

## **Zoonoses in travellers and immigrants...coming to a neighbourhood near you**

Of the 1,415 human pathogens, 61 per cent are zoonoses that appear to be on the rise as a result of global socioeconomic, environmental, and societal changes. The GeoSentinel network has reported a significant number of zoonoses in returned travellers; dengue, a vector-borne zoonosis is now one of the most frequent causes of fever in returned travellers. HIV, a zoonosis transmitted by blood and body fluid contact, has caused over 30 million deaths globally since the beginning of the epidemic. Of greatest concern are the air-borne zoonoses such as recent novel coronavirus and influenza associated viruses that have shown potentially high mortality rates. Travellers and immigrants have been shown to be in an excellent position to acquire, transmit and act as sentinels for zoonotic disease emergence.

### **References:**

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- Freedman DS et al Spectrum of Disease and Relation to Place of Exposure among Returned Travelers NEJM 2006; 354:119-30

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### **Presenter: Dr. Jay Keystone**

Dr. Jay Keystone graduated from University of Toronto Medical School in 1969. He trained in internal medicine in Toronto and at the University of Michigan Medical Center. After obtaining his Fellowship of The Royal College of Physicians of Canada (FRCP) he studied at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where he received his master of science in Clinical Tropical Medicine in 1974. He then completed field work in Africa and South America and, in 1977, he became the Director of the Tropical Disease Unit at the Toronto General Hospital, a position he held until 1997. He is presently president of the International Society of Travel Medicine and the clinical group of

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Currently, Dr. Keystone is a professor of medicine at the University of Toronto and director of the Toronto Medisys Travel Health Clinic.

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