

business (10%). Logistic regression showed that age over 65 years, traveling for business, and volunteering were positively associated with pre-travel advice seeking while being Hispanic was negatively associated.

Conclusion: Our study showed that travelers to developing countries were more likely to be male, healthy, adventurous, and have higher income. More than half of the travelers surveyed did not seek any pre-travel medical advice. Messages targeted to Hispanic travelers could improve their awareness of the need to get medical advice before traveling.

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Attitudes towards Avian influenza and sources of media information in travelers to developing countries

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Background: Although there is an on-going 2009 H1N1 influenza epidemic, avian influenza virus (A/H5N1) continues to be a significant public health threat. Currently, 442 cases have been confirmed worldwide with 262 deaths, mostly in Asian countries. Risk of disease may be higher in travelers to developing destinations, where these cases occur more frequently. This study investigated travelers to developing countries (TDC) and described their attitudes towards A/H5N1 and defined their sources of media information in order to inform focused avian influenza prevention campaigns for travelers.

Methods: Data were analyzed from the 2008 Porter-Novelli ConsumerStyles survey, an annual national mail-in survey that gathers demographic information and media/consumer information about the US population. TDC were defined as persons traveling outside the United States for ≥ 1 day anywhere other than Canada, Europe, Japan, Australia, or New Zealand. Odds ratios (OR) and logistic regression were used.

Results: Of 10,108 respondents, 913 (9%) reported being TDC; compared to non-TDC, TDC were less likely to be worried about getting ill from A/H5N1 (OR=0.5, CI=0.4-0.8, $p=0.002$). Further, TDC were less likely to have followed news stories about A/H5N1 (OR=0.72, CI=0.56-0.95, $p=0.02$) and were more likely to feel that news media were "exaggerating the dangers" (OR=1.3, CI=1.1-1.5, $p=0.006$), compared to feeling the "news reports are about right."

Overall, TDC were more likely to refer to the Internet (OR=1.5, CI=1.3-1.7, $p<0.0001$) for health information than were non-TDC. They were also more likely to read the national news (OR=1.3, CI=1.2-1.5, $p<0.0001$) or travel sections (OR=3.0, CI=2.6-3.4, $p<0.0001$) of the newspaper.

newspaper and television, the two groups did not differ significantly in reading the health section or watching health shows.

Conclusion: Given the initial spread of the 2009 H1N1 virus through travelers and the ongoing threat of A/H5N1, it is important to tailor health messages carefully to best communicate the importance of avian influenza risk to travelers. TDC will likely be better reached via information on the Internet and travel-related media sources.

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Demographics, medical conditions, and use of immunizations and chemoprophylaxis among international travelers within the Global TravEpiNet U.S. National Clinic Network

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Background: International travelers play a significant role in the global spread of infectious diseases. Despite this, data are limited on travel patterns, medical conditions, and medical interventions among international travelers prior to departure.

Methods: Global TravEpiNet is a U.S. CDC-sponsored network of U.S. clinics that care for international travelers. We report analysis of health data for 3,159 international travelers seen at U.S. Global TravEpiNet sites in 2009.

Results: Females accounted for 56% of travelers. The median age was 33 years; the median duration of travel