



International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance

Vienna, Austria • October 31 – November 3, 2014

Co-sponsored by

ProMED-mail, the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases
EcoHealth Alliance
European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
HealthMap
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

Organized by

International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID)



<http://imed.isid.org>



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It is my pleasure to announce the fifth International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance, IMED 2014, to be held in Vienna, Austria from 31 October to 3 November 2014. For those whose work deals with threats from infectious agents, IMED 2014 will once again bring leading scientists, clinicians and policy makers to Vienna to present new knowledge and breakthroughs and discuss how to discover, detect, understand, prevent and respond to outbreaks of emerging pathogens.

Since the last IMED, newly emerged diseases and outbreaks of familiar ones have continued to challenge us and keep us vigilant. Eruptions of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza in poultry, wild birds and humans continue to occur. A novel H7N9 has transmitted from poultry to humans and, at least occasionally, from person to person. MERS coronavirus has emerged as a novel agent causing a high mortality pneumonia that spreads dangerously in the healthcare setting. While camels and bats have been implicated as potential hosts, the full picture remains cloudy. Chikungunya has entered the Americas through the islands of the Caribbean and appears poised to spread widely in this region with plentiful competent vectors.

Diseases at the human-wildlife interface ranging from rabies to plague to Nipah continue to draw our attention. Growing resistance by pathogens to all types of therapeutic agents raises fundamental obstacles to our ability to respond to outbreaks and pandemics. We have witnessed the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian conflict and the threat of intentional use of biological agents for nefarious purposes remains as real as ever.

Since its inception, IMED has been a summit that unifies our approach to pathogens in the broadest ecological context. Drawing together human and veterinary health specialists, IMED serves as a true One Health forum where those working in diverse specialties and diverse regions can meet, discuss, present and challenge one another with findings and new ideas. While pathogens emerge and mutate, our methodology for detection, surveillance, prevention, control, and treatment also continue to evolve. New approaches to the uses of social media and the mining of big data, novel laboratory methods, rapid point-of-care diagnostics, public health, risk communication, political and societal responses to outbreaks have all seen innovation and change that will be explored at IMED 2014. The ethics of disease surveillance and outbreak detection will be explored in a newly developed session.

ProMED and the International Society for Infectious Diseases, along with all of our co-sponsors and participating organizations, look forward to welcoming you to Vienna.

Summary: IMED 2014 is co-sponsored by ProMED-mail, EcoHealth Alliance, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), HealthMap, and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and is organized by ISID. IMED 2014 covers emerging infectious diseases of humans and animals and their surveillance.

Target Audience: ProMED-mail subscribers, physicians, veterinarians and other health care workers, public health leaders, academic researchers, pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry, journalists, other interested persons.

Schedule: Opening session on Friday afternoon followed by two full days of sessions. Saturday and Sunday and one half day on Monday morning. There will be plenary sessions, invited symposia and roundtables, and both oral and poster presentations of submitted abstracts.

Topics: Planned session topics include:

- Disease Surveillance, Detection and Reporting and Outbreak Modeling
- Ethics of New Methodologies of Disease Surveillance
- Vectorborne and Zoonotic Diseases
- Foodborne and Waterborne Infections
- MERS coronavirus
- Infections Related to Travel and Migration of Humans and Animals
- Animal Reservoirs for Emerging Pathogens
- Agents of Bioterrorism/Biological Warfare
- Specific Disease Threats: Pandemic Influenza, Anthrax, *C. difficile*, Q fever, Rift Valley Fever, MERS, West Nile Virus, Schmallenberg Virus, Hemorrhagic Fevers, Bluetongue, Chikungunya, TSEs, Healthcare Associated Infections, and Others.
- Antibiotic Resistance
- Vaccines and Diagnostics for Emerging Diseases
- Submitted Abstracts (Oral and Poster)

IMED 2014 Scientific Organizing Committee

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Jack Woodall, *Rio de Janeiro*

Meeting Venue: Hilton Hotel, Vienna, Austria

Social Program: An attractive social program will be organized for participants and accompanying persons. Travel packages, including skiing trips, will be available for attendees preceding and following the meeting.

Official Language: The official language of the meeting will be English.

Preliminary Program: The preliminary program is available online at <http://imed.isid.org>

Abstract Submission: The deadline for abstract submission is July 2014.

For further information contact:

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***The organizers gratefully acknowledge
the following contributors:***



Austrian Airlines



Vienna Convention Bureau

**For further information on IMED 2014
Please check our website:
<http://imed.isid.org>**



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