

UPDATE ON PRE- AND POST-DEPLOYMENT DISEASE SURVEILLANCE OF ROYAL THAI ARMY TROOPS DEPLOYED TO EAST TIMOR

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Last year at the 11th Asia-Pacific Military Medical Conference, the Royal Thai Army's experience with pre- and post-deployment disease surveillance was described for troops deploying to East Timor on a United Nations mission. Since that time, the RTA has rotated three battalion-sized units to East Timor. Screening tests done on all troops before deployment were for Anti-HIV, HBsAg, Anti-HCV, Syphilis and Malaria. Sera from all troops post-deployment were tested for Anti-HIV, Dengue, Japanese Encephalitis, West Nile, Chikungunya, Scrub typhus, Murine typhus, Tick typhus, Leptospirosis, and Syphilis and whole blood is tested for Malaria and Filariasis. Presented here will be an update on the results of this surveillance and the methodology used to conduct disease surveillance before a unit deploys and upon redeployment back to Thailand.

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