



2nd ISW-TBE NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2006



We are very proud to present to you the second edition of our international TBE newsletter which you will hopefully enjoy while reading.

The newsletter will cover an update on the latest activities of the International Scientific Working Group on TBE (ISW-TBE). In this edition you will find a summary on the activities of

The 1st ISW Advisory Board meeting in Vienna in November 2006
& the latest update about the new TBE Information Material for 2007

Please feel free and come back to us in case of comments, further suggestions and ideas for this newsletter that we will certainly try to incorporate in one of our next editions.

**We wish you – A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007 !**

Best regards,

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1st Travel Expert Advisory Board, November 16-17, 2006, Vienna, Hotel Sacher

The first meeting of the Travel Expert Advisory Board was taking place in Vienna in November and was dealing with the topic

“TBE VACCINATION & THE TRAVELER”

The participants from, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Lithuania, Switzerland worked together on 3 different workshops:

Results of the first Workshop:

1 . How can we reach our target traveler for TBE vaccination ?

The Messages are:

There are problems in the epidemiology:

Where is the risk and what is the risk.

Morbidity/Mortality

Long-term disability

No specific treatment available *Solutions:*

Prevention, Personal Communication, Immunization – Rapid and Effective Protection, Knowing the Subtypes

Results of the second Workshop:

2. How can we achieve new, stronger TBE travel recommendations ?

Improving information

- On the Internet – advertise website, invite members from the tourist industry to medical boards, include information on the embassy websites
- With Publications

Achieving stronger travel recommendations

- Complete the list comparing recommendations among countries
- Reference laboratories need to be established in each group
- Investigate the history of Japanese Encephalitis: How were recommendations achieved ? Can we learn from experience ?

Quickly spreading new and/or updated information on TBE

- Establish opinion leader boards in each country
- Establish a pharmacy network
- Poster in pharmacies, "patient folders"
- Information through travel agencies, travel guides

Results of the third Workshop:

3. Which projects & clinical trials can help us enforcing the use of TBE vaccination for travelers?

Projects convincing experts of required TBE vaccination:

- Organize local, regional symposia to create awareness around clinicians in all relevant target groups
- Generate patient case reports
- "TBE finding project" in neurological departments
- Proposal for WHO to change travel recommendation

Travelers at risk and requiring vaccination protection:

- Define activities that are highly exposed – Being in contact with nature
- Raise awareness by using endemic maps and not incidence
- Increase public awareness with travelers
- Establish TBE reference centers
- Information in the Internet
- Positive communication
- Infotainment at airport

