

# MIGRANT HEALTH (3ed)

## - Syllabus -

<b>Schedule Dates:</b>	First day of class: April 7th, 2026 Last day of class: May 1st, 2026
<b>Student dedication</b>	<b>4 weeks. 75 hours</b>
<b>Course Director:</b>	<b>Jose Muñoz Gutierrez.</b> <a href="mailto:jose.munoz@isglobal.org">jose.munoz@isglobal.org</a> Head of the International Health Department, Hospital Clínic of Barcelona Associate Research Professor, ISGlobal
<b>Course Coordinator and Facilitator:</b>	<b>Pedro Laynez Roldán</b> <a href="mailto:playnezroldan@gmail.com">playnezroldan@gmail.com</a>
<b>Faculty:</b>	<b>Pedro Laynez Roldán</b> <b>Jose Muñoz Gutierrez</b> <b>Alex Almuedo Riera</b> <b>Alba María Antequera</b> <b>Clara Bares</b>
<b>Collaborators:</b>	<b>Inés Iglesias Rodríguez</b> <b>Natalia Rodríguez Valero</b> <b>Daniel Camprubí Ferrer</b> <b>Daniel Nomah</b> <b>Clara Peña</b> <b>Adriana Kaplan</b> <b>Leonardo de la Torre</b> <b>Anna Gamell</b> <b>Paula Beitia</b> <b>Raphael Nepomuceno</b>
<b>Instructional designer &amp; support</b>	<b>Education &amp; Training Team.</b> Barcelona Institute for Global Health
<b>Description:</b>	The course provides learning opportunities on key topics necessary for addressing the needs of migrants, combining a clinical approach with a broader social perspective.
<b>Learning objective:</b>	The main objective of this course is to train students to implement the diagnostic and management recommendations for the main clinical presentations in migrants and refugees, as well as to carry out individualized screening for imported infections, all with an intercultural approach.

<b>Evaluation:</b>	<p>The final grade will take into account participation in forums, completion of interactive materials, and end-of-unit assessments. It will be calculated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>15%</b> for forum participation (with at least 3 contributions required).</li> <li>● <b>25%</b> for completion of interactive materials.</li> <li>● <b>60%</b> for <b>end-of-course assessment</b></li> </ul>
<b>Resit:</b>	<p>Students who do not achieve a passing grade on the end-of-course assessment will have the chance to complete an alternative activity. Resit must be completed and delivered in a maximum of two weeks (guidelines and terms will be specified by the course coordinators).</p>
<b>Organization of the Course</b> <b>GENERAL</b>	<p>The sessions are organized as follows:</p> <p><b><u>Key course information and resources:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Video: How to use the virtual platform</li> <li>● Teacher's speaker</li> <li>● Discussions</li> <li>● Key dates</li> <li>● Syllabus</li> <li>● Main resources</li> </ul>
<b>Organization of the Course</b>	<p><b><u>1.- Before migration and cultural considerations</u></b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p><b>Specific learning objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understand the differences between migrant, refugee and asylum seeker.</li> <li>- Learn about the main migratory routes</li> <li>- Identify the impact of the social determinant of health in every stage of the migration process, including the stay in the host country</li> <li>- Acquire cognitive, affective and behavioral skills to conduct the clinical approach of people from other cultures</li> <li>- Learn how cultural mediators can improve communication and trust between healthcare providers and patients from diverse backgrounds.</li> </ul> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interactive lesson: Reflections on the basic concepts of migrant health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Video pill: Introduction to Migrant Health [Alex Almuedo]</li> <li>○ Key Resource: World migration report: interactive data link</li> <li>○ Key resource: What happens when people are forced to flee? Summary of the situation of some of the countries in conflict</li> <li>○ Key resource: Missing migrant project</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Interactive lesson: Social determinants and cultural competence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Key resource: MIGRATION: A Social Determinant of the Health of Migrants</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>2.- Travel and transit; risks and assessment</u></b></p>

**Specific learning objectives:**

- Recognize the health challenges faced by migrants during their journeys and upon arrival.
- Identify the Mediterranean Sea route and refugee camps as critical focal points.
- Understand the perils of sea migration routes, including overcrowded and unsafe boat travel.
- Recognize the issues of overcrowding, inadequate sanitation, and lack of healthcare facilities in refugee camps.
- Understand the need for coordinated efforts in disease prevention, primary healthcare services, and support for mental and reproductive health.

