
CORRESPONDENCE

Leprosy in a Backpacker

Kiri Brickell and colleagues state in their article in *Journal of Travel Medicine* 2005; 12:161–163, about leprosy in a backpacker, that they “have been unable to confirm any such case published.” Although Brickell and colleagues mention “unreferenced comment of sporadic reports of leprosy in tourists in a modern textbook,” we would like to draw the author’s attention to a previously published case of a 38-year-old male who acquired paucibacillary leprosy after short stays (20–30 days) in Sri Lanka, India, and Cuba, with no apparent history of “contact.”¹ In this short report, some other references are

given, eg, about military personnel contracting leprosy after short stay in endemic areas.

Alex Van den Daele and Alfons Van Gompel
Institute Tropical Medicine, Kronenburgstraat,
Antwerpen, Belgium.

Reference

1. Fiallo P, Nunzi E, Bisighini G, Vaccari G. Leprosy in an Italian tourist visiting the tropics. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg* 1993; 87:675.