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NOTICE OF UPDATE TO MALARIA RISK MAP COLLECTION ALL EDITIONS

Coding of Areas with “Rare Cases” of Malaria

Beginning with publication of the 2010 Yellow Book, the CDC began identifying areas associated with “rare cases” of malaria. Concurrently the CDC recommended “mosquito avoidance” instead of chemoprophylaxis for some of these areas. This trend continued when the CDC updated their online Yellow Book in September 2010. At this time it was decided to identify these areas and code them in a different color on our Malaria Risk Maps. The color gold was selected as the new color for these regions. The following criteria were applied to determine the areas to be coded in the new color:

1. The CDC’s description must indicate “rare cases”, “rare local cases”, “limited cases”, “limited transmission”, “low transmission”, “small risk of transmission” in the area specified.
2. The CDC’s recommendation for chemoprophylaxis **MUST ALSO** specify “mosquito avoidance” for the specific area.

The following countries and locations met the criteria and the new coding scheme has been applied to maps of these areas: Argentina, Cape Verde, China, the Chinese provinces of Beijing, Chongqing, Fujian, Gansu, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Jilin, Liaoning, Nei Mongol, Ningxia, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanghai, Shanxi, Sichuan, Tianjin, Xinjiang, and Zhejiang, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, the Mexican states of Quintana Roo and Tabasco, Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam.

The new gold color scheme has also been incorporated into the Lists of Risk Countries and the Ports of Call of the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America, and South America listing.

Review of the CDC’s September 2010 update to the Yellow Book revealed four locations that did not meet the criteria:

Belize: Mosquito avoidance is recommended for all areas except Toledo, Stann Creek, and Cayo; however the CDC’s description of the malaria endemic area does not indicate rare cases (or an equivalent statement) in these same areas.

Indonesia: The CDC’s description of malaria endemic areas indicates low transmission in rural areas of Java; however the chemoprophylaxis recommendation does not include mosquito avoidance for any areas in Indonesia.

Panama: Mosquito avoidance is recommended for provinces west of the Panama Canal; however the CDC’s description of the malaria endemic area does not indicate rare cases (or an equivalent statement) in these same areas.

Thailand: The CDC’s description of malaria endemic areas indicates rare local cases in Phang Nga and Phuket; however the chemoprophylaxis recommendation does not include mosquito avoidance for any areas in Thailand.

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