group who attended CISTM (Sheila Mackell, Leah Kern, Eyal Lesham, Mike Starr) had a lively lunch meeting at CISTM and reviewed activities of the last 2 years. Activities included speaking at conferences and workshops, ISTM webinar, Travel Med Review and Update Course.

We respectfully remembered Dr. Karl Neumann, Pediatric IG founder, who passed away from COVID in Feb 2021. He cared about traveling kids and families long before it was on anyone's radar. Karl radiated an instant familiarity that lets you know you're with a friend, regardless of how well he knew you. There was a beautiful optimism in his eyes and smile that made it clear why he was loved by so many. His warmth and passion for pediatrics and travel will always be remembered.

Dr. Leah Kern presented an abstract at CISTM entitled "Pre-Travel Health Preparation in the general pediatric clinic vs travel medicine clinic" at the poster presentation 5/22. Data on significant amount of pediatric travel medicine being done in the general pediatric clinic that underlines need for wider educational base. (abstract on CISTM18 app, Special populations, Mon 5/22 1030am)

Mike Starr and Sheila Mackell offered a well-attended Pediatric travel Q&A in the pre-course time slot in Basel. Attendees from multiple continents provided excellent conversation on issues with providing travel care, both pre-and post to pediatric patients. Topics covered included appropriate dosing of antimalarials for pediatric patients, use of mefloquine, intercontinental differences in recommendations, and how to harmonize those with your travelers, advising families with children going



Pediatrics Group Round Table: Leah Kern, MD(USA), Sheila Mackell, MD(USA), Mike Starr, MD(Australia) Eyal Lesham, MD (Israel)

to altitude, pearls and pitfalls of rabies prevention, pre-exposure and post exposure prophylaxis in children and current practices in many countries.

Other group members have local programs of interest to share:

Mike Starr's global health program in Australia

Natalie Prevatt's group in UK: International Child Health Webinar series

Future planning includes:

- Natalie Prevatt has agreed to lead Peds IG for the next 2 years and we warmly welcome her.
- 2. Frankie Silva facilitating contact to Global Health leaders at American Academy Pediatrics. Several of us are planning to meet with them to collaborate on a webinar and discuss the interest/possibility of a separate travel medicine group.
- Anticipate future webinar participation for us in the coming 2 years - TBD
- 4. Pediatric bibliography will continue to be compiled by Dr John Christensen (not at CISTM but in contact). We extend gratitude to him for this comprehensive and enduring resource, available on the website.

- All acknowledged the need to increase membership outside of the US. Brainstorming session – Eyal Lesham brought a new member- Dr Gilad Sherman from Israel, several pediatricians from US and Thailand were at CISTM and engaged in joining.
- Council members will be looking at ISTM regional conferences and other educational activities in the coming years.

We encourage all interested ISTM members to join the Pediatric Interest Group online, the listserv, contact any of the council members and engage us for any pediatric issues.

Looking forward to seeing you all in New Orleans in 2025!

Sheila Mackell, MD, FISTM

RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

e are an enthusiastic group of like-minded health care professionals who care about our precious planet and all living plants and creatures that inhabit it.

The aims of our group are to:

- Educate members to think about how to travel more responsibly and to implement this.
- Educate our travelers so that they are more aware of what they can do to make a difference.
- · Promote ethics in tourism.
- Work in collaboration with other special interest groups.
- Encourage more ISTM members to be involved.
- Aim to help increase membership of ISTM.
- Promote education for example by creating webinars and information sheets for members to use.
- Climate change and its impact.
 This is a huge topic and the responsibility of all of us.

Anne McClean
Responsible Travel Interest Group
Chair

STUDENT TRAVEL ABROAD

ur Student Travel Abroad (STA)
Interest Group managed to
finish our collaborative study
on student travelers with ISTM
and the Centers for Disease Control
despite COVID-19. It is currently under
review by a reputable journal. The
corresponding poster is available now
on the CISTM18 Platform.

