We investigated epidemiologic and clinical aspects of rickettsial diseases in 280 international travelers reported to the GeoSentinel Surveillance Network during 1996–2008. Of these 280 travelers, 231 (82.5%) had spotted fever (SFG) rickettsiosis, 16 (5.7%) scrub typhus, 11 (3.9%) Q fever, 10 (3.6%) typhus group (TG) rickettsiosis, 7 (2.5%) bartonellosis, 4 (1.4%) indeterminable SFG/TG rickettsiosis, and 1 (0.4%) human granulocytic anaplasmosis. One hundred ninety-seven (87.6%) SFG rickettsiosis cases were acquired in sub-Saharan Africa and were associated with higher age, male gender, travel to southern Africa, late summer season travel, and travel for tourism. More than 90% of patients with rickettsial disease were treated with doxycycline, 43 (15.4%) were hospitalized, and 4 had a complicated course, including 1 fatal case of scrub typhus encephalitis acquired in Thailand.

Rickettsial diseases are acute and potentially severe zoonotic infections caused by obligate intracellular,
Earning CME Credit

To obtain credit, you should first read the journal article. After reading the article, you should be able to answer the following, related, multiple-choice questions. To complete the questions and earn continuing medical education (CME) credit, please go to http://www.medscape.com/cme/eid. Credit cannot be obtained for tests completed on paper, although you may use the worksheet below to keep a record of your answers. You must be a registered user on Medscape.com. If you are not registered on Medscape.com, please click on the New Users: Free Registration link on the left hand side of the website to register. Only one answer is correct for each question. Once you successfully answer all post-test questions you will be able to view and/or print your certificate. For questions regarding the content of this activity, contact the accredited provider, CME@medscape.net. For technical assistance, contact CME@webmd.net. American Medical Association's Physician's Recognition Award (AMA PRA) credits are accepted in the US as evidence of participation in CME activities. For further information on this award, please refer to http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/2922.html. The AMA has determined that physicians not licensed in the US who participate in this CME activity are eligible for AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Through agreements that the AMA has made with agencies in some countries, AMA PRA credit is acceptable as evidence of participation in CME activities. If you are not licensed in the US and want to obtain an AMA PRA CME credit, please complete the questions online, print the certificate and present it to your national medical association.

Article Title
Multicenter GeoSentinel Analysis of Rickettsial Diseases in International Travelers, 1996–2008

CME Questions

1. Which of the following are no longer classified as rickettsial disorders?

A. *Ehrlichia* and *Anaplasma*
B. *Orientia* and *Coxiella burnetti*
C. *Coxiella burnetti* and *Bartonella*
D. *Anaplasma* and *Bartonella*

2. A 44-year-old male traveler returning from Tanzania presents 7 days after return with fever and respiratory symptoms. Among rickettsial diseases to be considered, which of the following is most likely to be the cause of his illness?

A. *Ehrlichiosis*  
B. Spotted fever group rickettsiosis  
C. *Bartonellosis*  
D. Typhus group rickettsiosis

3. Which of the following is least likely to be positively and independently associated with spotted fever group rickettsiosis in a returning international traveler?

A. Travel for business  
B. Visit to southern Africa  
C. Male gender  
D. Travel from March to May

4. Which of the following is the most commonly used treatment for rickettsial disease among returning international travelers?

A. Tetracycline  
B. Minocycline  
C. Septra  
D. Doxycycline

Activity Evaluation

| 1. The activity supported the learning objectives. | Strongly Disagree | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Strongly Agree |
| 2. The material was organized clearly for learning to occur. | Strongly Disagree | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Strongly Agree |
| 3. The content learned from this activity will impact my practice. | Strongly Disagree | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Strongly Agree |
| 4. The activity was presented objectively and free of commercial bias. | Strongly Disagree | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | Strongly Agree |