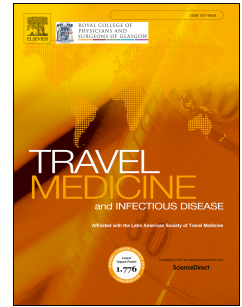


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Yellow fever in Brazil: Epidemiological aspects and implications for travelers

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**Yellow fever in Brazil: epidemiological aspects and implications for travelers**

Keywords: Yellow fever, Re-urbanization, Virus transmission, Travelers, Vaccination  
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The current epidemiological situation of yellow fever (YF) in Brazil constitutes a public health emergency, due to the potential threat of the re-urbanization of YF in this country. The last report of transmission of urban YF in Brazil was described in 1942, in the state of Acre in the northern region of the country. Since then, wild, non-urban transmission has come to predominate with cyclical outbreak records at regular intervals of five to seven years as observed up to 1997[1].

As of 1998, there has been a change in this cyclical pattern. Yellow fever showed a strong seasonal trend, with 93% of the cases identified between December and May. This trend was observed both in the Brazilian Amazon and in other regions of the country, when YF started to occur as sporadic cases and occasional epidemics, displaying an irregular periodicity of the disease [1,2].

Although the irregular periodicity of YF is not fully understood, climatic factors such as elevation of temperature and rainfall, high vector density and primary hosts, presence of susceptibility, low vaccine coverage, emergence of new virus strains are all possible factors that favor transmission and re-emergence of the virus in the country, in addition to the endemic areas [2].

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