Travel Health-related Preparation Practices of Institutes of Higher Education and the Occurrence of Health-related Events among Undergraduate Students Studying Abroad, 2018–2021

Kristina M. Angelo, DO, MPH&TM,1 Kaitlyn Ciampaglio, MPH,1 Julie Richards, DNP,2 Anjali Silva, MD,3 Catherine Ebelke, PA,4 Gerard T. Flaherty, MD, PhD,5 Gary Brunette, MD,1 Sarah Kohl. MD6

- Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, GA, USA
- 2. Vaden Health Center, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, USA
- 3. University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, USA
- 4. Montana State University, Boseman, MT, USA
- College of Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences, National University of Ireland Galway, Galway, Ireland
- University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Catherine and I will send out a notification for a meeting of the STA Group very soon. During this session, Dr. Kristina Angelo of the CDC, will prevent our significant findings so stay tuned.

STA members Julie Richards and Gail Rosselot contributed to two additional posters at CISTM18 that are relevant for those of you providing services to student travelers; one addressing vaccine uptake and the other focusing on the implementation of the new scope and standards of practice for





travel health nurses published by the American Nurses Association and the American Travel Health Nurses Association.

Implementing Effective Care in a University Population Based on National Routine and Travel Vaccination Recommendations J. Richards, K. Brunacini, N. Stoll, R. Tepper

From Publication to Practice: Implementation Challenges for Travel Health Nursing Scope & Standards. G. Rosselot, J. Richards, S. McDevitt, J. Chiodini

Both of those are still available on the CISTM18 Platform as well.

We send our thanks to all who contributed to our successful meeting in Basel, and we look forward to catching up with everyone in New Orleans.



Julie Richards and Catherine Ebelke, Co-Chairs





EXAM COMMITTEE

he third online 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 is taking place in May. The committee since January has been reviewing unused questions in the bank and the new form, and each member has been assigned a list of new questions to write before summer.





For the first time since 2018 the 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 ropes and which we are looking forward meeting in person, hopefully in September.

Dr Pierre Landry
Chair of ISTM Exam Committee

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

he Continuing Professional Development Committee is responsible for the overall management of the CTH renewal program. As ISTM members may be aware, individuals who successfully sat for the CTH exam since 2011 are required to renew the credential every ten years. They may do so either by reporting at least 200 points of qualifying professional development activities or retaking the CTH exam.

This year individuals who sat for the CTH exam in 2013 are required to submit their renewal applications to the Secretariat by August 1. After auditing by the CPD Committee, decisions about renewals will be reported out by December 31, 2023. Full details about the renewal process, including required forms and required documentation, are available on the ISTM website.

On May 24, members of the CPD Committee met in Basel to review the CTH renewal policies and procedures and to recommend changes to the current CTH renewal program. Committee volunteers Karl Hess, Richard Dawood, Tara Lombardo, and Ken Dardick joined Chair Gail Rosselot, to share their ideas for improving the CTH renewal application and audit process. In addition, CPD members who could not attend CISTM18 added their suggestions. Sincere thanks to Jeff Goad, Nelson Agudelo, Masatoki Adachi, and Androula Pavli for their contributions.

These recommendations were then shared at the ISTM Leadership Council meeting held immediately following CISTM18. In a message from the ISTM President, the Executive Board of Directors, at its meeting on 27th May, approved the following proposals of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) committee, as follows:

- 1. Formally propose a 5-year CTH renewal scheme
- Explore web-based programs for collecting CTH holder professional documentation
- Initiate the development of a survey of non-renewals and renewals
- 4. With the help of the Secretariat, try to recreate a list of CTH holders since 2011
- Initiate collaboration with the PEC to create a CPD webinar explaining CPD policies and procedures
- 6. Ask the Secretariat to send out in June 2023 a general announcement that individuals who earned the CTH credential in 2013 must submit their professional development tracker by August 1, 2023

CPD Members have already started to act on these various proposals since returning from CISTM18. In the coming months, we will keep the ISTM membership apprised of our progress as we work to help CTH holders since 2011 maintain this valuable credential that speaks to quality patient care and a professional commitment to the specialty of travel medicine.



As chair, I want to sincerely thank all CPD members for their contributions to the CTH renewal program throughout 2021-2022. I also want to thank everyone responsible for the successful meeting in Basel. It was great to be together in the same room again with friends and colleagues from around the world.

Gail Rosselot Continuing Professional Develop Committee Chair



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

elcome to our new leaders, Yen Bui will be taking over as chair of the Professional Educational Committee and D. Scott Smith will assist her as co-Chair. Both have extensive experience in travel medicine and professional education. They welcome your ideas and suggestions in the coming years.

