



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,

Prof. Dr. Ursula Kunze
Institute for Social Medicine,
Center for Public Health, Medical University of Vienna
Publisher of the ISW-TBE
Rooseveltplatz 3
1090 Vienna
Austria
Tel: +43/1/4277-64660
Fax: +43/1/4277-9646
Email: Ursula.kunze@meduniwien.ac.at



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

- Contact embassy websites to spread information for traveler

Establishing vaccination as method of choice among doctors:

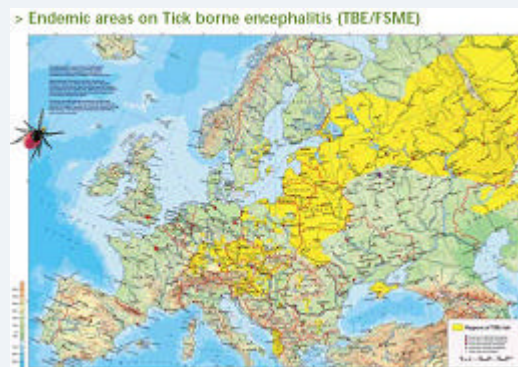
- Spread information to travel expert boards – lectures in international congresses
- How to get the vaccine in countries where it is not registered – availability of vaccine
- “Reach the traveler in the endemic area, via embassies, travel clinics,..
- GP has to be informed about endemic situation and the prevention
- Travel clinic and travel agency are responsible – and have to take care
- Examples of vaccination effectiveness – long term investment
- Information about added value through long term protection
- For tourists money should not be the limiting number
- Planning future travel: vaccination plan

This are a lot of good possibilities for action – if you want to work on one of this action points feel free to contact us. It would be a pleasure for us, to work with you together.

New TBE Information Material is available:

It would give us a great pleasure, if you get in touch with us, when you are interested in the new TBE Information Material for 2007.

- Endemic map
- ISW Flyer
- TBE Info Folder



This block contains three pieces of information material:

- Top Left:** A flyer titled "TBE/FSME* in Europe 2006" with a map of Europe showing endemic areas. It includes the text: "TBE/FSME* is a serious case of acute central nervous system disease, which may result in death or long-term neurological sequelae in 10-15% of patients." and "www.isw-tbe.info".
- Bottom Left:** A flyer titled "The International Patient Information Board on TBE*" with a map of Europe and text: "was founded in April 2006 in a concerted effort by the members of the international scientific working group on TBE, the International Scientific Working Group on the activities of the Austrian patient's advisory group against TBE, patient centers et al." and "www.isw-tbe.info".
- Right:** A folder titled "Tick-Borne (TBE/FSME)" with a map and text: "The tick-borne encephalitis virus (TBEV) is a member of the family Bunyviridae and is widespread in Europe. For all people visiting in or returning to endemic areas, vaccination is recommended." and "www.isw-tbe.info".

New Information about the activities of the ISW is available on February after the next International Meeting and Press Conference of the ISW Expert group on www.isw-tbe.info.

This email is intended merely to highlight issues and not to be comprehensive, nor to provide medical advice. Should you have any questions on issues reported here, please contact Prof. Ursula Kunze (ursula.kunze@meduniwien.ac.at). We hold your email address, which we use to send you this electronic news update on TBE and on the activities of the ISW-TBE group. We use your details for our own internal purposes only. If any of your details are incorrect or if you no longer wish to receive emails from us, please let us know by emailing us at ursula.kunze@meduniwien.ac.at.