

# PREFACE

*The world is a book, and those who do not travel, read only a page.*

**Augustine of Hippo (354-430)**

Since the first edition of this manual was published in 1987, interest in travel medicine and clinical tropical medicine have continued to surge. International arrivals increase each year: in 2014, 1.1 billion people crossed an international border; this is projected to increase to 1.8 billion in 2025. More than 3200 medical providers and others with an interest in travel medicine in more than 90 countries are members of the International Society of Travel Medicine; membership in the American Society of Travel Medicine and Hygiene tops 3600; and more than 4300 registrants attended its 2014 annual meeting.

Our planet is rapidly becoming warmer, more populous, and increasingly urban. Microorganisms are increasingly resistant to existing antimicrobial agents, and the regular appearance of previously unrecognized infectious agents is the rule rather than the exception. Significant inroads on common infectious diseases, including measles and malaria, have been made in recent years, while other diseases, including dengue fever, are increasingly common. Higher rates of migration, tourism, and human encroachment of tropical rainforests are leading to the appearance in temperate regions of illnesses heretofore seen almost exclusively in the tropics. Hence it behooves medical practitioners, regardless of where they practice, to be familiar with illnesses occurring both locally and globally. It is our hope that this manual will serve as a pragmatic tool for medical providers who offer many types of care, including pre-travel and post-travel medicine, care of immigrants and refugees, and working in low-resource settings.

This edition contains several new chapters: Students Traveling Abroad, Travel and Mental Health, Ebola Virus Disease and Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers, Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria in Returning Travelers, and The Role of Point-of-Care Testing in Travel Medicine.

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