**Tropical Diseases in Travelers**

Eli Schwartz, editor  
Wiley-Blackwell, Chichester, UK, 2009  
ISBN: 9781405184410  
Pages: 485; Price: US $159.00

This book captures the essence of tropical medicine for clinicians evaluating returning travelers. The editor, an international expert in tropical and travel medicine, authored or coauthored many chapters of the book. The book also reflects the experience of numerous experts in the field of travel medicine.

The book consists of 43 chapters organized into 3 sections: general aspects of tropical diseases in travelers, specific infections, and approaches to specific syndromes. The first section describes general trends in travel medicine and discusses types of studies encountered in travel medicine research. This section provides a basis for screening travelers and makes recommendations for doing so.

The section on specific diagnoses dedicates a chapter each to the most commonly encountered groups of microbial organisms. This section emphasizes the epidemiology of travel illnesses and clinical signs and symptoms in travelers, especially aspects of illness different from those of populations residing in the disease-endemic areas. This section also includes photographs of physical findings in travelers; the photographs highlight such diseases as African tick-bite fever, chikungunya, dengue, swimmer’s itch, African trypanosomiasis, leishmaniasis, measles, tungsiasis, and cutaneous larva migrans.

The section on syndromes focuses on approaches to evaluating major complaints in returning travelers. Complaints discussed include posttravel diarrhea, fever, skin problems, eosinophilia, respiratory complaints, rheumatologic conditions, and neurologic findings.

For clinicians, adequate knowledge of illnesses associated with travel is critical to the ability to provide proper pretravel advice. This book contributes much information to assist in understanding diseases encountered by travelers. It is a valuable reference on tropical and travel medicine and is especially important to clinicians managing ill travelers. However, it also supplies fundamental background information for clinicians providing only pretravel consultations. The authors present concise, solid evidence and practical insights on tropical diseases in travelers. I recommend it highly to clinicians involved in the care of travelers in industrialized and developing countries.

**Lin H. Chen**  
Author affiliation: Mount Auburn Hospital, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA  
DOI: 10.3201/eid1511.091287  
Address for correspondence: Lin H. Chen, Mount Auburn Hospital, Travel Medicine Center, 330 Mount Auburn St, Cambridge, MA 02238, USA; email: lchen@hms.harvard.edu

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**Contagion and Chaos: Disease, Ecology, and National Security in the Era of Globalization**

Andrew T. Price-Smith  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press, Cambridge, MA, USA, 2009  
ISBN: 978-0-262-66203-1  
Pages: 296; Price: US $24.00 (paperback)

Contagion and Chaos describes the threat that emerging and reemerging infectious diseases pose to international security because of these diseases’ negative effects on sovereign states. The author proposes the following 5 hypotheses: 1) epidemic disease may compromise the prosperity, legitimacy, structural cohesion, and, in certain cases, security of sovereign states; 2) epidemics and pandemics of emerging or reemerging infectious diseases may promote economic and political discord among countries but are unlikely to generate serious armed conflict; 3) only some pathogens threaten national security according to criteria such as lethality, transmissibility, fear, and economic damage; 4) warfare (intrastate and interstate) amplifies problems caused by disease; and 5) the paradigm of health security is philosophically grounded in the political tradition of republican theory.

The author stresses that the association between the health of a population and perception of national security is ancient but largely forgotten. He suggests that a republican revision of systems-level international relations theory provides an optimal framework for examining the paradigm of health security.

The book’s 8 chapters discuss data supporting the author’s hypotheses. The first chapter describes the relationships among pathogens, society, and the state from a political science perspective. For nonpolitical scientists, this chapter is difficult. However, chapters 2–7 are interesting and enlightening. Chapter 2 explores the historical relationship between the state and society in the context of contagion. The author provides a historical perspective for the long-held perception that infectious disease poses a distinct threat to the stability, prosperity, material interests, and, therefore, security of the state. Chapters 3–6 present case studies concerning the influenza pandemic of 1918, HIV/AIDS, bovine spongiform encephalopathy and its human variant, Creutzfeld-Jakob disease, and severe acute respiratory syn-
Outbreak Investigations around the World: Case Studies in Infectious Disease Field Epidemiology

Mark S. Dworkin

Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Inc., Sudbury, MA, USA, 2009
ISBN-10: 076375143X
Pages: 480, Price: US $64.95

Outbreak investigations are fascinating stories. Mark S. Dworkin, Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Class of 1994, has compiled 19 first-hand accounts of case studies in infectious disease epidemiology and presents them in chronological order. The first is Kenrad Nelson’s 1964 investigation of leptospirosis associated with swimming in an irrigation ditch in rural Washington; the last, Patricia Quinlisk’s evaluation of a 2006 mumps epidemic in Iowa. In between are investigations involving 8 bacterial infections, 6 viruses, 1 helminth (*Taenia solium*), 1 protozoan (*Cryptosporidium* sp.), and a misdiagnosis of *Entamoeba histolytica*. Fourteen of the outbreaks occurred in the United States; of the remaining 5, one each occurred in Portugal, Israel, Egypt, Gabon, and Liberia.

