

Infections of Leisure

FOURTH EDITION

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EDITED BY

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*To Dr. Burke A. Cunha, prolific writer, masterful teacher
and clinician, and valued friend. As a member of the
American Osler Society, he exemplifies Osler's dictum to
"serve the art of Medicine as it should be served."*

CONTENTS

Contributors ix

Preface xiii

Preface to the First Edition xv

1. **At the Shore** / 1
Mark A. Clemence and Richard L. Guerrant
2. **Freshwater: from Lakes to Hot Tubs** / 69
Bertha S. Ayi and David Dworzack
3. **The Camper's Uninvited Guests** / 97
Gordon E. Schutze and Richard F. Jacobs
4. **Infections in the Garden** / 111
Burke A. Cunha and Diane H. Johnson
5. **With Man's Best Friend** / 127
Julie M. Collins and Bennett Lorber
6. **Around Cats** / 153
Ellie J. C. Goldstein and Craig E. Greene
7. **Feathered Friends** / 173
Matthew E. Levison
8. **Less Common House Pets** / 193
Bruno B. Chomel
9. **With Man's Worst Friend: the Rat** / 221
James G. Fox
10. **Closed Due to Rabies** / 251
Jesse D. Blanton and John W. Krebs

- 11. Sports: the Infectious Hazards / 275**
Arezou Minooee, Leland S. Rickman, and Geeta Gupta
- 12. Traveling Abroad / 293**
Martin S. Wolfe
- 13. From Boudoir to Bordello: Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Travel / 311**
Jonathan M. Zenilman
- 14. Infections from Body Piercing and Tattoos / 331**
Mukesh Patel and C. Glenn Cobbs
- 15. Infectious Diseases at High Altitude / 349**
Buddha Basnyat, Thomas A. Cumbo, and Robert Edelman
- 16. Infectious Risks of Air Travel / 359**
Alexandra Mangili and Mark Gendreau
- 17. Perils of the Petting Zoo / 367**
John R. Dunn and Frederick J. Angulo
- 18. Infections on Cruise Ships / 377**
Vivek Kak
- 19. Exotic and Trendy Cuisine / 385**
Jeffrey K. Griffiths
- Index / 409**

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PREFACE

The fourth edition of *Infections of Leisure* continues to identify and organize the infectious risks associated with our leisure time activities. Time away from work or school affords us the chance to travel, swim, sail, climb, camp, hike, garden, and taste exotic foods. We continue to pamper our (sometimes unusual) pets and to play increasingly challenging sports. However, all these activities expose us to an expanding list of pathogenic microbes, some of which are entirely new and others of which are increasingly resistant to current therapy. For this new edition, every chapter has been thoroughly updated, and three new chapters have been added: “Infectious Risks of Air Travel” (chapter 16), “Perils of the Petting Zoo” (chapter 17), and “Infections on Cruise Ships” (chapter 18). All the activities described herein carry risks with their attendant pleasures, and, as in the previous editions, the risks are outlined and discussed in a convenient, user-friendly, and accessible format. A new feature has been added to this edition: at the completion of each chapter a list of “Practical Tips” highlights salient points of prevention and management of infections discussed in the chapter. We hope this edition continues to provide a practical resource for this diverse, fascinating, and challenging group of infectious diseases.

I am deeply grateful to Jeffrey Holtmeier and Kenneth April of ASM Press for their professionalism, wisdom, and friendship.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

Many of us spend our leisure time hiking, sailing, snorkeling, and camping. We like to sample new foods, pamper our pets, and travel to magical places. All these pursuits enrich our lives but carry attendant risks. This book details the infections that complicate exposure to vacation climates, pets, recreational activities, and exotic cuisine.

There are many infectious disorders that fit this category, and they frequently overlap. Thus, touring a tropical paradise affords one the opportunity to eat poisoned food, swim in contaminated waters, and sustain serious injury from marine life. The great outdoors adds arthropod-borne infection and polluted water to the dangers of zoonoses. Clearly, risks are multiple, and a comprehensive guide is necessary. This book attempts to organize the wealth of information about these interesting and varied infections in a convenient and accessible format.

INDEX

- Acanthamoeba* infection
 - freshwater-related illness, 79–80, 88
 - granulomatous amoebic encephalitis, 88
 - keratitis, 79–80
- Acanthamoeba castellanii*, 79
- Acanthamoeba culbertsoni*, 79–80
- Acanthamoeba hatchetti*, 79
- Acanthamoeba polyphaga*, 79–80
- Acanthamoeba rhyodes*, 79
- Acariasis, rodent-related illness, 194, 203, 241
- Achromobacter histamineum*, histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
- Acinetobacter baumannii*, multidrug-resistant, 362
- Actinomyces*, 339
- Acute mountain sickness, 351, 353
- Adderpike, 40–41
- Adenovirus infection
 - freshwater-related illness, 78–79
 - pharyngoconjunctival fever, 78–79
 - sports-related illness, 282–283
- Aeromonas* infection
 - aquarium fish fancier, 209, 211
 - confusion with *V. fluvialis*, 28
 - freshwater-related illness, 76–77
 - marine trauma, 35, 37
 - pneumonia following near drowning, 83
 - water sports-related illness, 284
- Aeromonas caviae*, 83
- Aeromonas hydrophila*, 26, 37, 76–77, 83, 284
- Aeromonas sobria*, 83
- Aeromonas veronii*, 83
- African pygmy hedgehog, 204
- African trypanosomiasis, 304
- Air-conditioning cooling towers, 81–82
- Air travel restrictions, 362–363
- Air travel-related illness, 359–366
 - cabin environment, 359–361
 - control measures, 359–361, 364
 - air travel restrictions, 362–363
 - risk-based border screening, 363–364
 - WHO International Health Regulations, 363
 - gastroenteritis, 359
 - infection risk, 359–361
 - in-flight outbreaks, 361–362
 - multidrug-resistant organisms, 362
 - influenza, 359, 361–364
 - measles, 359, 362
 - meningococcal disease, 362
 - MRSA infections, 362
 - practical tips, 365
 - SARS, 359–364
 - smallpox, 359
 - tuberculosis, 359–361
 - upper respiratory tract infections, 359
- Alaskan butter clam, 2–3, 5–6
- Alcohol use, 314
- Algae, skin and soft tissue infections, 78
- Amblyomma americanum*, 101–105, 241
- American trypanosomiasis, 304
- Amnesic shellfish poisoning, 3, 8–9
- Amoebiasis, nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
- Amoebic dysentery, high-altitude travel, 351
- Amoebic keratitis, 79–80
- Amoebic liver abscess, 303, 352
- Amoebic meningoencephalitis, *see* Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis
- Amphibian-related illness, 205–209
 - bacterial, 205–208
 - fungal, 209
 - practical tips, 214
 - salmonellosis, 205–208
 - Yersinia* infections, 208

- Anaerobiospirillum* diarrhea, 161
Anaerobiospirillum succiniciproducens, 161
Anaerobiospirillum thomasi, 161
Anaplasma phagocytophilum, 100–102, 154
 Anaplasmosis
 cat-related illness, 154
 dog-related illness, 128, 134
 human granulocytic, 97, 100–102
Ancylostoma braziliense, 45, 139–140, 162
Ancylostoma caninum, 45
Ancylostoma duodenale, 45, 121
 Andes virus, 199
 Angiomatosis, bacillary, 156–157
Angiostrongylus cantonensis, *see* Rat lungworm
 Animal bite, 368
 Animal contact venue, 367–376
 Anisakiasis, food-related illness, 385–388
Anisakis simplex, 386–387
 Ant sting, 108
 Anthrax
 cat-related illness, 163
 travel-related illness, 304
 Antieyebrow piercing, 339
 Antimicrobial therapy, traumatic marine wounds, 37
Apodemus agrarius, *see* Striped field mouse
 Aquaculture, 209–210
 Aquarium fish fancier, 209–211, *see also* Fish-related illness
 Aeromonas infections, 209, 211
 Comamonas infections, 209, 211
 E. tarda infections, 209, 211
 Erysipelothrix infections, 209–210
 M. marinum infections, 32–34, 73–76
 melioidosis, 210
 mycobacterial infections, 206, 209–210
 scorpion fish venom, 38–39
 Aquatic petting zoo, 373–374
 Arbovirus infection, bird-related illness, 173–174, 183–186, 190
Armillifer, 208–209
Armillifer armillatus, 209
 Arthritic erythema, epidemic, 223
 Arthritis, Lyme, 98–100
Arthroderma benhamiae, 196
 Arthropod envenomations, 108
 Arthropod-borne disease
 camping-related illness, 97–110
 high-altitude travel, 354–355
 Ascariasis
 gardening-related illness, 118
 high-altitude travel, 352
 travel-related illness, 305
Ascaris lumbricoides, 305
Aspergillus infection
 freshwater-related illness, 83
 otitis externa, 284
 pneumonia following near drowning, 83
 swimmer's ear, 46–47
Aspergillus niger, 46–47
 Athlete, *see* Sports-related illness
 Athlete's foot, *see* Tinea pedis
 Atovaquone-proguanil, 297–298
 ATPase inhibitor, ciguatoxin-associated, 11
 Australian bat lyssavirus, 213
 Australian bat virus, 261
 Australian spotted octopus, 45
 Avian influenza, 173–174, 176–180, 189–190
 highly pathogenic strains, 176–179
 low-pathogenicity strains, 176
- Babesiosis, gardening-related illness, 112
 Bacillary angiomatosis, 156–157
Bacillus anthracis, 163
 Bacterial vaginosis, 312, 319–320, 326
Bacteroides infection
 cat bite, 165
 marine wound infections, 37
 pelvic inflammatory disease, 318
Bacteroides fragilis, 37
Bacteroides tectus, 165
 Bairnsdale ulcer, 75–76
Balamuthia mandrillaris, 88
 Balantidiosis, nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
 Bank vole, 199, 233, 238
 Bark scorpion, 108
 Barracuda attack, 35–36
Bartonella bacilliformis, 354
Bartonella henselae, 155, 157, 168
Bartonella quintana, 155, 157
 Bartonellosis
 cat-related illness, 154–157, 168
 dog-related illness, 144
 high-altitude travel, 354
 Bath sponge, synthetic, 70–71
 Bat-related illness
 histoplasmosis, 116
 rabies, 213, 236, 251–256, 258–259, 261, 264, 267–268
 viral, 213
Baylisascaris procyonis, 195
 Bayou virus, 199, 234
 Beach, *see* Shore
 Bear meat, 394–395
 Beaver rabies, 260
 Bee sting, 108
 Beef tapeworm, 392–393
Bergeyella zoohelcum, 128
 Bermejo virus, 199
 Bird-related illness, 173–192
 arbovirus infections, 173–174, 183–186, 190
 avian influenza, 173–174, 176–180, 189–190
 Central Europe encephalitis, 183–184
 cryptococcosis, 173–174, 187–189
 eastern equine encephalitis, 173, 183–184

