

TOP KNIFE FIGHTER SURGEON COURSE

173 Fighter Wing
Kingsley Field Oregon

RSV-1C
TRAVEL MEDICINE

Criterion Referenced Objectives

- Describe the responsibilities of the flight surgeon in briefing the unit prior to deployment
- Recognize where to obtain appropriate medical intelligence in order to prepare a deployment briefing
- Discuss the essential elements of a deployment medical threat briefing

Overview

- Expectations for the FS
- Medical intelligence resources
- Putting together a medical intelligence briefing
- Take home points

Expectations for the FS

- Provide medical risks briefing to departing personnel prior to deployment regarding
- Medical intelligence review essential
- Briefing time limited
 - Hit highlights
 - Written handout supplements

Medical Intelligence Resources

- People – Public Health Office, CBRNE Medical Defense Office
- Publications – Textbooks, etc
- Internet
 - CDC Yellow Book
 - Travel Health ONLINE
 - National Center for Medical Intelligence

Potential Briefing Topics

- Temperature/Moisture Threats
- Personal Hygiene
- Fatigue and Circadian Rhythm Disturbances
- Personal Medications (30-day supply)
- Infectious disease threats
 - Immunizations
 - Prophylactic medications
 - Vector control and personal protection

Potential Briefing Topics

- Safe food, water, and sanitation
- STDs
- Dangerous flora and fauna
- Site safety
- CBRNE threats
- Flight med topics: Deployment stressors, go/no-go pills, scheduling, food/water en route, ejection en route, exposure suits and piddle packs

Putting Together a Medical Intelligence Briefing

- Mission type?
 - Kinetic
 - Humanitarian
 - Civil-Military
- Medical rules of engagement?
 - What does commander want?
 - Are there restrictions?



Medical Threat Brief

- Mission-specific health risk assessment
- Plan to mitigate risk and educate your people
 - Define medical risks and find countermeasures
 - Get commander and supervisor buy-in
 - Educate

Medical Threat Brief

- Assumptions
 - Enemy situation?
 - Friendly situation?
 - Local noncombatants?
 - Who, what, where, when, why, and how
 - Sources of med intel (see earlier slide)

Threats

- Battle injuries and CBRNE threats
- DNBI –Still dental, dermat, GI, and ortho
- Location-specific
 - Tropical medicine?
 - Environmental exposures?
- Behavioral health



Countermeasures

- Food and water-borne
 - Immunizations
 - Control sources
 - Bake/boil/bottle/pel
 - EDUCATE
- Vector-borne
 - Immunization
 - Clothing
 - DEET/permethrin
 - Bed nets

Countermeasures

- Malaria chemoprophylaxis – Check which is most appropriate to your location and people
- Communicable disease
 - Limit exposure to locals
 - Immunization
 - PPD before going out the door
 - STD education

Countermeasures

- Animal/water exposure – Avoid!
 - Leptospirosis, schistosomiasis
 - Drowning
 - Pets with disease or an appetite for people
- Environmental
 - Proper gear for wx
 - Hydration
 - Altitude illness
 - Skin and eye protection

Countermeasures

- Battle injuries
 - Kevlar
 - Body armor
 - Eye/ear protection
- Non-battle injuries
 - Restrict travel, control mode
 - Recreational/sports injuries



What is the backup to prevention?

- Local trauma capability?
- Surgical availability?
- What is available on the local economy and can you trust it?
- Surrounding nation capability?
- Transportation?

Take Home

- Be prepared! Have access to med intel
- Find out what you can care for locally and what must be transported before you go
- Command support vital
 - Keep the commander in the loop
 - Commander should be speaking the words you say as though they are his or her own

Acknowledgement

This briefing relied heavily upon input from MAJ Eric Garges' 2012 USAF SAM Global Medicine briefing. The information from his briefing is gratefully used with his permission.

Useful Links

- <https://www.intelink.gov/ncmi/index.php>
- <https://www.tripprep.com/scripts/main/default.asp>
- <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2012/table-of-contents.htm>

Specific Agencies

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Navy Preventive Medicine Units
- U.S. Department of State
- Epidemiology Consultant Service, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

Specific Agencies

- Defense Pest Management Information Analysis Center (DPMIAC)
- International Association for Medical Assistance to Travelers (IAMAT)
 - www.iamat.org
- Next slide for quiz instructions

- Go to quiz
- Enter your answers on the answer sheet
- Print only one answer sheet for entire course
- Press ESC to go back to main menu