The educational program of the ISTM is in full swing. Dengue remains a hot topic for travelers. To assist you in preparing your travelers, two free webinars are being offered this year. The first presented on April 12 reviewed the emergence of Dengue infections in traditionally non-endemic areas. Experts from the CDC, ECDC, Santé Publique France and Monash University (Australia) shared their data and experiences with Dengue in their communities. It is available to you as a recording via Learning@ISTM.org. The second is planned for June 28th, 2023 and will address prevention via vector control measures and vaccination. We thank Takeda for providing an unrestricted grant which allows us to share these webinars without charge to you and your colleagues.

We are completing a thorough update of the teaching slides. They should be ready for use late summer 2023. A special thanks to D. Scott Smith, Mary Louise Scully and Yen Bui for their dedication and attention to detail in updating the slides.

A third iteration of the online Travel Medicine Review and Update Course was offered in February 2023. We are grateful to Elizabeth Talbot, Course Director for the last 3 years, and Lin Chen for their invaluable help. If you were unable to attend live you may enroll via **Learning@ISTM.org** to view the recorded lectures and panel discussions. I recommend the lively Q & A sessions, where the presenters elaborate on their topics.

I bid you farewell as I retire from clinical practice and as chair of the Professional Educational Committee. It has been an honor to serve the ISTM in this capacity.

Sarah Kohl, Professional Education Committee, Immediate Past Chair



PUBLICATIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

he POC has a wide remit within the Society and as we approached CISTM18, the **Publications Oversight Committee** (POC) was busy on several fronts.

Thanks to the leadership of Rebecca Acosta, the website task force continues to make good progress. This is a major undertaking and ongoing work with the POC contributing to the process with constructive suggestions when invited.

The Journal of Travel Medicine (JTM) Editor-in-Chief, Annelies Wilder-Smith, together with her editors and editorial board, continue to forge ahead in reviewing and selecting excellent manuscripts for publication, as continually demonstrated by the JTM impact factor. Following the success of the "Members' Choice Article Awards" for CISTM17 the suggestion to repeat it for CISTM18 was accepted by the

Thank you to the publishers at Oxford University Press (OUP) who collated the (long) list of nominations to be

considered for the JTM awards 2023. The POC worked tirelessly to select articles and shortlist their choices in each of the four categories; Original articles, Perspective, Review and Clinical Pearls. This was a major undertaking and my thanks to everyone on the committee for their diligence in completing this task. The shortlist was based on rigorous quality criteria, with the diversity of the publications often challenging agreement, depending on geographical location, areas of interest and areas of practice. A good reason for using evidencebased peer-reviewed resources to support everyday practice wherever we are. The Secretariat invited the membership to select their top choice in each category and hopefully everyone enjoyed reading these articles and voted in the "Members' Choice Article Awards" by selecting their top choices. The winners were declared at the CISTM18 Membership Assembly in Basel. Look out for the JTM Awards at CISTM19 and consider voting for your top choices to support and recognise the authors.

The *Travel Medicine News (TMN)* Editor-in-Chief, Nancy Pietroski and Assistant Editor Luis Furuva Kanamori, continue to keep the membership informed through the

magazine notices. We are encouraged to see increasing use and engagement on the TravelMed Listserv which is ably managed and monitored by Nancy. Many of the discussions and varied topics have been both excellent and educational.

Grateful thanks to all my POC colleagues and welcome to Caroline Nash from Australia who recently ioined us. The knowledge and expertise within the POC remain a valuable asset to the Society so if you are interested in this work, please reach out and consider joining us.

Finally on behalf of all of us on the POC, thank you to the Secretariat for their support. We also thank the outgoing ISTM Executive Board for their support and wish the incoming President Gerard Flaherty, our erstwhile POC chair, and his new EB all best wishes for their term of office.

Sandra Grieve. Chair. Publications Oversight Committee



SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS COMMITTEE

Congratulations to 2022-2023 ISTM Fellows!

STM Fellows are recognized leaders in the field of travel medicine and ISTM. As such. ISTM Fellow candidates must have maintained membership in the ISTM for a minimum of 5 years and have participated in service positions in the Society and meet subsequent criteria to be considered.