- gardening-associated, 113–114
- histoplasmosis, 116, 173–174, 186–187
- Japanese B encephalitis, 173, 190
- mite infestations, 173–174, 181–182
- Newcastle disease, 173–176
- practical tips, 189–190
- psittacosis, 173–175, 373
- Russian spring-summer encephalitis, 183–184
- St. Louis encephalitis, 173, 183–184
- salmonellosis, 173–174, 182–183, 190
- West Nile encephalitis, 183–186
- western equine encephalitis, 173, 183–184
- yersiniosis, 173–174, 181
- Bismuth subsalicylate, 298
- Bite wound, *see specific animals*
- Bivalves, *see Shellfish entries*
- Black Creek Canal virus, 199, 234
- Black rat, 200
- Black roof rat, 222, 227, 233, 237, 240
- Black widow spider, 108
- Blastocystis hominis*, 301
- Blastomyces dermatitidis*, 118
- Blastomycosis
 - differential diagnosis, 120
 - dog-related illness, 128–129
 - gardening-related illness, 112, 114, 116–119
 - travel-related illness, 301
- Blood type tattoo, 332
- Blue-green alga, *see Cyanobacterium infection*
- Blue-ringed octopus, 45
- Boa constrictor, 208
- “Body art,” 331–342
- Body jewelry, 336–337, 341–342
- Body piercing
 - precautions for special populations, 343
 - prevalence, 331–332
 - prevention of infections, 342
 - techniques, 337
- Body piercing-related illness, 336–342
 - E. coli* infections, 341
 - endocarditis, 340–341, 343
 - endogenously acquired flora, 337–341
 - exogenously acquired flora, 341–342
 - general infectious complications, 337
 - Haemophilus* infections, 338
 - HIV infections, 341
 - human papillomavirus infections, 338, 342
 - Lemierre’s disease, 339
 - Ludwig’s angina, 339
 - mastitis, 340
 - mycobacterial infections, 340
 - practical tips, 344
 - Pseudomonas* infections, 337–338
 - staphylococcal infections, 337–342
 - STDs, 342
 - streptococcal infections, 337–342
 - tetanus, 338–339, 341
 - treatment of infections, 342–343
 - tuberculosis, 342
 - viral hepatitis, 338, 341
- Border screening, risk-based, 363–364
- Bordetella bronchiseptica*, 153–154
- Bordetellosis, cat-related illness, 153–154
- Borrelia burgdorferi*, 98–100
- Borrelia hermsii*, 228–229
- Box jellyfish, 42–44
- Brain abscess, *P. boydii*, 89–90
- Breast implant infection, 340
- Brevetoxin, 3, 7–8
- Bricheros*, 313
- Brown recluse spider, 108
- Brucella abortus*, 400
- Brucella canis*, 130, 133–134
- Brucellosis
 - dog-related illness, 128, 133–134
 - gardening-related illness, 114, 118
 - travel-related illness, 304
 - unpasteurized milk, 400
- Brugia malayi*, 306
- Brush-tailed porcupine, 198
- Bullrout, 38–39
- Burkholderia pseudomallei* infection
 - aquarium fish fancier, 210
 - freshwater-related illness, 83
 - pneumonia, 83
- Buruli ulcer, 75–76
- Bush meat, 386
- Butterfly cod, 38–39
- Calabar swellings, 306
- California virus encephalitis, 107
- Camping-related illness, 97–110
 - arthropod envenomations, 108
 - flea-borne disease, 107–108
 - louse-borne disease, 107–108
 - mite-borne disease, 107–108
 - mosquito-borne disease, 107–108
 - practical tips, 108
 - tick-borne disease, 97–107
- Campylobacter coli*, 212
- Campylobacter fetus*, 208
- Campylobacter jejuni*, 128, 131, 157–158, 212, 369
- Campylobacteriosis
 - cat-related illness, 157–158
 - cruise ship-related illness, 379
 - dog-related illness, 128, 130–131
 - ferret-related illness, 211–212
 - gardening-related illness, 114–115, 118
 - high-altitude travel, 351
 - petting zoo-related illness, 368–369, 371
 - reptile-related illness, 208
 - rodent-related illness, 194, 202–203, 231
 - travel-related illness, 299
- Candida albicans*, 333

- Candidiasis
tattooing-related illness, 333
STD, 319, 354
- Capnocytophaga* infection
dog-related illness, 128–130
gardening-related illness, 114
- Capnocytophaga canimorsus*, 330
- Carbon monoxide poisoning, 355
- Carbuncle, high-altitude travel, 353
- Carnivores, wild, 211–213
- Carukia barnesi*, 43
- Cat(s), feral, 222
- Cat bite, 168
anthrax, 163
Erysipelothrix infections, 162–163
mixed bacterial infections, 164–165
orthopox virus infections, 165
Pasteurella infections, 163–164
sporotrichosis, 165
tularemia, 165–166
- Cat flea, 107, 154, 157, 236
- Cat scratch disease
cat-related illness, 154–156
dog-related illness, 128, 135
gardening-related illness, 111, 113–115, 118
- Catfish, 41
- Cat-related illness, 153–171
Anaerobiospirillum diarrhea, 161
anaplasmosis, 154
anthrax, 163
bacillary angiomatosis, 156–157
bartonellosis, 154–157, 168
bites and scratches, 162–166
campylobacteriosis, 157–158
cat scratch disease, 154–156
cheyletiellosis, 167
cryptosporidiosis, 158–159
cutaneous larva migrans, 45–46
dermatophilosis, 166–167
dermatophytosis, 167
dipylidiasis, 162
direct-contact transmission, 166–167
ehrlichiosis, 154
Erysipelothrix infections, 162–163
fecal-oral spread, 157–162
flea-borne spotted fever, 157
gardening-associated, 113–114
helicobacteriosis, 158
hepatitis E, 167–168
histoplasmosis, 166
inhalation, 153–154
leishmaniasis, 157
mixed bacterial infections, 164–165
MRSA infections, 166
murine typhus, 157, 237
opisthorchiasis, 162
orthopox virus infections, 165
Pasteurella infections, 163–164
plague, 154, 226
practical tips, 168
Q fever, 154
rabies, 162, 253, 260–262, 264, 267
salmonellosis, 160–161
scabies, 167
soilborne transmission, 166
sporotrichosis, 165
toxocarasis, 112, 161–162
toxoplasmosis, 159–160
tularemia, 104, 165–166
vector-borne disease, 154–157
Y. pseudotuberculosis gastroenteritis, 161
- Cattle, 371–373
- Cattle rabies, 260–261
- Cellulitis, *S. marcescens*, 208
- Central European encephalitis, bird-related illness, 183–184
- Central nervous system (CNS) infection, *see also specific diseases*
freshwater-related illness, 70, 87–91
- Centruroides sculpturatus*, 108
- Cercarial dermatitis, *see* Schistosome dermatitis
- Cestodiasis, rodent-related illness, 203
- Ceviche, 386, 389, 391
- Chagas' disease, 304
- Chameleon-related illness, 207
- Chancroid, 312, 320–322
- Cheek piercing, 338–339
- Cheyletiella parasitivorax*, 195–196
- Cheyletiellosis
cat-related illness, 167
dog-related illness, 128, 144
rabbit-related illness, 194–196
- Chigger, 107–108
- Chikungunya virus infection, travel-related illness, 303
- Childhood vaccinations, 296
- Chinchilla-related illness, 204
- Chipmunk-related illness, 225, 228
- Chironex fleckeri*, *see* Box jellyfish
- Chlamydia, 312, 317–318, 324, 326, 354
pelvic inflammatory disease, 318
- Chlamydia trachomatis*, 318, 322
- Chlamydochloa psittaci*, 173–175, 373
- Chlorination, 70–71, 74, 82, 282
- Chloroquine, 296–297
- Choclo virus, 199
- Cholera
food-related illness, 385, 391–392
water-related illness, 16, 18–21
- Cholera toxin, 20
- Cholera vaccine, 294
- Cholera-like toxin, 22
- Chromobacterium violaceum* infection
disseminated infections, 86–87

- freshwater-related illness, 86–87
 marine wound infections, 37
 Ciguatera fish poisoning, 1, 4, 10–13, 299
 Ciguatoxin, 4, 11
Citrobacter, 46
Citrobacter diversus, 37
 Clam digger's itch, *see* Schistosome dermatitis
Clethrionomys glareolus, *see* Bank vole
Clonorchis sinensis, 306
Clostridium, histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
Clostridium infection
 cruise ship-related illness, 379
 high-altitude travel, 353
 marine trauma, 35, 37
 travel-related illness, 299
Clostridium difficile, 299
Clostridium perfringens, 37, 379
 Coastal area, *see* Shore
 Coccidioidomycosis
 ferret-related illness, 212
 gardening-related illness, 111–112
 Coelenterate envenomation, 41–44
Comamonas infection, aquarium fish fancier, 209, 211
 Commercial sex workers, 312–314, 316–317, 324, 326
 Condom use, 313, 315–317, 324
 Cone shell, 44–45
 Conjunctivitis
 sports-related illness, 282
 swimming pool, 78–79
Cordylobia anthropophaga, 306
 Corneal transplant recipient, rabies, 263–264
 Coronavirus infection, sports-related illness, 283
Corynebacterium infection, cat bite, 165
Corynebacterium diphtheriae, 307
Corynebacterium minutissimum, 280–281
 Cotton rat, 199, 234
 Cowpox, rodent-related illness, 198–199, 214
Coxiella burnetii, 130, 134–135, 154, 373
 Coxsackievirus infection
 associated with water and shellfish, 47
 CNS infections, 90–91
 freshwater-related illness, 90–91
 Coyote rabies, 253, 258–260
 Creeping eruption, *see* Cutaneous larva migrans
 Cruise ship-related illness, 377–383
 campylobacteriosis, 379
 Clostridium infections, 379
 cryptosporidiosis, 379
 cyclosporiasis, 379
 diphtheria, 380
 E. coli infections, 379
 gastrointestinal infections, 378–379, 381
 hot tub folliculitis, 380
 infections acquired at ports of call, 381
 influenza, 380
 Legionella infections, 81, 380
 malaria, 381
 MRSA infections, 380
 norovirus infections, 378–379
 practical tips, 381–382
 respiratory infections, 379–381
 rubella, 380
 salmonellosis, 379
 shigellosis, 379
 skin infections, 380–381
 staphylococcal infections, 379–380
 Vessel Sanitation Program, 377–378
 Vibrio infections, 379
 Crustaceans, *see* Shellfish entries
 Cryptococcosis
 bird-related illness, 173–174, 187–189
 gardening-related illness, 114, 116–117
Cryptococcus neoformans, 187–189
 Cryptosporidiosis
 cat-related illness, 158–159
 cruise ship-related illness, 379
 dog-related illness, 128, 135–136
 ferret-related illness, 211–212
 freshwater-related illness, 69–70, 84
 gardening-related illness, 114–115, 118
 gastrointestinal infections, 84
 petting zoo-related illness, 368–371
 reptile-related illness, 209
 sports-related illness, 284
 travel-related illness, 299–300
Cryptosporidium canis, 135
Cryptosporidium hominis, 135
Cryptosporidium parvum, 135, 158–159, 369
Ctenocephalides, 128, 144
 Cutaneous larva migrans
 cat-related illness, 45–46, 162
 dog-related illness, 45–46, 128, 138–140
 gardening-related illness, 114–115
 travel-related illness, 307
 water-related illness, 45–46
 Cutaneous leishmaniasis, 307
Cyanobacterium infection
 freshwater-related illness, 78
 skin infections, 78
Cyclospora cayetanensis, 351
 Cyclosporiasis
 cruise ship-related illness, 379
 high-altitude travel, 351
 travel-related illness, 299–301
 Cysticercosis
 food-related illness, 393
 high-altitude travel, 352
 Cytolysin, *Vibrio*, 25, 31
 Cytomegalovirus infection
 sports-related illness, 282–283
 STD, 312