In general, the stories are told as first-person accounts, use an informal style, and include personal reflections. Many chapters, but not all, include epidemic curves, maps, tables, exhibits, and lessons learned. I especially enjoyed reading about Paul Blake’s experience with a cholera outbreak in Portugal, Charles Jennings and measles in Illinois, Daniel Bausch and Ebola in Gabon, and reading both chapters by Jeffrey Davis—toxic shock syndrome and cryptosporidiosis.

As an instructor of epidemiology, I read the book seeking a complementary text for students. The informal style does make enjoyable reading but does not translate into an appropriate textbook. Several of the chapters are too long. One chapter is written by multiple authors, told from 4 points of view, and is very difficult to read. The lessons learned are organized chronologically, not by content. Some lessons are redundant; other areas of epidemiology are not adequately explored, e.g., sampling strategies, study design, questionnaire development and data analysis, population screening, and noninfectious diseases. However, I like the concept of first-hand accounts to supplement epidemiology textbooks. Could one format the chapters as unknowns like that of New England Journal of Medicine case studies? Could outbreak investigations be written in the style of Berton Roueché as medical mysteries, but supplemented with epidemic curves, maps, and lessons learned?

I recommend this book to all infectious disease epidemiologists, EIS officers, and infectious diseases clinicians interested in the aura of outbreak investigations. I also encourage the editor to consider a reformatted second edition to enhance the book’s usefulness as a complementary text in epidemiology coursework.

Harry W. Haverkos

Author affiliation: Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

DOI: 10.3201/eid1511.090931

Address for correspondence: Harry W. Haverkos, 15328 Bitterroot Way, Rockville, MD 20853 USA; email: haverkosh@comcast.net

The opinions expressed by authors contributing to this journal do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the institutions with which the authors are affiliated.
On Globalization and Disease A considerable amount of scholarly discourse has emerged concerning the effect of globalization on economies and societies, but such literature typically ignores the nexus of globalization, ecology, and public health. Processes of globalization are often linked to the diffusion of pathogens in the modern era, as trade is directly associated with the inter-continental diffusion of pathogens and with their vectors of transmission. Global microbial proliferation and emergence is also facilitated by tourism and migration, by increasing population densities, by env Contagion and Chaos: Disease, Ecology, and National Security in the Era of Globalization (MIT Press) 1st Edition. by. Andrew T. Price-Smith (Author).Â Disease Diplomacy: International Norms and Global Health Security by Sara E. Davies Paperback $39.95. Only 6 left in stock (more on the way). Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. FREE Shipping. Details. Long Shot: Vaccines for National Defense by Kendall Hoyt Hardcover $32.50. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. FREE Shipping.Â He is the author of The Health of Nations and Contagion and Chaos, both published by the MIT Press. Read more. Product details. Contagion and Chaos: Disease, Ecology, and National Security in the Era of Globalization. By Andrew T. Price-Smith. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2009.Â An abstract is not available for this content so a preview has been provided below. Please use the Get access link above for information on how to access this content. Copyright. COPYRIGHT: © American Political Science Association 2011. In Contagion and Chaos, Andrew Price-Smith offers the most comprehensive examination yet of disease through the lens of national security. Extending the analysis presented in his earlier book The Health of Nations, Price-Smith argues that epidemic disease represents a direct threat to the power of a state, eroding prosperity and destabilizing both its internal politics and its relationships with other states. He contends that the danger of an infectious pathogen to national security depends on lethality, transmissability, fear, and economic damage.Â Emerging infectious disease continues to present a threat to national and international security, Price-Smith argues, and globalization and ecological change only accelerate the danger. Ecology, and. National Security. in the Era of Globalization. Andrew T. Price-Smith. Massachusetts Institute of.Â Contagion and Chaos describes. the threat that emerging and reemerg. ing infectious diseases pose to inter. national security because of these dis-. easesâ€™ negative effects on sovereign. states.