Masatoki Adachi Kristina M Angelo Hilmir Asgeirsson Yen-Giang Bui **Pornthep Chanithavanich** Johnathan Cohen **Karl Hess Anu Kantele** Aisha Khatib Mikio Kimura Sarah Kohl Regina LaRocque Sheila M. Mackell Francesca F. Norman **Nancy Piper Jenks** Watcharapong Piyaphanee Comeliu Petru Popescu **Harunor Rashid Mauro Saio** Carsten Schade Larsen Jenny Visser

Annelies Wilder Smith I

The Distinguished Fellow Membership is awarded to a Fellow of the ISTM for accomplishments far exceeding those necessary to become a Fellow, who demonstrates sustained excellence in the field as well as sustained service to ISTM. Annelies Wilder Smith joins Jay Keystone, and the founders of ISTM Herbert L. DuPont, Phyllis Kozarsky and Robert Steffen in receiving this singular honor.

Jane Chiodini and David Shlim | 2022-2023 Jay **Keystone Award for** Education

This award is bestowed to ISTM Members in good standing of ISTM, who is a Fellow or Distinguished Fellow and who demonstrates exceptional qualities as an educator in the field of travel medicine. Award Qualifications include documented educational exceptionalism in several educational areas, with more importance placed on impact in practice.

Charlie Ericsson, Chair, Special Recognitions Committee



JOURNAL OF TRAVEL MEDICINE AWARDS 2023

Original Articles #1

Camprubí-Ferrer, D.,*, Oteo, JA, Bottieau, E, et al. Doxycycline responding illnesses in returning travellers with undifferentiated nonmalaria fever: a European multicentre prospective cohort study. Journal of Travel Medicine, 30 (1), Jan 2023, taac094, https:// doi.org/10.1093/jtm/taac0

Review Articles #1

Wyler, B. A.,* Young H. M., Hargarten, S.W., and Cahill J.D., Risk of deaths due to injuries in travellers: a systematic review, Journal of Travel Medicine, 29 (5), July 2022. taac074, https://doi.org/10.1093/jtm/ taac074

Perspective Articles #1

Hui Cheah Lim J., Keenan, C., Flaherty G.T., All my life to live: travel health benefits and risks for cancer survivors. Journal of Travel Medicine. 29 (5), July 2022, taac069, https://doi.org/10.1093/jtm/ taac069

Clinical Pearls #1

Potin M., Calmes J-M., De Vallière S., Acute abdomen with haemorrhagic shock while cruising on a private sailboat in the Atlantic Ocean. Journal of Travel Medicine, 29 (5), July 2022. taac062, https://doi. org/10.1093/itm/taac062

2022-2023 Distinguished Fellow Award Recipient

n behalf of the Research and Awards Committee, we would like to thank the continued support from GeoSentinel Foundation for providing funds for the 2022-2023 Research Awards. As announced during the Membership Assembly at CISTM. this year we received high quality proposals, ranging from human model studies to clinical trials, all with potential to change travel medicine practice. The following six proposals were funded:

RESEARCH

COMMITTEE

AWARDS

1. The Protective Efficacy of Atovaquone/Proguanil Malaria Chemoprophylaxis Discontinued Ad-Hoc Post-Exposure in a Controlled Human Malaria Infection Model - A Double-Blinded Randomised Controlled Trial

Martin P. Grobusch, Netherlands, Principal Investigator

2. Prochlorperazine versus Placebo for the Prophylaxis of Acute Mountain Sickness

Elan Small, United States of America, Principal Investigator

3. Yellow Fever human infection model

Anna Roukens, Netherlands, **Principal Investigator**

4. Inflammatory and immunological responses in asymptomatic Sub-Saharan African migrants with imported Plasmodium falciparum infection.

Begoña Monge Maillo, Spain, **Principal Investigator**

5. ISTM Professional or Interest **Group Research Award** Burden of schistosomiasis and strongyloidiasis in Sub-Sahara African participants in the Swiss **HIV Cohort Study**

Cornelia Staehelin, Switzerland,

Principal Investigator

Research Awards Committee Continued from previous page

6. Low- and middle-income country (LMIC) Research Award Intestinal Parasite Infections and Related Risk Factors in Expatriate and Local Primary School Children in Bali, Indonesia

Richard Christian Suteja, Indonesia, Principal Investigator

Many thanks to the committee members listed below for their tireless work and engagement throughout the review process.