- Dander
 animal, 368
 rodent, 196
- Deep tissue infection, *M. marinum*, 33–35
- Deer fly, 105
- Deer meat, 200
- Deer mouse, 199, 233, 338
- DEET, 107–108, 184–185, 190, 298, 355
- Dengue
 camping-related illness, 107
 differential diagnosis, 117
 high-altitude travel, 354
 travel-related illness, 303
- Dermacentor andersoni*, 102–105
- Dermacentor variabilis*, 101–105, 241
- Dermanyssus gallinae*, 181
- Dermatitis
 invertebrate contact, 44–46
O. bacoti-associated, 240–243
P. aeruginosa, 70–72
 schistosome, 45–46, 72–73, 284
- Dermatobia hominis*, 306
- Dermatophilosis, cat-related illness, 166–167
- Dermatophilus congolensis*, 166–167
- Dermatophytosis
 cat-related illness, 167
 dog-related illness, 128, 142–143
 ferret-related illness, 211–212
 gardening-related illness, 114–115
 hedgehog-related illness, 204
 rabbit-related illness, 194–196
 reptile-related illness, 209
 rodent-related illness, 194, 203–204, 238
- Diarrhea, traveler's, *see* Traveler's diarrhea
- Diarrheic shellfish poisoning, 3, 15
- Diatoms, amnesic shellfish poisoning, 8–9
- Dientamoeba fragilis* infection, travel-related illness, 299–300, 306
- Dinoflagellates
 aerosolization, 8
 ciguatera food poisoning, 10–13
 diarrheic shellfish poisoning, 15
 neurotoxic shellfish poisoning, 7–8
P. piscicida, 15
 paralytic fish poisoning, 2–7
 red tides, 2
- Dinophysis acuminata*, 3, 15
- Dinophysis fortii*, 3, 15
- Diphtheria, cruise ship-related illness, 380
- Diphtheroid, 46–47
- Diphyllobothrium dalliae*, 390
- Diphyllobothrium dendriticum*, 390
- Diphyllobothrium klebanovskii*, 390
- Diphyllobothrium latum*, 389–390
- Diphyllobothrium ursi*, 390
- Dipylidiasis
 cat-related illness, 162
 dog-related illness, 128, 142
- Dipylidium caninum*, 128, 142, 162
- Dirofilaria immitis*, 114–115, 118, 128, 137–138
- Dirofilaria repens*, 137–138
- Dirofilariasis, dog-related illness, 128, 137–138
- Disseminated infection, freshwater-related illness, 70, 85–87
- Diving suit, neoprene, 70–71
- Dobrava virus, 199
- Dog bite
 antibiotic prophylaxis, 129
 epidemiology, 127
 initial management, 129
 life-threatening systemic infections following, 129–130
 local infections following, 127–129
 measures to minimize illness, 144–145
 microbiology, 129
 prevention, 129
 treatment of infection, 129
- Dog bite septicemia, 128–130
- Dog food, *Salmonella* contamination, 131
- Dog tick, 101–105, 241
- Dog-related illness, 127–152
 anaplasmosis, 128, 134
B. zoohelcum infections, 128
 bacterial infections, 130–135
 bartonellosis, 144
 blastomycosis, 128–129
 brucellosis, 128, 133–134
C. canimorsus infections, 128–130
 campylobacteriosis, 128, 130–131
 cat scratch disease, 128, 135
 cheyletiellosis, 128, 144
 cryptosporidiosis, 128, 135–136
Ctenophalides infections, 128
 cutaneous larva migrans, 45–46, 128, 138–139
 dermatophytosis, 128, 142–143
 dipylidiasis, 128, 142
 dirofilariasis, 128, 137–138
 echinococcosis, 128, 140–142
 ectoparasite-associated, 143–144
 ehrlichiosis, 128, 134
 etiology, 128
 gardening-associated, 113–114
 giardiasis, 128, 136–137
 isosporiasis, 128, 135–136
 leptospirosis, 128, 132–133
 Lyme disease, 128, 143
 measures to minimize, 144–145
 murine typhus, 237
 parasitic infections, 135–142
Pasteurella infections, 128–129
 practical tips, 145
 Q fever, 128, 130
 rabies, 128, 130, 251–268
 Rocky Mountain spotted fever, 143

- salmonellosis, 128, 131–132
 scabies, 128, 143–144
 staphylococcal infections, 128, 130
 streptococcal infections, 128, 135
 toxocarasis, 112, 128, 138–139
 trichuriasis, 128, 140
 tularemia, 128, 143
 urinary tract infections, 135
- Domoic acid, 3, 8–9
- Dormouse, 198
- Doxycycline, 297
- Duvenhage virus, 261
- Dwarf tapeworm, 203, 239–240, 243
- Ear infection
 sports-related illness, 284–285
 swimmer's ear, 46–47, 72, 284–285
Vibrio, 16, 22, 24, 30–31
- Ear piercing, 332, 336–340, 342
 flesh tunnels, 337
- Eastern equine encephalitis
 bird-related illness, 173, 183–184
 camping-related illness, 107
- Eastern pipistrelle bat, 255–256
- Ebola fever
 travel-related illness, 303
 food-related illness, 386
- Echinococcosis, dog-related illness, 128, 140–142
Echinococcus granulosus, 140–142
- Echinoderm envenomation, 44
- Echinostoma ilocanum*, 390
- Echovirus infection, associated with water and shellfish, 47
- Edwardsiella* infection
 aquarium fish fancier, 209, 211
 freshwater-related illness, 77
 reptile-related illness, 208
 soft tissue infections, 77
- Edwardsiella tarda*, 77, 208–209, 211
- Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, 100–102, 154
- Ehrlichia ewingii*, 154
- Ehrlichiosis
 camping-related illness, 100–102
 cat-related illness, 154
 dog-related illness, 128, 134
 gardening-related illness, 112–113
 human monocytic, 97, 100–102
- Eikenella corrodens*, 339
- Elephant rides, 373
- E-manifest, 363–364
- Encephalitis
 Acanthamoeba, 79
 granulomatous amoebic, 88
 viral, *see specific diseases*
- Encephalitozoon cuniculi* infection, rabbit-related illness, 195
- Encephalomyocarditis, rodent-related illness, 194, 199–200
- Endemic typhus, *see* Murine typhus
- Endocarditis
 body piercing-related illness, 340–341, 343
 cat-related illness, 155
 dog bite-related illness, 128, 130
 tattooing-related illness, 340, 343
- Entamoeba dispar*, 300
- Entamoeba histolytica* infection, travel-related illness, 299–300, 306
- Enteric fever, travel-related illness, 302–303
- Enteritis, fungal, 299
- Enterobacter aerogenes*, 46
- Enterobacter doacae*, 37
- Enterobacter intermedium*, histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
- Enterobius vermicularis*, 305
- Enterococcus*, vancomycin-resistant, 362
- Enterotoxin, *Vibrio*, 22–23, 28–29, 31
- Enterovirus infection
 associated with water and shellfish, 47
 CNS infections, 90–91
 freshwater-related illness, 90–91
 sports-related illness, 285
- Envenomation
 arthropod, 108
 marine invertebrates, 41–46
 marine vertebrates, 37–41
- Eosinophilia, in returned traveler, 305–306
- Epidemic typhus
 camping-related illness, 107
 rodent-related illness, 201
 travel-related illness, 303
 typhus vaccine, 296
- Epidermophyton* infection
 cat-related illness, 167
 dog-related illness, 142
- Epidermophyton floccosum*, 167
- Epstein-Barr virus infection, sports-related illness, 282–283
- Erysipelothrix* infection
 aquarium fish fancier, 209–210
 cat-related illness, 162–163
- Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*, 37, 162–163
- Erysipelothrix tonsillarum*, 163
- Erythema migrans, 98–100
- Erythrasma, sports-related illness, 280–281
- Escherichia coli* infection
 body piercing-related illness, 341
 cruise ship-related illness, 379
 dog-related illness, 135
 E. coli O157, 84–85, 368–372, 374, 396–397
 food-related illness, 396–397, 400
 freshwater-related illness, 70, 84–85, 284
 gastrointestinal infections, 84–85
 histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
 marine trauma, 37
 pelvic inflammatory disease, 318

- Escherichia coli* infection (continued)
 petting zoo-related illness, 368–372, 374
 swimmer's ear, 46
 travel-related illness, 298–299
 urinary tract infections, 135
- Eulaelaps stabularis*, 341
- European bat lyssavirus, 213, 261
- Eustrongylides* infection, food-related illness, 389
- Exotic cuisine, 385–408
- Exotic pets, 193–220
 practical tips, 214
- Expatriates, STDs, 316
- Eye infection
 amoebic keratitis, 79–80
 freshwater-related illness, 70, 78–80
P. aeruginosa keratitis, 80
 pharyngoconjunctival fever, 78–79
Vibrio, 24–25
- Eyebrow piercing, 332, 339
- Fansidar, 298
- Farm animals, 367–376
- Fasciola buski*, 390
- Fasciola hepatica*, 306
- Ferret(s), for rodent control, 221–222
- Ferretmeister, 222
- Ferret-related illness, 211–213
 campylobacteriosis, 211–212
 coccidioidomycosis, 212
 cryptosporidiosis, 211–212
 dermatophytosis, 211–212
 giardiasis, 211–212
 influenza, 211–212
 listeriosis, 211–212
 rabies, 211–212, 262, 264
 salmonellosis, 211–212
 SARS, 211–212
 tuberculosis, 211–212
- Field mole, 227
- Field vole, 199
- Filariasis, travel-related illness, 306
- Filobasidiella*, 188
- Fire coral, 41–44
- Fish
 aquarium, *see* Aquarium fish fancier
 raw, 306, 386–391
 “Fish allergy,” 14
 Fish fancier's finger, 32
 Fish poisoning, 1–15
 ciguatera, 1, 4, 10–13, 299
 ichthyosarcotoxic, 4
 paralytic, 2–7
 puffer fish, 1–2, 4, 9–10, 391
 scombroid, 1, 4, 13–15
 travel-related illness, 298–299
 “Fish roses,” 210
- Fish tank granuloma, 210
- Fish-related illness, 209–211, *see also* Aquarium fish
 fancier; Marine trauma
 envenomations, 37–41
M. marinum infections, 32–34
 mycobacterial infections, 206
S. iniae infections, 209–210
Vibrio infections, 16–32, 209, 211
- Fitness activities, *see* Sports-related illness
- Flea bite, 144
- Flea-borne disease
 camping-related illness, 107–108
 cat-related illness, 157
 dog-related illness, 143–144
 flea-borne spotted fever, 157
 murine typhus, 236–237
 plague, 154, 225–227
 rodent-associated, 240–241
 tularemia, 105
- Flea-borne spotted fever, 157
- Flying squirrels, 196, 201
- Fogging, 184
- Folliculitis
 hot tub, 281, 380
P. aeruginosa, 70–72
 sports-related illness, 280
- Food-related illness
 anisakiasis, 385–388
 cholera, 385, 391–392
 cruise ship-related illness, 378–379
 cysticercosis, 393
E. coli O157:H7, 396–397
 Ebola virus, 386
Eustrongylides infections, 389
 exotic and trendy cuisine, 385–408
 fish and shellfish intoxications, 1–15
 gnathostomiasis, 388–389
 hepatitis E, 200
 intestinal flukes, 390–391
 practical tips, 402
 raw fish and seafood, 386–391
 raw meat, 392–397
 salmonellosis, 385, 400
 SARS, 386
 sparganosis, 389
 tapeworm, 389–390
 toxoplasmosis, 397–401
 traveler's diarrhea, 400–402
 trichinosis, 394–396
 unpasteurized milk products, 400
- Footbath, 76
- Fox rabies, 253, 256, 259–261, 264
- Francisella tularensis*, 104–106, 165–166, 201
- Freshwater-related illness, 69–95
 CNS infections, 70, 87–91
 disseminated infections, 70, 85–87

