

Preface

Welcome to the *Primer of Tropical Medicine*!

This *Primer of Tropical Medicine* was conceived to be a companion volume to the very successful *Primer of Travel Medicine*, which was first published by the ACTM in 1996 and is now in its Third Edition.

The aim of the publication was to serve, as the title implies, as an introduction to health practice in the tropics. For this reason, each invited contributor was asked to write a specific chapter with this in mind. The contributors were asked to write a chapter in their area of expertise that would serve as a text covering what they would expect of a graduate in medicine or related health science areas and who had qualified in a developed country/region, to know on arrival in the tropics.

Editing of contributions in relation to approach, style and content will be kept to a minimum as it is intended that each chapter will reflect the personality and approach to the subject of the invited contributors rather than to attempt a tight uniform approach in the book as a whole. This, it is hoped, will allow readers to gain some insight not only into what is expected of a newly arrived health professional; in a tropical/developing area, but also how they themselves may like to approach the subject.

The text will hopefully also serve for reference and as a guide to more detailed texts in each area.

We should like to take this opportunity to thank all the contributors for their efforts; Professor George Nelson for allowing us to dedicate this Primer to him in recognition of his considerable efforts in improving the health of people living in the tropics, and to Kym Daniell for giving of his time and talents to get the First Edition up and going on the ACTM website.

It is intended that the 1st Edition will be published on-line on the ACTM website. Chapters will be added as received. When all contributions have been received, the book will be edited and published by the ACTM as the Second Edition. Comments and suggestions on chapters published on the website will be welcome.

John Goldsmid

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EDITORS