Chair, Luis Furuya Kanamori, Australia

Co-Chair, Stefan Hagmann, United States of America

Jose Flores, Mexico

Katherine Gibney, Australia

Susan Hills, United States of America

Eyal Leshem, Israel

Sarah McGuinness, Australia

Francesca Norman, Spain

Kyle Petersen, United States of America

Harunor Rashid, Australia

Larry Selkow, United States of America

Dawd Siraj, United States of America

Haibo Wang, China

Mary Wilson, United States of America

Luis Furuya Kanamori Research Awards Committee Chair





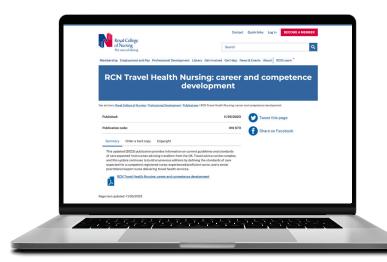
Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Travel Health Nursing: career and competence development.

he 4th edition of the clinical professional resource for nurses in travel health practice was published in May 2023. Building on previous editions this ground-breaking updated guidance reflects on the everchanging complexity of delivering advice and care to travelers from the UK. Written by four travel health specialist nurses (listed alphabetically), the document is aimed at nurses but is applicable to all disciplines practicing in the field.

The guidance has been updated and expanded, emphasizing the importance of education and training in travel health, and working within the parameters of one's own competence level. This document has inspired nurses from other countries to adopt the guidance and adapt it to practice for their own needs. The authors are particularly proud of this achievement and hope that others will consider producing a similar document for their practitioners. Being aware of the research and evidence in travel medicine is valuable as is transferring that knowledge and applying it to everyday practice.

At CISTM18 in Basel, the document was presented as a Poster and described in Workshop 4: Nurses travel health practice, skills and training and competency frameworks and accreditation.

As technology moves on this edition is only available online. It is accessible and can be downloaded through the RCN website. Non-members may need to register (free) to access the document.



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

n the January 2022 edition of **Travel Medicine News**, we congratulated two of ISTM's August Fellows, Dr Dipti Patel and nurse Jane Chiodini. Dipti and Jane were honored in the UK New Year's Honours list of 2022.

Dr Dipti Patel, Chief Medical Officer, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) was awarded the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to Government officials and their families and to British nationals overseas. Dipti is also Director of the UK National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC).

Dipti received her award from His Majesty King Charles III at an Investiture Ceremony in Windsor Castle in January 2023.



Dr Dipti Patel, Chief Medical Officer

Jane Chiodini was awarded the honor of Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for Services to Training and Development in Travel Medicine.

Jane received her award from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at an Investiture Ceremony in Windsor Castle in December 2022.

The travel medicine community sends many congratulations to Dipti, Jane, Camilla and Nancy.



Jane Chiodini was awarded the honour of Member of the Order of the British Empire

Sandra Grieve

The Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for her discovery of presymptomatic transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in the first German case as early as January 2020 was bestowed upon Dr. Camilla Rothe. The order is the only federal decoration of Germany awarded for special achievements. She received the Order by the German Head of State, President Frank-Walter Steinmeier in Bellevue Castle on 30 September 2022.



Dr. Camilla Rothe received the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany

Wilderness Medical Society Dian Simpkins Ice Axe Award

The Wilderness Medical Society (wms.org) announced in June that Nancy Pietroski, PharmD, NR-EMT, FAWM CTH will receive the WMS Dian Simpkins Ice Axe Award, given in recognition of outstanding service to the field of wilderness medicine and/or the Wilderness Medical Society. Nancy's years of work for Wilderness Medicine Magazine was unanimously determined by the Awards/Nominations Committee to be significant and deserving of this recognition. Nancy and other WMS Peer Recognition Recognition Award recipients will receive their awards on July 19 during the Awards Banquet of the WMS Summer Conference in Spokane, Washington. Nancy has been writing for Wilderness Medicine Magazine since 2007, and was recently promoted to Executive Editor after serving as Senior Editor since 2014. She writes a quarterly column for the magazine on wilderness medicine pharmacology topics called BaseCamp Rx.



Nancy Pietroski Ice Axe Award



Journal of Travel Medicine

fter many years of remote working, it was great to hold our JTM Editorial Board meeting again in-person at CISTM Basel. Together we celebrated JTM's successes of the past year such as the high impact factor and increased income due to open access articles. The JTM Editorial Board brainstormed how best to move forward, and we agreed that we would have another call for systematic reviews, continue with our thematic collections and campaigns and eight issues per year.