- eye infections, 70, 78–80
- gastrointestinal infections, 70, 84–85
- pneumonia following near drowning, 82–84
- practical tips, 91
- pulmonary infections, 70, 81–84
- skin and soft tissue infections, 70–78
- urinary tract infections, 70, 81
- water sports-associated, 284–285
- Frog-related illness, *see* Amphibian-related illness
- Fugu poisoning, *see* Puffer fish poisoning
- Fugu-fugu, 9–10
- Fungal enteritis, 299
- “Fungus of many colors,” *see* *Tinea versicolor*
- Furunculosis
 - high-altitude travel, 353
 - M. fortuitum*, 76
 - sports-related illness, 280
- Fusobacterium* infection
 - body piercing-related illness, 339
 - cat bite, 165
- Fusobacterium canifelinum*, 165
- Fusobacterium necrophorum*, 339
- GAE, *see* Granulomatous amoebic encephalitis
- Gambian giant rat, 194, 198, 234
- Gambierdiscus toxicus*, 11
- Game meat, 394
- Gardening-related illness, 111–125
 - ascariasis, 118
 - babesiosis, 112
 - blastomycosis, 112, 114, 116–119
 - brucellosis, 114, 118
 - Campylobacter* infections, 114–115, 118
 - Capnocytophaga* infections, 114
 - cat scratch fever, 113–115, 118
 - coccidioidomycosis, 112
 - cryptococcosis, 114, 116–117
 - cryptosporidiosis, 114–115, 118
 - D. immitis*, 114–115, 118
 - dermatophyte infections, 114–115
 - diagnostic approach, 112–116
 - ehrlichiosis, 112–113
 - epidemiological considerations, 114
 - giardiasis, 114–115, 118
 - histoplasmosis, 112, 114–117, 124
 - hookworm, 111–115, 118, 121
 - Legionnaires’ disease, 111–116, 118, 121, 124
 - leptospirosis, 114–115, 118
 - Listeria* infections, 114
 - Lyme disease, 112–115, 118
 - lymphocytic choriomeningitis, 114, 118
 - M. pneumoniae* pneumonia, 113
 - nocardiosis, 114, 123–124
 - Pasteurella* infections, 114–115
 - plague, 112, 114–115, 118
 - practical tips, 124
 - psittacosis, 113, 115–116
 - Q fever, 113–116, 118
 - rabies, 114
 - rat-bite fever, 114
 - Rocky Mountain spotted fever, 114–118
 - salmonellosis, 114, 118
 - sporotrichosis, 112–114, 116, 124
 - streptococcal infections, 114–115, 118
 - strongyloidiasis, 111–113, 115, 118, 121–124
 - Toxocara* infections, 112
 - toxoplasmosis, 113–116, 118, 159
 - tularemia, 114–115, 118
- Gardnerella* infection, pelvic inflammatory disease, 318
- Gastrointestinal infection
 - air travel-related illness, 359
 - C. parvum*, 84
 - E. coli* O157:H7, 84–85
 - freshwater-related illness, 70, 84–85
 - giardiasis, 84, 284
 - high-altitude travel, 351–352
 - norovirus, 85
 - shigellosis, 84
- Gastropods, *see* Shellfish entries
- Gefilte fish, 390
- Geisha mouse, 227
- Genital herpes, 312, 320, 322–324, 326, 354
- Genital piercing, 336–338, 341
- Genital ulcer disease, 320–323
- Genital warts, 341
- Gerbil-related illness, 194, 196, 227, *see also*
 - Rodent-related illness
- Giardia lamblia*, 136–137
- Giardiasis
 - dog-related illness, 128, 136–137
 - ferret-related illness, 211–212
 - freshwater-related illness, 70, 84, 284
 - gardening-related illness, 114–115, 118
 - high-altitude travel, 351
 - travel-related illness, 299–300, 306
- Gnathostoma binucleatum*, 389
- Gnathostoma doloresi*, 388
- Gnathostoma hispidum*, 388
- Gnathostoma nipponicum*, 388
- Gnathostoma spinigerum*, 388
- Gnathostomiasis, food-related illness, 388–389
- Goats, 371–373
- Gonorrhea, 311–312, 315, 317–318, 323–324, 326, 354
- Gonyautoxin, 6
- Gordonia terrae*, 340
- Gram-negative bacteria
 - freshwater-related illness, 76–77, 83
 - pneumonia following near drowning, 83
 - soft tissue infections, 76–77
- Granuloma inguinale, 312

- Granulomatous amoebic encephalitis (GAE), 88
- Ground squirrel-related illness, 225
- Groundhog, *see* Woodchuck entries
- Guinea pig-related illness, 194, 196, 201–203, 241,
see also Rodent-related illness
- Gymmodinium breve*, *see* *Ptychodiscus brevis*
- Haemogamasus pontiger*, 341
- Haemolaelaps casalis*, 341
- Haemophilus* infection
- body piercing-related illness, 338
 - sports-related illness, 282
- Haemophilus aphrophilus*, 339
- Haemophilus ducreyi*, 321–322
- Haemophilus influenzae* type b vaccine, 296
- Hafnia alvei*, histamine production during fish
spoilage, 14
- Hamster-related illness, 194, 196–197, 200–204,
227, 230–232, *see also* Rodent-related illness
- Hand hygiene, 364–365, 369–372, 374
- Hand sanitizer, alcohol-based, 371–372
- Hantaan virus, 199
- Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, rodent-related
illness, 233–234
- Haverhill fever, 223
- Health care professionals
- on board cruise ships, 381
 - travel-associated STDs, 317
- Heartworm, dog, *see* *Dirofilariasis*
- Hedgehog-related illness, 204
- dermatophytosis, 204
 - leptospirosis, 227
 - mycobacterial infections, 204
 - salmonellosis, 204
- Helicobacter baculiformis*, 158
- Helicobacter bilis*, 158, 232
- Helicobacter bizzozeronii*, 158
- Helicobacter canis*, 158
- Helicobacter cinaedi*, 158, 231
- Helicobacter felis*, 158
- Helicobacter fennelliae*, 231
- “*Helicobacter heilmannii*,” 158, 232
- Helicobacter pylori*, 158, 232
- Helicobacteriosis
- cat-related illness, 158
 - rodent-related illness, 231–232
- Hemolysin, *Vibrio*, 22, 29–30
- Hemolytic-uremic syndrome, 368–371, 396–397
- Hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome (HFRS),
rodent-related illness, 194, 199, 232–233
- Hendra virus, 213
- HEPA filter, in commercial aircraft, 360, 364
- Hepatitis A
- associated with water and shellfish, 47–49
 - high-altitude travel, 352
 - immunoglobulin for protection from, 295
 - nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
 - sports-related illness, 285
 - travel-related illness, 303
- Hepatitis A vaccine, 294
- Hepatitis B
- body piercing-related illness, 338, 341
 - high-altitude travel, 352
 - sports-related illness, 277
 - STD, 312
 - tattooing-related illness, 333–334
 - travel-related illness, 303
- Hepatitis B vaccine, 294
- Hepatitis C
- body piercing-related illness, 338, 341
 - sports-related illness, 277
 - tattooing-related illness, 333–334
- Hepatitis E
- associated with water and shellfish, 50
 - cat-related illness, 167–168
 - food-related illness, 200
 - high-altitude travel, 352
 - rodent-related illness, 200
 - travel-related illness, 303
- Herpes B virus infection
- nonhuman primate-related illness, 213–214, 373
 - petting zoo-related illness, 373
- Herpes gladiatorum, 277–278
- Herpes labialis, 277–278
- Herpes progenitalis, 278
- Herpes rugbeiorum, 277–278
- Herpes simplex virus infection
- genital herpes, 312, 320, 322–324, 326, 354
 - sports-related illness, 277–278, 282
- Herpes venatorum, 277–278
- Herring worms, *see* Anisakiasis
- Heterophyes heterophyes*, 390
- HFRS, *see* Hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome
- High-altitude cerebral edema, 355
- High-altitude pulmonary edema, 351, 353, 355
- High-altitude travel, 349–357
- acute mountain sickness, 351, 353
 - arthropod-borne disease, 354–355
 - epidemiologic and physiologic factors modifying
infections, 349–351
 - gastrointestinal infections, 350–352
 - high-altitude cerebral edema, 355
 - high-altitude pulmonary edema, 351, 353, 355
 - immune response at high altitude, 350–351
 - neurological infections, 350, 352
 - practical tips, 355
 - respiratory infections, 350–353
 - skin infections, 350, 353
 - STDs, 354
 - urological and gynecological infections, 350
 - viral hepatitis, 352
- Histamine, 4, 14, 41–42
- Histoplasma capsulatum*, 116–117, 166, 186–187
- Histoplasmosis, 111

- bat-related illness, 116
- bird-related illness, 116, 173–174, 186–187
- cat-related illness, 166
- clinical spectrum, 119
- differential diagnosis, 120
- gardening-related illness, 112, 114–117, 124
- travel-related illness, 304
- HIV, *see* Human immunodeficiency virus infection
- HIV-infected patient, *see* Immunocompromised patient
- Hookworm
 - gardening-related illness, 111–115, 118, 121
 - high-altitude travel, 352
 - travel-related illness, 305, 307
- Hornet sting, 108
- Horse(s), 373
- Horsemeat, 395
- Hospital water system, 82
- Hot tub, 69–95, 280–281
- Hot tub folliculitis, 281, 380
- “Hot-foot” syndrome, 72
- HPV, *see* Human papillomavirus infection
- Hu39694 virus, 199
- Hubbard tank, 82
- Human diploid-cell rabies vaccine, 266–267
- Human granulocytic anaplasmosis, 97, 100–102
- Human herpesvirus 8, 312
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection
 - body piercing-related illness, 341
 - entry into human population, 386
 - food-related illness, 393, 398
 - high-altitude travel, 354
 - HIV-infected travelers, 314–315, 324–325
 - relationship between STDs and HIV, 323–324
 - sports-related illness, 275–277
 - tattooing-related illness, 334
 - transmission, 311–312
 - travel-related illness, 304–305
- Human monocytic ehrlichiosis, 97, 100–102
- Human papillomavirus infection
 - body piercing-related illness, 338, 342
 - sports-related illness, 278–279
 - STD, 312, 323
 - tattooing-related illness, 336
- Human papillomavirus vaccine, 323
- Human rabies immunoglobulin, 267
- Human T-lymphotropic virus type 1, 312
- Hydatid cyst, 140–142
- Hymenolepis diminuta*, *see* Rat tapeworm
- Hymenolepis nana*, *see* Dwarf tapeworm
- Hyperprolactinemia, 340
- Ichthyosarcotoxism, 4, 13–15
- Iguana-related illness, 205, 207–208, *see also*
 - Reptile-related illness
- IHR 2005, 363
- Illicit drug use, 312–314, 317
- Immune response, at high altitude, 350–351
- Immunizations, *see also specific vaccines*
 - childhood, 296
 - for travel outside United States, 294–296, 353
- Immunocompromised patient
 - bird-related illness, 189
 - cat-related illness, 153–154, 156–158, 160
 - dog-related illness, 136, 145
 - gardening-related illness, 111, 116, 119, 123
 - high-altitude travel, 354
- Immunoglobulin, for protection against hepatitis A, 295
- Impetigo, sports-related illness, 280
- Infectious mononucleosis, sports-related illness, 282–283
- Inflatables (water games), 71
- Influenza
 - air travel-related illness, 359, 361–364
 - avian, *see* Avian influenza
 - cruise ship-related illness, 380
 - ferret-related illness, 211–212
- Influenza vaccine, 295, 353, 380
- Insect repellent, 106–107, 182, 184–185
- Intercontinental flight, *see* Air travel-related illness
- International Health Regulations (IHR) (WHO), 363
- International travel, *see* Travel-related illness
- Intestinal fluke, food-related illness, 390–391
- Invertebrate(s), dermatitis from contact with, 44–46
- Invertebrate envenomation
 - arthropods, 108
 - coelenterates, 41–44
 - echinoderms, 44
 - marine life, 41–46
 - mollusks, 44–45
- Iron, utilization by *V. vulnificus*, 25
- Irukandji syndrome, 43
- Isopora belli*, 136
- Isosporiosis
 - dog-related illness, 128, 135–136
 - travel-related illness, 299, 301, 306
- Ixodes*, 101, 112
- Ixodes dammini*, 241
- Ixodes pacificus*, 98–100
- Ixodes scapularis*, 98–100, 241
- Jackal rabies, 261
- Japanese encephalitis
 - bird-related illness, 173, 190
 - high-altitude travel, 352
 - travel-related illness, 303
- Japanese encephalitis vaccine, 295
- Jellyfish, 41–44, 73
- Jock itch, *see* Tinea cruris
- Juquitiba virus, 199
- Kala-azar, 304
- Katayama syndrome, 305

