Foreword

Travel and Adventure Medicine

About 30 million US citizens travel outside the North America continent annually. Physicians are asked to provide pretravel advice and posttravel care for many of these travelers. In the past few decades, the popularity of wilderness and high-altitude exploration and extreme sporting activities has grown. This issue of Medical Clinics of North America devoted to travel and adventure medicine reviews important topics to help health care providers care for these patients as well as help prepare health care workers for their own travels and adventures. Paul S. Pottinger and Christopher A. Sanford have done an outstanding job bringing together a diverse set of topics. More traditional travel medicine concerns, such as malaria prevention, immunization, traveler’s diarrhea, and treatment of the returning international traveler, are covered with timely up-to-date information. Articles covering the ethics of volunteerism, the travel medical kit, and road traffic injuries in travelers in developing countries are excellent additions to round out the travel medicine portion of this issue. A diverse set of adventure medicine topics, including high-altitude and wilderness medicine as well as an article on adventure and extreme sports, touches on a wide range of areas that is not frequently covered. I know you will find this a valuable and enjoyable issue.

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