

**Imported Communicable Diseases of Refugees**

TB/Refugee Nurse Training  
November, 2013  
Margaret Tipple, MD

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**Outline**

- Locations of displaced populations 2012-2013
- Refugee camps vs. non-camp environments
- Refugee arrivals in Virginia 2012-2013
  - By health district
  - By country of origin
- Health risks by geographic region
- Medical screening, Virginia 2012-2013

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**Objectives**

- Recognize communicable diseases identified in medical screening of newcomers that are reportable under Virginia public health statute and regulations. Know how to submit reports for the reportable conditions.
- Identify the five most common medical conditions identified as a result of medical screening of newcomers in Virginia during 2012-2013.
- Know how to obtain additional information on common and rare communicable diseases of public health concern when they are identified in newcomers.

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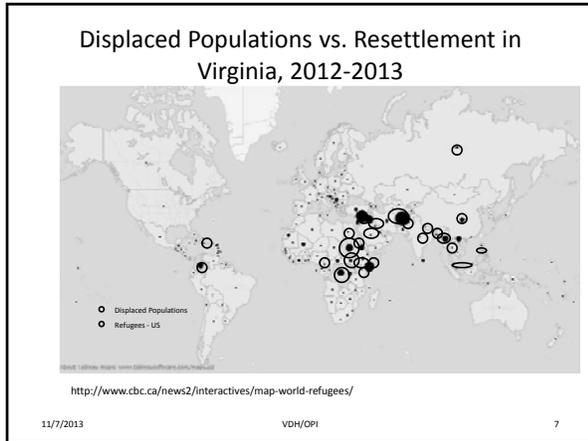
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### Refugee Arrivals by Health District 2012-10/30/2013

Health District	Arrivals	Countries	Health District	Arrivals	Countries
FAIRFAX	543	31	VIRGINIA BEACH	21	10
CENTRAL SHEN.	416	20	CHESTERFIELD	10	5
T. JEFFERSON	371	22	CENTRAL VA	4	2
PENINSULA	328	24	W. TIDEWATER	4	1
HENRICO	244	20	THREE RIVERS	3	1
ALEXANDRIA	207	16	CRATER	2	1
RAPPAHANNOCK	174	16	LORD FAIRFAX	2	1
PRINCE WILLIAM	168	19	NORFOLK	2	1
ROANOKE CITY	154	18	CHESAPEAKE	1	1
ROANOKE	125	9	CUMB. PLATEAU	1	1
LOUDOUN	94	11	NORFOLK CITY	1	1
RICHMOND	85	15			
HAMPTON	67	11			
ARLINGTON	66	12			
RICHMOND CITY	44	15			
			TOTAL ARRIVALS = 3137		
			COUNTRIES = 67		

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### Distribution of Refugees from 67 Countries of Origin to Health Districts, 2012-10/30/2013

Country	No. Districts	Country	No. Districts
IRAQ	17	CHINA	6
IRAN	15	KENYA	6
ETHIOPIA	13	MALAYSIA	6
NEPAL	13	PHILIPPINES	6
CUBA	11	CONGO	5
MYANMAR	11	CONGO (DEM. REPUB)	5
AFGHANISTAN	10	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	5
SUDAN	10	BURMA	4
BHUTAN	9	CAMEROON	4
EGYPT	8	COLOMBIA	4
JORDAN	8	INDIA	4
ERITREA	7	RUSSIA	4
PAKISTAN	7	SYRIA	4
SOMALIA	7		
THAILAND	7		

Additional 37 countries with refugees arriving in 3, 2 or 1 health districts

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### Health Risks: Refugees from East Africa

- Malnutrition
- Intestinal parasites (Enterobius, Trichuris, Strongyloides, and Ascaris)
- Filariasis
- Leishmaniasis
- Hepatitis B
- Tuberculosis
- Low immunization rates
- Dental caries
- Typhoid fever
- Malaria
- Trachoma
- Syphilis
- Dengue fever
- HIV infection
- Diarrheal illnesses
- Hansen's disease