- Keratitis
 amoebic, 79–80
P. aeruginosa, 80
- Klebsiella pneumoniae*
 histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
 swimmer's ear, 46
- Komodo dragon, 208
- Korean hemorrhagic fever, 199, 233
- Laboratory rat, 222–223, 229, 233
- Lagos bat lyssavirus, 213
- Lagos bat virus, 261
- Laguna Negra virus, 199
- Lake, *see* Freshwater-related illness
- Larva currens, 307
- Larva migrans
 cutaneous, 114–115, 128, 139–140, 162, 307
 ocular, 115, 139
 visceral, 113–115, 118, 138–139
- Larvicide, 184–185, 190
- Lassa fever, travel-related illness, 303
- Latrodectus mactans*, 108
- Lechiguanas virus, 199
- Leech bite, 76–77
- Legionella* infection
 freshwater-related illness, 81–83
 pneumonia, 81–83
 pulmonary infections, 81–83
 wound infections, 82
- Legionella dumoffii*, 82
- Legionella pneumophila*, 81–82
- Legionnaires' disease, 81–82
 cruise ship-related illness, 380
 diagnosis, 122
 gardening-related illness, 111–116, 118, 121, 124
- Leishmania donovani*, 307
- Leishmania infantum*, 157
- Leishmaniasis
 cat-related illness, 157
 cutaneous, 307
 visceral, 304
- Lemierre's disease, body piercing-related illness, 339
- Leprosy, tattooing-related illness, 335
- Leptosylla segnis*, 241
- Leptospira biflexa*, 85
- Leptospira interrogans*, 85, 132, 201–202, 227–228
- Leptospirosis
 differential diagnosis, 117
 disseminated infections, 85–86
 dog-related illness, 128, 132–133
 freshwater-related illness, 85–86, 284
 gardening-related illness, 114–115, 118
 hedgehog-related illness, 227
 high-altitude travel, 354
 rabbit-related illness, 227
 rodent-related illness, 201–202, 223, 227–228
 sports-related illness, 284
 travel-related illness, 304
- Linguatula serrata*, 209
- Lionfish, 38–39
- Lip piercing, 338–340
- Liponyssoides sanguineus*, 237, 241
- Listeriosis
 ferret-related illness, 211–212
 food-related illness, 400
 gardening-related illness, 114
 rabbit-related illness, 195
- Live-birthing exhibit, animal venue, 373
- Liver abscess, amoebic, 303, 352
- Liver fluke
 cat-related illness, 162
 travel-related illness, 306
- Lizard-related illness, 207–208, *see also* Reptile-related illness
- Loa loa*, 306
- Lone Star tick, 102–105
- Loofah sponge, 71
- Louse infestation
 high-altitude travel, 353
 travel-related illness, 307
- Louse-borne disease, camping-related illness, 107–108
- Loxosceles reclusa*, 108
- Ludwig's angina, body piercing-related illness, 339
- Lyme disease
 camping-related illness, 98–100
 clinical features, 112
 dog-related illness, 128, 143
 gardening-related illness, 112–115, 118
 travel-related illness, 304
- Lymphocytic choriomeningitis
 gardening-related illness, 114, 118
 rodent-related illness, 194, 196–198
- Lymphogranuloma venereum, 311–312, 315, 322
- Lysophosphatidylcholine, 11
- Macaque-related illness, 214
- Maitotoxin, 4, 11
- Malaria
 cruise ship-related illness, 381
 high-altitude travel, 354
 prophylaxis for travelers, 296–298, 307
 travel-related illness, 296–298, 301–302
- Malarone, 297
- Malassezia furfur*, 282
- Malassezia pachydermatis*, 142–143
- Maloprim, 298
- Mansonella perstans*, 306
- Marburg fever, travel-related illness, 303
- Marijuana use, 313
- Marine trauma, 34–37
 antimicrobial therapy for wounds, 37
 barracuda attack, 35–36
 microbiology of wounds, 36–37

- moray eel injury, 36
- shark attack, 34–35
- Mastitis, body piercing-related illness, 340
- Meadow vole, 233
- Measles
 - air travel-related illness, 359, 362
 - atypical, 117
 - mass spectator sporting events, 285
 - nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
- Measles-mumps-rubella vaccine, 296
- Meat, raw, 392–397
- Medical kit, individualized, for international travel, 293–294
- Mefloquine, 297
- Melioidosis
 - aquarium fish fancier, 210
 - travel-related illness, 304
- Meningitis
 - bacterial, 283, 352
 - coxsackievirus, 90–91
 - high-altitude travel, 352
 - meningococcal, 117, 283, 362
 - P. boydii*, 89–90
 - sports-related illness, 283
 - viral, 283
- Meningococcal disease, air travel-related illness, 362
- Meningococcal meningitis vaccine, 295
- Merchant marine personnel, STDs, 315–316
- Mesenteric adenitis, 202
- Mesocestoides* infection, reptile-related illness, 209
- Metagonimus yokogawai*, 390
- Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, *see* MRSA infection
- Methoprene, 184, 190
- Microsporium* infection
 - cat-related illness, 167
 - dog-related illness, 128, 142
 - reptile-related illness, 209
 - rodent-related infection, 203
- Microsporium canis*, 128, 142, 167
- Microsporium gypseum*, 203
- Microtus pennsylvanicus*, *see* Meadow vole
- Military personnel, STDs, 315–316
- Milk products, unpasteurized, 400
- Mite bite, 181–182
- Mite infestation
 - acarasis, 203
 - birds, 173–174, 181–182
 - Cheyletiella*, *see* Cheyletiellosis
- Mite-borne disease
 - camping-related illness, 107–108
 - dog-related illness, 143–144
 - rickettsialpox, 237–238
 - rodent-associated, 240–243
- Mokola virus, 261
- Molluscum contagiosum, sports-related illness, 278
- Mollusks, *see also* Shellfish entries
 - envenomations, 44–45
- Mongoose rabies, 253, 258, 260–261
- Monitor lizard, 207–208
- Monkeypox
 - prairie dog-related illness, 194, 196, 198, 234–235
 - rodent-related illness, 194, 196, 198, 234–236
- Monkey-related illness, *see* Nonhuman primate-related illness
- Monongahela virus, 199
- Moraxella* infection, cat bite, 165
- Moray eel injury, 36
- Morganella morganii*, histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
- Mosquito control, 184–185, 190
- Mosquito-borne disease
 - arbovirus, 183–186
 - camping-related illness, 97, 107–108
 - malaria, 298
 - sports-related illness, 285
 - tularemia, 105
- Mountain travel, diseases at high altitude, 349–357
- Mouse-related illness, 194, 196–204, 227, 231–232, *see also* Rodent-related illness
 - rickettsialpox, 237–238
- Mouth rot disease, snakes, 208
- MRSA infection
 - air travel-related illness, 362
 - cat-related illness, 166
 - cruise ship-related illness, 380
 - freshwater-related illness, 78
 - skin and soft tissue infections, 78
 - sports-related illness, 279
 - tattooing-related infections, 336
- Murine (endemic) typhus
 - camping-related illness, 107
 - cat-related illness, 157, 237
 - rodent-related illness, 236–237
 - travel-related illness, 303
- Murray Valley encephalitis, bird-related illness, 183–184
- Mycobacterial infection, nontuberculous
 - aquarium fish fancier, 206, 209–210
 - body piercing-related illness, 340
 - fish-related illness, 206
 - freshwater-related illness, 73–76, 82
 - hedgehog-related illness, 204
 - nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
 - skin and soft tissue infections, 73–76
 - tattooing-related illness, 334–335
- Mycobacterium abscessus*, 76, 340
- Mycobacterium avium* complex, 82, 204
- Mycobacterium bovis*, 400
- Mycobacterium chelonae*, 76
- Mycobacterium fortuitum*, 76, 210, 340
- Mycobacterium leprae*, 335
- Mycobacterium marinum* infection
 - aquarium fish fancier, 210

- Mycobacterium marinum* infection (continued)
 freshwater-related illness, 73–76
 hedgehog-related illness, 204
 marine trauma, 37
 skin and soft tissue infections, 73–76
 water-related illness, 32–34
 “*Mycobacterium platypocilus*,” 210
Mycobacterium tuberculosis, 334–335, 400
Mycobacterium tuberculosis BCG, 296
Mycobacterium ulcerans, 75–76
Mycoplasma infection, pneumonia, 119, 122
Mycoplasma pneumoniae infection
 gardening-related illness, 113
 pneumonia, 113
 Myiasis, cutaneous, 306–307
 Myonecrosis
Aeromonas, 77
E. tarda, 77
Naegleria infection, freshwater-related illness, 70, 87–89
Naegleria fowleri, 87–89
Nanophyetus salmincola, 390–391
 Navel piercing, 332, 336–338, 340–341
 Near drowning, pneumonia following, 82–84, 284
 aerobic gram-negative bacteria, 83
Aspergillus, 83
P. boydii, 83–84
S. pneumoniae, 83
Necator americanus, 45, 121
 Needlefish, 36
 Negri body, 264
Neisseria infection
 cat bite, 165
 piercing-related illness, 339
Neisseria gonorrhoeae, 317–318
 pelvic inflammatory disease, 318
Neisseria meningitidis, 283, 362
Neisseria mucosa, 339
 Nematocyst, 41–43
 Neotoxin, 6
 Nephropathia epidemica, 232–233
 Nervous tissue rabies vaccine, 266
 Neurocysticercosis, 393–394
 Neurotoxic shellfish poisoning, 3, 7–8
 Neurotoxin
 sea snake venom, 40
 sea urchin, 44
 Neurovisceral toxic syndrome, *see* Amnesic shellfish poisoning
 New York hantavirus, 234
 New York virus, 199
 Newcastle disease, bird-related illness, 173–176
 Nipah virus, 213
 Nipple piercing, 336–338, 340
Nitzschia pungens, 3, 8–9
Nocardia asteroides, 123
Nocardia brasiliensis, 123
Nocardia otitidiscaviarum, 123
 Nocardiosis, gardening-related illness, 114, 123–124
 Nongonococcal urethritis, 317–318
 Nonhuman primate-related illness, 213–214
 amoebiasis, 213
 balantidiosis, 213
 hepatitis A, 213
 herpes B virus infections, 213–214, 373
 measles, 213
 mycobacterial infections, 213
 rabies, 213–214
 salmonellosis, 213
 shigellosis, 213
 simian foamy virus infections, 214
 tuberculosis, 213
 Nonspecific fever
 camping-related illness, 98
 tick-borne disease, 98
 Norovirus infection
 cruise ship-related illness, 378–379
 gastrointestinal infections, 85
 Norwalk virus infection
 associated with water and shellfish, 49–50, 284
 travel-related illness, 299
 Norwalk-like virus, *see* Norovirus infection
 Norway rat, 200, 222, 227, 233, 236, 240
 Nose piercing, 337–340
Nosopsyllus fasciatus, 240–241
 Ocean, *see* Shore
 Octopus, 45
 Ocular infection, *see* Eye infection
 Ocular larva migrans, 115, 139
 Okadaic acid, 3, 15
 Olecranon bursitis, 78
Oligoryzomys microtis, *see* Pygmy rice rat
Onchocerca volvulus, 306
 Onchocerciasis, travel-related illness, 306
 Onychomycosis, 281
 Opisthorchiasis
 cat-related illness, 162
 travel-related illness, 306
Opisthorchis felineus, 162
Opisthorchis viverrini, 306
 Opossum-related illness
 murine typhus, 236–237
 tularemia, 104
 Oral piercing, 332, 338–339, 343
 Oran virus, 199
 Orf virus infection, petting zoo-related illness, 373
 Organ transplant recipient, rabies, 263–264
 Oriental rat flea, 225, 236, 240–241
 Ornamental fish, *see* Aquarium fish fancier
Ornithodoros, 241
Ornithonyssus bacoti, *see* Tropical rat mite
Ornithonyssus bacoti-associated dermatitis, rodent-related illness, 240–243

