

# The Hidden Dangers of Travel and Infectious Disease



**2015 GLOBAL CONGRESS ON TRAVEL RISK MANAGEMENT**

# Introducing Your Presenter



## **Katherine Harmon, PA-C, Director of Health Intelligence iJET International**

Katherine Harmon, director of Health Intelligence and Corporate Health and Safety Manager for iJET International, leads a team of diverse health analysts in preparing documents and alerts for timely issuance to a diverse client base of Fortune 100 to 2000 customers, NGO's, and government groups. Her teams ensure healthy and safe travels.

Her experience in project management ranges from pandemic planning to disease mapping as well as business development. She has knowledge concerning infectious disease(old world and emerging), radiation risk threats, chemical health analysis, plant and animal pathogen impact on supply chain, and security risk to regions where assets lie.

Katherine brings fourteen years of clinical, occupational, and internal medicine experience as a multi-certified physician assistant with a heavy emphasis on psychiatric profiling and counseling for fitness-of-duty. Her other experience includes security vulnerability assessments with chemical and biological analyses, customer service and analysis of needs, RFP writing and review, project management, data analysis, and business development experience.

# The Hidden Dangers of Travel and Infectious Disease



**2015 GLOBAL CONGRESS ON TRAVEL RISK MANAGEMENT**

# What Are Hidden Health Risks?

- Employee Health and Safety
- Cost of Missed Meetings Due to Illness
- Cost of Lowered Productivity
- Potential for Importation of Disease
- Duty-of-Care

# More Than an Individual's Illness



# Ramifications of Traveler Illness

- Direct and Indirect Costs
- Reputational Risks
- Importation of Disease Has Multiplying Effects



# Costs

Lost Opportunities  
– competition

Missed meetings –  
travel is expensive!

Cost of Treatment  
or Evacuation



# Why Do Travel Health Risks Occur?

- Lack of Adequate Understanding of Risk
- Lack of Education on Potential Risk
- Lack of Adequate Preparation
- Failure to Seek Appropriate Care
- Elevated Risk Taking Behavior on Travel



# Concluding Remarks

- Traveler Illness Are Not Isolated Events
- Cost and Liability Is Associated with Illness or Injury While Away
- Health Risks Occur for Many Reasons Most of Which Can Be Controlled
- Know Your Responsibility



**Know The Risks!**

Health Risks Come In All Forms!!

GOAL



Operate Globally with  
Confidence

I TOLD YOU I WAS SICK

B. P. ROBERTS

MAY 17, 1929

JUNE 18, 1979