Texas Dept Health/Baylor University  
[https://bearspace.baylor.edu/Charles\\_Kemp/www/refugee\\_health\\_problems.htm](https://bearspace.baylor.edu/Charles_Kemp/www/refugee_health_problems.htm)  
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### Health Risks: Refugees from Latin America\*

- Malaria
- Intestinal parasites (helminthic, amebiasis, giardiasis)
- Hepatitis B
- Low immunization rate (risk for measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus)
- Chagas disease (trypanosomiasis)
- Filariasis, Leishmaniasis, onchocerciasis, lymphatic filariasis, cysticercosis, schistosomiasis, echinococcosis
- Typhoid fever
- STDs, including HIV

\* Exception = Cuba: primary risks are malnutrition, tuberculosis, and dengue fever

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### Health Risks: Refugees from the Middle East

- Thalassemia
- Schistosomiasis
- Parasites (hookworm, amoebae, echinococcosis)
- Leprosy
- Tuberculosis
- PTSD

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### Health Risks: Refugees from Asia

- Nutritional deficits
- Hepatitis B
- Tuberculosis
- Parasites (roundworm, hookworm, filaria, flukes, amoebae, giardia)
- Malaria
- HIV
- Hansen's disease
- PTSD

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### Health Risks: Refugees from Eastern Europe or Russia

- Nutritional deficits
- Hepatitis B
- Tuberculosis
- PTSD (Bosnia)

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### Health Risks: Global

- Malnutrition
- Intestinal parasites (amebiasis, giardiasis, ascariasis, strongyloidiasis, hookworm, trichuriasis, enterobiasis)
- Hepatitis B
- Tuberculosis
- Low immunization rates (risk for measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus)
- Dental caries
- Malaria
- Syphilis, other STDs, including HIV infection
- Diarrheal illnesses
- Long-term effects of trauma, rape, torture (PTSD)
- Neonatal tetanus
- Rheumatic heart disease
- Among children, high lead levels

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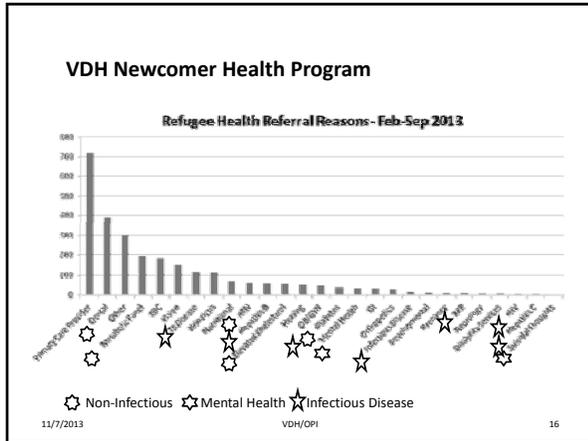
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- ### Infectious Diseases Identified During Health Screening, Virginia, 2012-2013
- Tuberculosis
  - Hepatitis B
  - Hepatitis C
  - RPR positive
  - HIV positive
  - Other
  - Incomplete/undocumented immunizations
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- ### In the News.....
- Hansen Disease
    - Northeast India – increased rates
    - Long incubation, delayed diagnosis
    - Treatable (HRSA – National Hansen Disease Program)
  - Polio (and other vaccine preventable diseases)
    - Increases in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt
    - Endemic in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria
    - Disruption in child immunization programs
    - WHO attempting to intervene
  - Malaria
    - Endemic areas - Central/South America, Africa, South Asia
    - Limited prevention measures
    - Delayed diagnosis
    - Drug resistance
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## Objectives

- Recognize communicable diseases identified in medical screening of newcomers that are reportable under Virginia public health statute and regulations. Know how to submit reports for the reportable conditions.
  - Tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Positive RPR, HIV
  - Others from VA Reportable Disease List
- Identify the five most common medical conditions identified as a result of medical screening of newcomers in Virginia during 2012-2013.
  - Dental conditions, Non-infectious diseases (hypertension, elevated cholesterol, diabetes)
  - TB, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C
- Know how to obtain additional information on common and rare communicable diseases of public health concern when they are identified in newcomers.
  - Refer to handouts for references and websites



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# Thank you.

## Questions?

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