- Omnithonyssus bursa*, 181
Omnithonyssus sylvianum, 181
 Orthopoxvirus infection, cat-related illness, 165
Oryzomys palustris, *see* Rice rat
 Osteomyelitis, *Aeromonas*, 77
 Otitis externa, *see* Ear infection
 Otitis media, *see* Ear infection
- Pacific blue bottle, 41–44
 Palm civet, 212
 Palytoxin, 11
 PAM, *see* Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis
 Parainfluenza virus infection, sports-related illness, 283
 Paralytic fish poisoning, 2–7
 Paratyphoid fever, travel-related illness, 302–303
Pasteurella canis, 129, 164
Pasteurella dagmatis, 164
Pasteurella multocida, 114, 129, 163–164, 195, 200
Pasteurella pneumotropica, 200
Pasteurella stomatis, 164
 Pasteurellosis
 cat-related illness, 163–164
 dog-related illness, 128–129
 gardening-related illness, 114–115
 rabbit-related illness, 194–195
 rodent-related illness, 194, 200, 223
- Pediculosis, 312
 Pedicure, 76
 Pelvic inflammatory disease, 318–319
 Pentastomiasis, reptile-related illness, 208–209
Peptostreptococcus micros, 339
 Permethrin, 107–108, 298
Peromyscus leucopus, *see* White-footed mouse
Peromyscus maniculatus, *see* Deer mouse
 Pertussis vaccine, 353
 Pets, *see also specific animals*
 exotic, 193–220
- Petting zoo-related illness, 367–376
 allergies, 368
 animal bites, 368
 aquatic “touch tanks,” 373–374
 campylobacteriosis, 368–369, 371
 cryptosporidiosis, 368–371
 E. coli infections, 368–372, 374
 enteric pathogens, 368–372
 herpes B virus infections, 373
 injury, 368
 orf virus infections, 373
 practical tips, 374
 psittacosis, 373
 Q fever, 373
 rabies, 372–373
 reducing risk, 374
 salmonellosis, 368–369, 371, 374
 tuberculosis, 373
 zoonotic disease transmission, 368–374
- Pfiesteria piscicida*, 15
 Pharyngoconjunctival fever, 78–79
Phlebotomus, *see* Sand fly
Physalia, *see* Portuguese man-of-war
 Piercing gun, 338, 342
 Pinworms, travel-related illness, 305
 Pitted keratolysis, sports-related illness, 281
 Plague
 bubonic, 226
 cat-related illness, 154, 226
 gardening-related illness, 112, 114–115, 118
 pneumonic, 226
 prairie dog-related illness, 194–195, 201, 225
 rodent-related illness, 201, 221, 225–227
- Plague vaccine, 226–227, 295
 Plant(s), gardening-related illness, 111–125
 Plantar warts, 279
Plasmodium falciparum, 296–297, 301–302
Plasmodium malariae, 301–302
Plasmodium ovale, 297, 301–302
Plasmodium vivax, 297, 301–302
Plesiomonas infection, reptile-related illness, 208
Plesiomonas shigelloides, 208
 histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
 Pneumococcal vaccine, 295, 353
 Pneumonia
 Aeromonas, 83
 Aspergillus, 83
 atypical, 122
 B. pseudomallei, 83
 Legionella, 81–83
 Mycoplasma, 119, 122
 following near drowning, 82–84, 284
 P. aeruginosa, 82
 P. boydii, 83–84, 89
 S. pneumoniae, 83
 “Pocket pets,” 222
 Polar bear meat, 395
 Polio vaccine, 295
 Poliovirus infection, associated with water and shellfish, 47
 Pond, *see* Freshwater-related illness
 Pontiac fever, 81–82, 119
 Pork tapeworm, 392–393
Porphyromonas infection, cat bite, 165
 Portuguese man-of-war, 41–44
 “Possible estuary-associated syndrome,” 15
 Poultry, 372
 Prairie dog-related illness
 monkeypox, 194, 196, 198, 234–235
 plague, 194–195, 201, 225
 tick-borne relapsing fever, 228
 tularemia, 195, 201
- Pregnancy, toxoplasmosis during, 398
Prevotella melaninogenica, 340
 Primaquine, 297
 Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis (PAM), 87–89

- Proocentrum lima*, 11
 Prospect Hill virus, 233
 Protective clothing, 107–108, 184
Proteus infection, 46–47
Proteus vulgaris, 46
Protogonyaulax catenella, 6
Protogonyaulax tamarensis, 6
Prototheca infection
 freshwater-related illness, 78
 skin and soft tissue infections, 78
Prototheca wickerhamii, 78
Prototheca zopfii, 78
Providencia stuartii, 37
Pseudoallescheria boydii infection
 CNS infections, 89–90
 freshwater-related illness, 83–84, 89–90
 pneumonia, 89
 following near drowning, 83–84
 Pseudoappendicitis, 202
Pseudomonas infection
 body piercing-related illness, 337–338
 cruise ship-related illness, 380
 swimmer's ear, 46–47
 tattooing-related illness, 333
Pseudomonas aeruginosa infection, 26, 37
 dermatitis/folliculitis, 70–72
 freshwater-related illness, 70–72, 80–82
 “hot-foot” syndrome, 72
 keratitis, 80
 pneumonia, 82
 sports-related illness, 281, 284
 swimmer's ear, 72
 tattooing-related illness, 333
 urinary tract infections, 81
Pseudomonas putrefaciens, 35
Pseudoterranova decipiens, 386–387
 Psittacosis
 bird-related illness, 173–175, 373
 diagnosis, 122
 gardening-related illness, 113, 115–116
 petting zoo-related illness, 373
Ptychodiscus brevis, 7
 Puffer fish poisoning, 1–2, 4, 9–10, 391
Pulex, 144
 Pulmonary infection
 freshwater-related illness, 70, 81–84
 Legionella, 81–82
 nontuberculous mycobacteria, 82
 Purified chick embryo cell rabies vaccine, 266–267
 Purified duck embryo rabies vaccine, 266
 Purified Vero cell rabies vaccine, 266
 Puumala virus, 199, 233
 Pygmy rice rat, 234
 Pyoderma, high-altitude travel, 353
 Pyrethrin, 355
Pyrodictum bahamense, 6
 Q fever
 cat-related illness, 154
 diagnosis, 122
 dog-related illness, 128, 130
 gardening-related illness, 113–116, 118
 petting zoo-related illness, 373
 Quarantine station programs, 363–364
 Rabbit fever, *see* Tularemia
 Rabbit fur mite, 194–196
 Rabbit-related illness, 193–196
 B. procyonis infections, 195
 cheyletiellosis, 194–196
 dermatophytosis, 194–196
 E. cuniculi infections, 195
 gardening-associated, 113–114
 leptospirosis, 227
 listeriosis, 195
 pasteurellosis, 194–195
 rabies, 195
 salmonellosis, 194–195
 tuberculosis, 195
 tularemia, 104–106, 195
 yersiniosis, 195
 Rabies, 251–273
 bat-related illness, 213
 cat-related illness, 162, 253, 260–262, 264, 267
 dog-related illness, 128, 130, 251–268
 domestic animals, 251, 253, 260–261
 education and pet vaccinations, 262–263
 epidemiology
 in United States, 252–261
 outside United States, 261
 ferret-related illness, 211–212, 262, 264
 gardening-related illness, 114
 high-altitude travel, 352
 human exposure
 animals involved, 284–285
 bite and nonbite types, 263–264
 evaluation of possible exposures, 263
 postexposure prophylaxis, 252, 263–264
 postexposure treatment, 265–267
 preexposure vaccination, 267–268
 wound cleansing, 266
 nonhuman primate-related illness, 213–214
 petting zoo-related illness, 372–373
 practical tips, 268
 prevention, 261–268
 rabbit-related illness, 195
 rodent-related illness, 199, 236, 260
 sea lion bite, 36
 travel-related illness, 252, 261–264, 268
 wild animals, 251–260, 262, 268
 Rabies immunoglobulin, 265–268
 Rabies vaccine, 260, 265–268, 295–296
 Raccoon dog, 212
 Raccoon dog rabies, 261
 Raccoon rabies, 236, 252–260, 264–265, 267

- Raccoon-related illness, tularemia, 104
- Rat bite, 221–224
- Rat-bite fever, 194, 200–201, 223–225, 243
 clinical signs, 224
 gardening-related, 114
 spirillary, 201, 223–224
 streptobacillary, 201, 223–224
- Rat control, 221–222
- Rat flea, 107, 157, 221
- Rat lungworm, 238–239, 388
- Rat tapeworm, 203, 240
- “Rat viruses,” 222
- Rat-related illness, 114, 194, 196–204, 214, 221–
 250, *see also* Rodent-related illness
- Rattus norvegicus*, *see* Norway rat
- Rattus rattus*, *see* Black roof rat
- Recreational water illness
 freshwater, 69–95
 seashore, 1–68
- Red tide, 2, 7–8
- Red-eared turtle, 206
- Reptile-related illness, 205–209
 bacterial, 205–208
 campylobacteriosis, 208
 cryptosporidiosis, 209
 dermatophytosis, 209
Edwardsiella infections, 208
 fungal, 209
Mesocostoides infections, 209
 parasitic, 208–209
 pentastomiasis, 208–209
Plesiomonas infections, 208
 practical tips, 214
S. marcescens cellulitis, 208
 salmonellosis, 205–208, 230
 yersiniosis, 206
- Respiratory syncytial virus infection, sports-related
 illness, 283
- Rhinovirus infection, sports-related illness, 283
- Rice rat, 234
- Rickettsia akari*, 237
- Rickettsia felis*, 157, 237
- Rickettsia prowazekii*, 107, 201
- Rickettsia rickettsii*, 102, 128
- Rickettsia typhi*, 107, 157, 236–237
- Rickettsialpox
 camping-related illness, 107–108
 rodent-related illness, 237–238
- Ringworm, *see also* Dermatophytosis
 cat-related illness, 167
 dog-related illness, 128, 142–143
 hedgehog-related illness, 204
 rabbit-related illness, 196
 rodent-related illness, 203
 sports-related illness, 281–282
- River, *see* Freshwater-related illness
- Rock squirrels, 225
- Rocky Mountain spotted fever
 camping-related illness, 101–104
 differential diagnosis, 117
 dog-related illness, 143
 gardening-related illness, 114–118
- Rodent bite, 200–201
- Rodent-related illness, 193–204
 acariasis, 194, 203, 241
 arthropod infestations, 240–243
 bacterial, 200–203, 223–232
 campylobacteriosis, 194, 202–203, 231
 cestodiasis, 203
 cowpox, 198–199, 214
 dermatophytosis, 194, 203–204, 238
 dwarf tapeworm, 203, 239–240, 243
 encephalomyocarditis, 194, 199–200
 epidemic typhus, 201
 fungal, 203–204, 238
 gardening-associated, 114
 hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, 233–234
 helicobacteriosis, 231–232
 hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome, 194, 199,
 232–233
 hepatitis E, 200
 leptospirosis, 201–202, 223, 227–228
 lymphocytic choriomeningitis, 194, 196–198
 monkeypox, 194, 196, 198, 234–236
 murine typhus, 236–237
 nephropathia epidemica, 232–233
O. bacoti-associated dermatitis, 240–243
 parasitic, 203
 pasteurellosis, 194, 200, 223
 plague, 201, 221, 225–227
 practical tips, 243
 rabies, 199, 236, 260
 rat-bite fever, 194, 200–201, 223–225, 243
 rat lungworm, 238–239
 rat tapeworm, 240
 rickettsial, 236–238
 rickettsialpox, 237–238
 roundworm, 238–239
 salmonellosis, 194, 196, 202, 229–231
 sporotrichosis, 204
 staphylococcal infections, 223, 232
 streptococcal infections, 232
 taeniasis, 194, 203
 tapeworms, 239–240
 tick-borne relapsing fever, 228–229, 243
 tularemia, 104, 201
 viral, 197–200, 232–236
 yersiniosis, 194, 202, 227
- Rope squirrel, 198
- Rotavirus infection
 associated with water and shellfish, 51
 travel-related illness, 299
- Roundworms, rodent-related illness, 238–239
- Rubella, cruise ship-related illness, 380