As Editor-in-Chief, I am pleased to present the latest JTM Collection to you: Exotic diseases in travel medicine. It's about rare diseases in travel medicine, or frequent diseases with rare, unusual clinical manifestations. I encourage you to also look at the latest Issue, and in particular at our Clinical Pearls. Sign up for our e-alerts where you will be notified on new manuscripts and issues.

Although the vast majority indicated that they would like to continue to serve in the JTM Editorial Board, there will be some minor changes to the composition of the Editorial Board in the coming months.

Let me give my heart-felt thanks to everyone who has helped JTM grow in stature and reputation, from the ISTM office, our hard-working Associate Editors, the entire board including section editors, our external reviewers and the recently appointed social media team under Aisha Khatib`s dynamic leadership.

Keep up to date by reading the *Journal of Travel Medicine*!

Yours sincerely, Annelies Wilder-Smith, Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Travel Medicine



TOP THREE TRAVELMED TIPS

By Nancy Pietroski, TravelMed Monitor

Join The Discussion Collaborate with your peers. Browse dynamic discussion groups enabling you to communicate with like-minded people and to grow your network of passionate people. Ask a Question

ou are probably tired of hearing from me about this, but just some gentle reminders about effectively using TravelMed.

If you are a frequent user of the ListServ (thank you!), then you are very familiar with the Charter, Rules, and Etiquette of TravelMed. If you are new (welcome!), you can refer to https://www.istm.org/content.asp?contentid=37.

Things to particularly emphasize:

- 1. When starting a new thread (question, comment, etc.), in the "Discussion subject" of Post New Message, be as descriptive as possible. Typing "Uganda" as your question begs the question - what is it the inquirer is asking? Something about malaria prophylaxis and a drug interaction? Finding a local provider? What to do if someone is bitten by a hippo? You will receive much more timely and robust answers if you clue in the ISTM community to what is it you're asking.
- 2. Search previous discussion threads before you post your question. TravelMed has been on fire recently with extremely informative and thorough Q&A, including references to medical literature and country guidelines. But sometimes people just type their question without checking to see if it has been recently answered: very commonly posted questions are

about rabies PrEP and PEP. what drugs to use for altitude prophylaxis, YF vax and older persons, YF boosters, vaccines and immunocompromising conditions/treatments. You can use the Search screen near the top of the TravelMed page and type in your term - then a screen will appear on the left side and you can limit it to Discussion Threads, or you can just do a word search on the most current page of discussions. This is very important! You may find after searching a previous discussion that it doesn't quite answer your question, so it would be helpful when posting your question to note that you saw the discussion and you still have a question or need a clarification. See screen shots below.



3. Replying to a Post – hitting Reply All or Reply Privately depends on whether you everyone to see your response in the question thread or if you want to contact just the individual poster.

CHOOSE WISELY!

Contributions TRAVELMED

ost of the posts on TravelMed are related to vaccines, thus in this issue. Dr Sarah McGuinness presents an innovative way to think about the risk-benefit of different vaccines by considering the level and duration of protection they provide. Sarah is an academic infectious diseases physician who currently holds dual positions at the Alfred Hospital (Travel Medicine Clinic) and School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University. Her research focuses on improving strategies to combat preventable infections in people living in and travelling to endemic areas.

Discussion of vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs) is an important component of a pre-travel consultation with any traveller. To inform this discussion, clinicians typically conduct an individual risk-benefit assessment, which considers VPD epidemiology at the travellers' destination, risk factors related to the specific itinerary and host, duration of travel, specific VPD and vaccine attributes, and the individual traveller's perception of and tolerance for risk (1). An individual riskbenefit assessment can be conducted for a single trip, or can additionally consider future travel that the traveller may undertake (cumulative risk analysis); the latter may be more appropriate when discussing vaccines that provide a longer duration of protection (2).

When conducting a risk-benefit assessment for a specific VPD, there are a range of different disease and vaccine attributes that should be considered. These include the risk and impact of the disease and the cost, side effects, efficacy, and duration of protection of the vaccine(s).

