

Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine

Jane Zuckerman*

This first edition of *Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine* has a Table of Contents, a List of Contributors, a Foreword by Professor Arie Zuckerman of the University of London, a Preface, six sections, 28 chapters with references and additional resources, 135 figures (including photographs), 116 tables, and a comprehensive index. The book has no biography of the editor, specific acknowledgments section, list of figures, list of tables or list of abbreviations. The textbook's concise writing style makes it easy to read and to refer to as a reference textbook. It is reasonably well researched, fairly consistent, and systematic in its presentation. The visual impact has been heightened by the incorporation of 64 well-selected photographs in some chapters, as well as some disease distribution maps, which are also quite helpful.

Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine is presented as a 1.33×9.90×7.62 inch hardcover book, which would easily fit into the briefcase or on the office bookshelf. The cover of the textbook is uninspiring, but practical and durable.

Travel medicine is a constantly changing and developing specialty area. The focus on the principles and practice of travel medicine is highly relevant as researchers and clinicians grapple with broad topical and sometimes complex issues, ranging from deep venous thrombosis and cabin environmental air quality to travelers' diarrhea and migrant health. This first edition provides discussion of these matters, and much more. The major sections include: I. Travel Medicine; II. Infectious Diseases and Travel; III. Prevention and Management of Travel-related Disease; IV. Hazards of Air and Sea Travel; V. Environmental Hazards of Travel; and VI. Practical Issues for Travellers. The reallocation of chapters to sections based

on the classic sequencing of pretravel, during travel and posttravel issues may need to be considered for future editions; however, the allocation of chapters to the nominated sections is generally consistent.

Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine gives a comprehensive description of travel medicine, appropriate to a reference textbook for most chapters. In addition to the standard features of a travel medicine textbook, there are some special highlights, including excellent reviews of tropical skin infections (Chapter 9), poisons and travel (Chapter 20), traveling with children (Chapter 23), immunocompromised travelers, and women's health and travel (Chapter 24). The broad approach taken by *Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine* is reflected by the inclusion of dedicated and specialist chapters on aviation-related issues in travel medicine (Chapters 13, 14 and 19), as well as areas being increasingly recognized for their importance in travel medicine, including altitude and expedition medicine (Chapter 15), expatriate and aid worker health (Chapter 27), and migrant and refugee health (Chapter 28). The use of a case-orientated approach in many of the chapters provides useful practical illustrations and assists with teaching of the material presented in these chapters. The dental health of travelers is mentioned in a couple of chapters and, perhaps in a future edition, could be consolidated into a chapter.

The editor is well known in the field of travel medicine. It is stated that the editor, Dr Jane Zuckerman, is based at the "Academic Centre for Travel Medicine and Vaccines, Royal Free and University College Medical School, London, United Kingdom". In total, there are 47 contributors to *Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine* from eight countries, although most of the contributors are listed as being based in the UK (27/47) and US (9/47). Fourteen (50%) of the 28 chapters have single contributors. Single authorship of important chapters, such as that on vaccination, attracted some concern regarding the representativeness of opinion in one other recent book review of this work.¹ The section on malaria was also felt to warrant reworking and expansion to a separate chapter in the third section of the book in two other recent reviews of this work.^{1,2} The inclusion of additional high-quality disease distribution maps in some sections, such

*1st edn, 503 pp, hardcover with illustrations, USD285.00, ISBN 0-471-49079-2. Wiley, Chichester, UK, 2001.

Reviewed by: Peter A Leggat, FAFPHM, FACTM, FFTM, Associate Professor, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland, Australia.

J Travel Med 2003; 10:313–314.

as viral infections, has also been mentioned elsewhere.² Many of the contributors to *Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine* have also contributed to other significant works in travel medicine, and most would be well known in the field of travel medicine and its related areas.

Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine is an essential reference for those physicians working professionally in travel clinics. The book will also appeal as a reference textbook to general practitioners, especially those who are called upon to regularly give travel health advice, and other health professionals with a significant interest in travel medicine. Academic and research departments of travel medicine should also consider the book as a reference textbook for their libraries and advanced postgraduate courses. Despite its relatively high cost, which will limit its appeal, together with some of the usual

problems associated with first edition textbooks, *Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine* has many useful chapters. With subsequent editions and revisions, *Principles and Practice of Travel Medicine* should become well established in the exclusive international portfolio of standard textbooks in travel medicine, edited by a physician with exceptional credentials.

References

1. Van Gompel A. Book Review: Principles and practice of travel medicine, 1st edn, by Zuckerman JN (ed). *N Engl J Med* 2002; 347:1214–1215.
2. Steffen R. Book Review: Principles and practice of travel medicine, 1st edn, by Zuckerman JN (ed). *Infection* 2002; 30:328.

Health Information for International Travel (The Yellow Book)

The Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DQ), National Center for Infectious Diseases, USA, is pleased to announce the release of the 2003–2004 edition of the publication, Health Information for International Travel (The Yellow Book). The new edition contains:

- New chapter focusing on recommendations for children
- New recommendations for malaria chemoprophylaxis
- Expanded text on injury during travel, motion sickness, altitude sickness, and travelers with disabilities.
- Changes in vaccine recommendations
- Changes in recommendations for insect repellent use
- New text on scuba diving safety and high-risk travelers
- Improved and colorized maps and expanded indexing

The Yellow Book will also be available on CD-ROM later in the year.

*To order the book and or the CD-ROM, contact the Public Health Foundation, USA
at this Telephone number:*

+1-877-252-1200 or <http://bookstore.phf.org>