- Russian spring–summer encephalitis, bird-related illness, 183–184
- Safer sex education, 324
- St. Louis encephalitis
bird-related illness, 173, 183–184
camping-related illness, 107
- Saksenaeca vasiformis*, 336
- Salmonella bongori*, 229
- Salmonella choleraesuis*, 229
- Salmonella enterica* infection, marine trauma, 37
- Salmonella enterica* serovar Enteritidis, 202, 229
- Salmonella enterica* serovar Paratyphi, 303
- Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi, 229, 303, 379
- Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium, 161, 182, 202, 229–230, 369
- Salmonellosis
amphibian-related illness, 205–208
bird-related illness, 173–174, 182–183, 190
cat-related illness, 160–161
cruise ship-related illness, 379
dog-related illness, 128, 131–132
ferret-related illness, 211–212
food-related illness, 385, 400
gardening-related illness, 114, 118
hedgehog-related illness, 204
nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
petting zoo-related illness, 368–369, 371, 374
rabbit-related illness, 194–195
reptile-related illness, 205–208, 230
rodent-related illness, 194, 196, 202, 229–231
travel-related illness, 299
- Samoan tattooing, 332–333
- Sand flea, 307
- Sand fly, 354
- Sandworm, 45
- Sarcoptes scabiei*, 128, 143–144, 167, 241
- SARS
air travel-related illness, 359–364
ferret-related illness, 211–212
food-related illness, 386
- Sashimi, 386
- Saxitoxin, 2–3, 6
- Scabies
camping-related illness, 107–108
cat-related illness, 167
dog-related illness, 128, 143–144
high-altitude travel, 353
STD, 312
travel-related illness, 307
- Scaritoxin, 11
- Schistosoma hematobium*, 73, 305
- Schistosoma intercalatum*, 305
- Schistosoma japonicum*, 305
- Schistosoma mansoni*, 73, 305
- Schistosoma mekongi*, 305
- Schistosome dermatitis, 45–46, 72–73, 284
- Schistosomiasis, travel-related illness, 305–306
- Sclerokeratitis, *Acanthamoeba*, 80
- Scombroid–fish poisoning, 1, 4, 13–15
- Scorpion bite, 108
- Scorpion fish, 38–39
- Scrub typhus
camping-related illness, 107–108
travel-related illness, 303
- Scruppox, 277–278
- Sculpin, 38–39
- Sea anemone, 41–44
- Sea bather's eruption, 73
- Sea cat, 40–41
- Sea dragon, 40–41
- Sea lion bite, 36
- Sea snake, 39–40
- Sea urchin, 44
- Sea wasp, 42–44
- Seafood, *see* Fish and Shellfish entries
- Seoul virus, 199
- Serratia*, histamine production during fish spoilage, 14
- Serratia fonticola*, 14
- Serratia marcescens*, 14
cellulitis, reptile-related illness, 208
- Serratia plymuthica*, 14
- Seven-year itch, 167
- Severe acute respiratory syndrome, *see* SARS
- Sexually transmitted disease (STD), 311–330, *see also*
specific diseases
body piercing-related illness, 342
clinical aspects, 317–323
covariates, 312–313
definition, 312
HIV-positive individuals, 315
management after exposure, 326–327
practical tips, 327
prevention, 324
issues specific to women, 324
strategy, 325–326
travel by HIV-infected individuals, 324–325
relationship between STDs and HIV, 323–324
travel-associated, 307, 311–330
commercial sex workers, 312–314, 316–317, 324, 326
expatriates, 316
high-altitude travel, 354
HIV-infected travelers, 314–315, 324–325
military and merchant marine personnel, 315–316
occupational travel and exposure, 316
travel for health professionals, 317
travel-related illness, 307, 311–330
typology of sexual risk and traveler, 325
- Shark attack, 32, 34–35
- Sheep, 371–373
- Shellfish poisoning, 1–15

- amnesic, 3, 8–9
- diarrheic, 3, 15
- dinoflagellates and red tides, 2
- neurotoxic, 3, 7–8
- paralytic, 2–7
- travel-related illness, 298–299
- Shellfish-related illness
 - raw shellfish, 386–391
 - Vibrio* infections, 16–32
 - viral disease, 47–51
- Shiga-like toxin, *Vibrio*, 22
- Shigellosis
 - cruise ship-related illness, 379
 - freshwater-related illness, 70, 84
 - gastrointestinal infections, 84
 - nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
 - travel-related illness, 299, 401
- Shore
 - fish and shellfish intoxications, 1–15
 - invertebrate envenomations, 41–46
 - M. marinum* infections, 32–34
 - marine trauma, 34–37
 - P. piscicida* infections, 15
 - practical tips, 51
 - swimmer's ear, 46–47
 - vertebrate envenomations, 37–41
 - Vibrio* infections, 16–32
 - viral diseases associated with water and shellfish, 47–51
 - viral hepatitis, 47–51
- Shrew, 238
- Siderophore, *V. vulnificus*, 25
- Sigmodon hispidus*, see Cotton rat
- Silver-haired bat, 253, 256
- Simian foamy virus infection, 214
- Sin Nombre virus, 199, 233–234
- Sindbis virus, 183–184
- Skin infection, see also specific diseases
 - freshwater-related illness, 70–78
 - M. marinum*, 32–34
 - MRSA, 78, 279
 - nontuberculous mycobacteria, 73–76
 - sports-related illness, 276–282
 - travel-related illness, 306–307
- Skunk rabies, 236, 252–253, 256, 258–259, 261–262, 264, 267
- Small round virus infection, associated with water and shellfish, 51
- Smallpox, air travel-related illness, 359
- Smallpox vaccine, 294
- Snake, sea, 39–40
- Snake-related illness, 206, 208–209, 230, see also Reptile-related illness
- Snow Mountain agent, 50
- Sudoku, 223
- Soft contact lens, 79–80
- Soft coral, 41–44
- Soft tissue infection
 - freshwater-related illness, 70–78
 - gram-negative bacilli, 76–77
 - nontuberculous mycobacteria, 73–76
- Soil
 - gardening-related illness, 111–125
 - histoplasmosis, 166, 186
- Spa, 69–95, 380
- Sparganosis, food-related illness, 389
- Sphagnum moss, 112–113
- Spider, poisonous, 108
- Spirillosis, 223
- Spirillum minus*, 200–201, 223
- Sporothrix schenckii*, 116, 165, 204, 336
- Sporotrichosis
 - cat-related illness, 165
 - gardening-related illness, 112–114, 116, 124
 - rodent-related illness, 204
 - tattooing-related illness, 336
- Sports-related illness, 275–292
 - adenovirus infections, 282
 - airborne transmission, 275, 285
 - blood-borne transmission, 275–277
 - common-source transmission, 275, 285
 - conjunctivitis, 282
 - direct-contact transmission, 275
 - droplet transmission, 275
 - enterovirus infections, 285
 - erythrasma, 280–281
 - folliculitis, 280
 - furunculosis, 280
 - herpes simplex virus infections, 277–278, 282
 - HIV infections, 275–277
 - hot tub folliculitis, 281
 - HPV warts, 278–279
 - impetigo, 280
 - indirect-contact transmission, 275
 - infectious mononucleosis, 282–283
 - leptospirosis, 284
 - meningitis, 283
 - molluscum contagiosum, 278
 - nonskin infectious syndromes, 276, 282–284
 - otitis externa, 284–285
 - pitted keratolysis, 281
 - practical tips, 286
 - skin infections
 - bacterial, 276, 279–280
 - fungus, 276, 281–282
 - viral, 276–279
 - staphylococcal infections, 279–280
 - streptococcal infections, 280
 - upper respiratory tract infections, 283–284
 - vector-borne transmission, 275, 285
 - viral hepatitis, 277, 285
 - water sports-associated, 284–285
- Spray park, 84
- Squirrel monkey, 213

- Squirrel-related illness, 194, 198–201, 227–228, *see*
also Rodent-related illness
- Stang, 40–41
- Staphylococcal infection
 body piercing-related illness, 337–342
 cruise ship-related illness, 379–380
 dog-related illness, 128, 130
 marine trauma, 35, 37
 rodent-related illness, 223, 232
 sports-related illness, 279–280
 swimmer's ear, 46–47
- Staphylococcal infection (*continued*)
 tattooing-related illness, 333, 336, 342
 travel-related illness, 299
- Staphylococcus albus*, 46
- Staphylococcus aureus* infection
 body piercing-related illness, 337–339
 cat-related illness, 166
 dog-related illness, 128
 food-related illness, 385, 400
 freshwater-related illness, 78
 marine trauma, 37
 MRSA infections, 78, 166, 279, 336, 362, 380
 rodent-related illness, 232
 skin and soft tissue infections, 78
 sports-related illness, 279–280, 282
 swimmer's ear, 46–47
 tattooing-related illness, 333, 336
 travel-related illness, 299
- Staphylococcus epidermidis*, 46–47, 282
- Starfish, 44
- STD, *see* Sexually transmitted disease
- Steak tartare, 397–400
- Stellantchasmus falcatus*, 391
- Stinger removal, 108
- Stingray, 37–38
- Stinky foot, 281
- Stonefish, 38–39
- Stream, *see* Freshwater-related illness
- Streptobacillus moniliformis*, 200–201, 223
- Streptococcal infection
 body piercing-related illness, 337–342
 dog-related illness, 128, 135
 gardening-related illness, 114–115, 118
 high-altitude travel, 353
 marine trauma, 37
 pelvic inflammatory disease, 318
 rodent-related illness, 232
 sports-related illness, 280
 swimmer's ear, 46–47
 tattooing-related illness, 333, 342
- Streptococcus canis*, 135
- Streptococcus iniae* infection, fish-related illness, 209–
 210
- Streptococcus pneumoniae* infection
 freshwater-related illness, 83
 pneumonia following near drowning, 83
 rodent-related illness, 232
 sports-related illness, 283
- Streptococcus pyogenes*, 135, 280, 333
- Streptococcus equi* subsp. *zooepidemicus*, 400
- Striped field mouse, 233
- Striped mouse, 198
- Strongyloides stercoralis*, 121–123, 301, 305, 307
- Strongyloidiasis
 gardening-related illness, 111–113, 115, 118,
 121–124
 travel-related illness, 301, 305, 307
- Sunscreen, 353, 355
- Surface piercings, 336
- Sushi, 385–386, 389
- Swimmer's ear, 46–47, 72, 284–285
- Swimmer's itch, 45–46, 72–73, 284
- Swimming, 284–285
- Swimming pool, 69–95, 281
M. marinum infections, 32–34
 viral hepatitis, 48
- Swimming pool conjunctivitis, 78–79
- Swimming pool granuloma, 32, 210
- Syphilis, 311–312, 315, 320–321, 323, 326, 335–
 336
- Taenia saginata*, 392
- Taenia solium*, 392–393
- Taeniasis
 food-related illness, 392–393
 rodent-related illness, 194, 203
- Tapeworm
 food-related illness, 389–390
 high-altitude travel, 352
 rodent-related illness, 203, 239–240
- Tattooing
 aftercare, 332–333, 342
 general infectious complications, 333
 history, 332
 locations on body, 331–332
 prevalence, 331–332
 techniques, 332
- Tattooing-related illness, 331–336
 atypical mycobacterial infections, 334–335
 candidiasis, 333
 due to endogenous flora, 333
 due to exogenous flora, 333–336
 endocarditis, 340, 343
 HIV infection, 334
 human papillomavirus infections, 336
 leprosy, 335
 MRSA infections, 336
 practical tips, 344
 precautions for special populations, 343
 prevention, 342
Pseudomonas infections, 333
 sporotrichosis, 336
 staphylococcal infections, 333, 336, 342