There are various approaches to estimating VPD risk in travellers. One such approach is the presentation of

absolute risk measures (e.g. incidence rates) that estimate the baseline risk for an "average" traveller (3). Most people in the travel medicine community would be familiar with the "Steffenogram", named after its creator Robert Steffen, which compares the absolute risk of different VPDs in the average non-immune traveller to lower-income countries (4). In contrast, risk factor measures (e.g. risk or odds ratios) help determine whether an individual's risk (based on specific characteristics) is likely to be higher or lower than the "average" traveller's risk (3). These measures compare differences in risk between traveller groups with different characteristics, with an example being differences in the risk of typhoid by destination country, age, reason for travel (e.g. VFR) or travel duration (5).

Assessment of disease impact typically involves consideration of the potential for severe disease (including hospitalisation and death). For some diseases there may also be important public health impacts to consider (such as the risk of spreading the disease on return, e.g. with measles or hepatitis A). Clinicians may be familiar with another figure from a paper by Steffen and Connor that charts VPD disease severity against incidence, highlighting that some VPDs with low incidence have potential for high impact (such as Japanese encephalitis and rabies) (6).

When considering the risk-benefit of individual vaccines, most of the travel medicine literature focuses on adverse events, cost, and duration of protection. Duration of protection varies widely between vaccines and may also be influenced by the number of doses received and individual characteristics such as age. Recommendations around the timing of booster doses usually take such information into account. Although existing vaccine recommendations (such as those of the WHO and CDC)

do not explicitly consider cumulative travel-associated risks, for many travellers it may be appropriate to conduct an aggregate multi-trip assessment that considers disease risks of future planned or possible trips. Such an approach enables a longer-term view of vaccine costbenefit, where vaccines with a longer duration of protection can be viewed as an investment in future travel health (2).

One vaccine attribute that has received little attention to date in the travel medicine literature is how good a given vaccine is at preventing disease. In part, this may be due to heterogeneity in measures of vaccine protection, which include immunogenicity, efficacy, and effectiveness. Immunogenicity refers to the ability of a vaccine to induce an immune response and may not be a perfect correlate of protection. Vaccine efficacy refers to how well a vaccine prevents a clinical outcome (such as illness) in vaccinated compared to unvaccinated individuals enrolled in a controlled clinical trial. Vaccine effectiveness is a measure of how well vaccines work in real world conditions in a given population. Levels of vaccine protection can vary widely by vaccine, and between individuals and populations (based on factors such as age and disease endemicity); typically, they also decrease over time.

Figure 1 is my attempt to visually depict vaccine level of protection against duration of protection for select vaccines. Estimates of the durability of vaccine responses (x-axis, in years) and level of protection provided by vaccines (y-axis, estimated proportion of healthy adult vaccine recipients for whom the vaccine provides protection following a complete primary series) are based on efficacy and/ or effectiveness data presented in vaccine-specific guidance published by the US Advisory Committee on

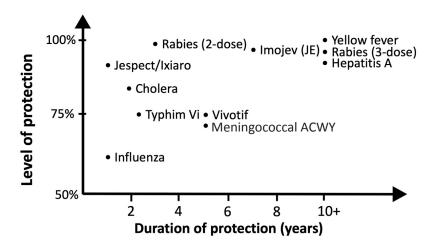
The new Impact Factor of JTM is 25.7 (Journal of Citation Reports $^{\text{TM}}$). We would like to express our gratitude to the authors, reviewers, and Editorial Board members for their valuable contributions and unwavering support.

Contributions TRAVELMED Continued

Immunisation Practices (ACIP) and Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) (7, 8). Caveats to these data include that efficacy/effectiveness estimates are often derived in endemic rather than traveller populations. Nevertheless, this figure demonstrates that vaccines which provide the longest duration of protection (e.g., Yellow fever, rabies, hepatitis A) also afford a high level of protection, further galvanising the argument for viewing these vaccines as an investment for future healthy travel.

If you would like to provide feedback/ comments about this article, please contact Sarah McGuinness (sarah.mcguinness@monash.edu).

FIGURE 1. Vaccine level of protection* vs. duration of protection in healthy adults



Imojev, live-attenuated Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccine; Jespect/Ixiaro, inactivated Japanese encephalitis vaccine; Typhim Vi, inactivated typhoid vaccine; Vivotif, oral typhoid

*Point estimates of efficacy/effectiveness representing the middle of ranges described in data sources (7,8).

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