- streptococcal infections, 333, 342
- syphilis, 335–336
- tetanus, 333
- treatment of infections, 342–343
- tuberculosis, 334–335
- vaccinia, 336
- viral hepatitis, 333–334
- Tetanus
 - body piercing-related illness, 338–339, 341
 - high-altitude travel, 353
 - tattooing-related illness, 333
- Tetanus vaccine, 353
- Tetradotoxin, 4, 9–10, 391
- Thimble jellyfish, 73
- Thorn (plant), 112–113
- Threadworm, *see* Strongyloidiasis
- Tick(s), removal, 107–108
- Tick typhus, travel-related illness, 303, 307
- Tick-borne disease
 - arbovirus, 183–184
 - camping-related illness, 97–107
 - dog-related illness, 143
 - ehrlichiosis, 100–102, 154
 - high-altitude travel, 352
 - Lyme disease, 98–100
 - nonspecific fever, 98
 - prevention, 107–108
 - Q fever, 154
 - Rocky Mountain spotted fever, 102–104
 - rodent-associated, 241
 - sports-related illness, 285
 - tularemia, 104–106
- Tick-borne relapsing fever
 - prairie dog-related illness, 228
 - rodent-related illness, 228–229, 243
- Tinea
 - rabbit-related illness, 196
 - rodent-related illness, 203–204
 - sports-related illness, 281–282
 - travel-related illness, 306
- Tinea capitis, cat-related illness, 167
- Tinea corporis, 196, 281–282
- Tinea corporis gladiatorum, 196, 281
- Tinea cruris, 281–282, 306
- Tinea favus, 203–204
- Tinea pedis, 281–282, 306
- Tinea versicolor, 281–282, 306
- Tongue piercing, 337–340
- Tortoise-related illness, 209
- “Touch tank,” 373–374
- Tourist, *see* Travel-related illness
- Toxic-sock syndrome, 281
- Toxocara canis*, 138–139
- Toxocara cati*, 161–162
- Toxocariasis
 - cat-related illness, 112, 161–162
 - dog-related illness, 112, 128, 138–139
 - gardening-related illness, 112
- Toxoplasma gondii*, 159, 282–283, 397–401
- Toxoplasmosis
 - cat-related illness, 159–160
 - food-related illness, 397–401
 - gardening-related illness, 113–116, 118, 159
 - sports-related illness, 282–283
 - steak tartare and, 397–401
 - therapy, 401
- Trauma, marine, *see* Marine trauma
- Travel
 - immunizations, 294–296
 - individualized medical kit, 293–294
 - malaria prophylaxis, 296–298, 307
 - pretravel advice, 293–298
 - routine posttravel screening, 307–308
- Travel medicine, 293–310
- Traveler’s diarrhea, 298–299, 307, 400–402
 - prevention, 298
- Travel-related illness, 293–310, *see also* Food-related illness
 - African trypanosomiasis, 304
 - air travel, 359–366
 - amebic liver abscess, 303
 - American trypanosomiasis, 304
 - anthrax, 304
 - brucellosis, 304
 - cruise ship-related illness, 377–383
 - cutaneous leishmaniasis, 307
 - cutaneous myiasis, 306–307
 - E. coli* infections, 298–299
 - enteric fever, 302–303
 - eosinophilia in returned traveler, 305–306
 - epidemiology, 313–315
 - fever in returned traveler, 301–306
 - filariasis, 306
 - fish and shellfish toxins, 299
 - gastrointestinal, 298–301
 - bacterial infections, 299
 - fungal enteritis, 299
 - parasites, 299–300
 - viral infections, 299
 - helminth infections, 305
 - high-altitude travel, 349–357
 - histoplasmosis, 304
 - HIV infection, 304–305
 - HIV-infected travelers, 314–315, 324–325
 - intestinal protozoa, 306
 - leptospirosis, 304
 - liver flukes, 306
 - Lyme disease, 304
 - malaria, 296–298, 301–302
 - meliodosis, 304
 - posttravel management, 298–307
 - practical tips, 307–308
 - rabies, 252, 261–264, 268
 - rickettsial infections, 303

- Travel-related illness (*continued*)
- S. stercoralis* infections, 305, 307
 - schistosomiasis, 305–306
 - skin disorders, 306–307
 - STDs, 307, 311–330
 - traveler's diarrhea, 298–299, 307, 400–402
 - tuberculosis, 304
 - viral fevers, 303
 - viral hepatitis, 303
 - visceral leishmaniasis, 304
- Tree squirrel, 198
- Trendy cuisine, 385–408
- Treponema pallidum*, 320–321, 335–336
- Trichinella nativa*, 395
- Trichinella spiralis*, 379, 394–396
- Trichinosis, food-related illness, 394–396
- Trichomonas vaginalis*, 319–320
- Trichomoniasis, 312, 319–320, 326, 354
- Trichophyton*, 142, 167, 209
- Trichophyton erinacei*, 204
- Trichophyton mentagrophytes*, 196, 203–204, 238, 281
- Trichophyton quinckeanum*, 238
- Trichophyton rubrum*, 281–282
- Trichophyton tonsurans*, 282
- Trichostrongylus*, 305
- Trichuriasis
- dog-related illness, 128, 140
 - travel-related illness, 305
- Trichuris trichiura*, 305
- Trichuris vulpis*, 128, 140
- Trixacarus caviae*, 203
- Tropical rat mite, 240–243
- Tropical sprue, 301
- Trypanosomiasis
- African, 304
 - American, 304
- Tuberculosis
- air travel-related illness, 359–361
 - body piercing-related illness, 342
 - cutaneous, 334–335
 - differential diagnosis, 120
 - ferret-related illness, 211–212
 - high-altitude travel, 351–353
 - nonhuman primate-related illness, 213
 - petting zoo-related illness, 373
 - rabbit-related illness, 195
 - tattooing-related illness, 334–335
 - travel-related illness, 304
- Tuberculosis vaccine, 296
- Tularemia
- camping-related illness, 97, 104–107
 - cat-related illness, 165–166
 - diagnosis, 122
 - dog-related illness, 128, 143
 - gardening-related illness, 114–115, 118
 - glandular, 105
 - oculoglandular, 105–106
 - oropharyngeal, 105
 - pneumonic, 105–106
 - prairie dog-related illness, 195, 201
 - rabbit-related illness, 104–106, 195
 - rodent-related illness, 201
 - typhoidal, 105–106
 - ulceroglandular, 105–106, 166
- Tumbu fly, 306
- Tunga penetrans*, *see* Sand flea
- Turista, *see* Traveler's diarrhea
- Turtle-related illness, 205, 208, *see also* Reptile-related illness
- Typhoid fever
- high-altitude travel, 351–352
 - travel-related illness, 302–303
- Typhoid vaccine, 296
- Typhus, *see also specific types of typhus*
- high-altitude travel, 354
- Typhus vaccine, 296
- Ulcer, cutaneous, 307
- Uncomplicated pseudoappendicular syndrome, 202
- Upper respiratory tract infection
- air travel-related illness, 359
 - sports-related illness, 283–284
- Urbanization, 312
- Urinary tract infection
- dog-related illness, 135
 - freshwater-related illness, 70, 81
 - P. aeruginosa*, 81
- Uvula piercing, 339
- Vaccinia, tattooing-related infections, 336
- Vaginal discharge syndrome, 319
- Vaginal infection, 319–320
- Vaginal microbicide, 324
- Vaginosis, bacterial, 312, 319–320, 326
- Vampire bat, 261
- Varicella vaccine, 296, 353
- Veillonella* infection, pelvic inflammatory disease, 318
- Venezuelan encephalitis, 107
- Ventilation, aircraft cabin, 360
- Verrucae, sports-related illness, 278–279
- Vertebrate envenomation
- catfish, 41
 - marine life, 37–41
 - scorpion fish, 38–39
 - sea snake, 39–40
 - stingray, 37–38
 - weeverfish, 40–41
- Vessel Sanitation Program, 377–378
- Vibrio*, tetrodotoxin production, 391
- Vibrio* infection
- clinical presentations, 16
 - cruise ship-related illness, 379
 - fish-related illness, 209, 211
 - freshwater-related illness, 77

- halophilic species, 16
- marine trauma, 35–37
- nonhalophilic species, 16
- skin and soft tissue infections, 77
- travel-related illness, 299
- water-related illness, 16–32
- Vibrio alginolyticus*, 16–17, 30–31, 35–36
- Vibrio carchariae*, 31–32
- Vibrio cholerae*, 16–21, 391–392
 - non-O1, 17–18, 21–22
 - O1, 16, 19
- Vibrio cincinnatiensis*, 31
- Vibrio damsela*, 16, 30, 209, 211
- Vibrio fluvialis*, 16, 22, 28–29, 35
- Vibrio furnissii*, 16, 31
- Vibrio hollisae*, 16, 29–30
- Vibrio metschnikovii*, 16, 31
- Vibrio mimicus*, 16–17, 22, 27–28
- Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, 16–17, 22–24, 35
 - Kanagawa positive, 23–24
- Vibrio vulnificus*, 16, 24–27, 209, 211
- Viral hepatitis, associated with water and shellfish, 47–51
- Visceral larva migrans, 113–115, 118, 138–139
- Visceral leishmaniasis, 304
- Vole, 227

- Walking dandruff, 128, 144
- Walrus meat, 394–395
- Warts
 - genital, 341
 - piercing-associated, 341–342
 - sports-related illness, 278–279
- Wasp sting, 108
- Water slide, 70–71
- Water sports-related illness, 284–285
- Weeverfish, 40–41
- Weil's disease, 85–86
- West Caucasian bat virus, 261
- West Nile encephalitis, bird-related illness, 183–186
- Western equine encephalitis
 - bird-related illness, 173, 183–184
 - camping-related illness, 107
- Whipworm, dog, 140
- Whirlpool, 69–95, 281
- White-footed mouse, 233–234
- Wild animals, carnivores, 211–213
- Wild boar meat, 200, 394–395
- Wolbachia*, 137
- Wolf rabies, 261
- Wood mouse, 199, 227
- Wood rat, 225
- Wood tick, 102–105
- Woodchuck rabies, 236, 253, 260
- Woodchuck-related illness, 199
- Wound infection, *see also specific animal bites*
 - A. hydrophila*, 76–77, 284
 - Edwardsiella*, 208
 - high-altitude travel, 353
 - L. pneumophila*, 82
 - Prototheca*, 78
 - shark bite, 34–35
 - traumatic marine wounds, 34–37
 - Vibrio*, 16, 22, 24–27, 29–32, 36
- Wuchereria bancrofti*, 306

- Xenopsylla cheopis*, *see* Oriental rat flea

- Yellow fever vaccine, 294
- Yellow-bellied sheath-tailed bat, 213
- Yersinia enterocolitica*, 26, 202, 227, 299, 400
- Yersinia pestis*, 154, 225–227
- Yersinia pseudotuberculosis*, 181, 195, 202
 - gastroenteritis, cat-related illness, 161
- Yersiniosis
 - amphibian-related illness, 208
 - bird-related illness, 173–174, 181
 - rabbit-related illness, 195
 - reptile-related illness, 206
 - rodent-related illness, 194, 202, 227
- Zebrafish, 38–39