- Interactive lesson: Mediterranean & Atlantic route
  - Video pill: The migrant boat crisis on the Canarian route [Dr. Clara Peña]
  - Key resources: Health considerations upon first arrival
- Interactive lesson: Health in Refugee Camps
  - Video pill: Health in the refugee camps [Dr. Raphael Nepomuceno]
  - Key resource: Refugee Camps Explained

**3.- Settlement (general approach)**

**3.1. Screening and health recommendations**

**Specific learning objectives:**

- Recognize the most important screenings in migrant populations, including infectious diseases, chronic illnesses, and mental health concerns.
- Evaluate the immunization records of migrants to identify gaps in vaccination.
- Prioritize which vaccines are most critical based on age, health status, and country of origin.
- Recognize the most important strategies to improve the inclusion of migrants in the screening programs

- Interactive lesson: Screening recommendations for migrant population
  - Video pill: Screening of HIV [Dr. Daniel Nomah]
  - Video pill: Screening of *T. cruzi* [Dr. Inés Iglesias]
  - Video pill: Screening for the recent arrival child [Dr. Anna Gamell]
- Protocol: Screening of infectious diseases in migrants
- Clinical round#1: Screening in migrant patients: case-based decisions across multidimensional factors.

**3.2. Non-communicable diseases (NCD)**

**Specific learning objectives:**

- Understand the prevalence and impact of diseases like diabetes,

cardiovascular diseases, and cancer among migrant populations, and recognize the barriers to accessing care.

- Identify how ethnic backgrounds influence the health parameters and the normal standards.
- Recognize the health risks associated with sexual exploitation and FGM among migrants.
- Identify common mental health issues such as PTSD, depression, and anxiety among migrants and refugees, and understand the barriers to accessing mental health care.

- Interactive lesson: NCD & gender violence
  - Video pill: NCDs in migrants and refugees [Dr. Daniel Nomah]
  - Video: A real case of NCDs affecting a migrant person [Dr. Daniel Nomah]
  - Key resource: Merz LE, Achebe M. When non-Whiteness becomes a condition. *Blood*. 2021 Jan 7;137(1):13-15. doi: 10.1182/blood.2020008600. PMID: 33181819.
  - Video pill: An expert vision on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting- [Adriana Kaplan]
- Interactive lesson: Sexual, reproductive & mental health
  - Video pill: Mental Health in Migrants and Refugees [Paula Beitia]
  - Key resource: Five Key themes for improved mental health care for refugees and migrants (WHO)

#### **4.- Settlement (specific management)**

##### **4.1. *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection in non-endemic settings**

###### **Specific learning objectives:**

- Understand the global distribution and prevalence of *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection
- Identify the barriers that affect the access to healthcare and resources for migrant populations affected by *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection
- Identify the acute and chronic clinical manifestations of Chagas disease, including cardiac and gastrointestinal complications.
- Learn the screening and diagnostic techniques for *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection according the phase of the infection
- Learn about the pharmacological treatments available for *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection and their appropriate use.
- Understand the importance of follow-up care and monitoring to manage chronic complications.
- Develop culturally sensitive approaches to health education and intervention programs.

- Video: Circular migration and social intervention in Chagas Disease [Leonardo de la Torre]
- Interactive lesson: The multidimensionality of *T. cruzi* infection
- Interactive lesson: *T. cruzi*: diagnosis & management
- Protocol: Management of *Trypanosoma cruzi* infection in non-endemic settings

- Clinical round#2: Dealing with the limited evidence on *T. cruzi* management, and other challenging cases on migrant health.

## **4.2. Helminth infections in migrant populations**

### **Specific learning objectives:**

- Understand the global distribution and prevalence of helminth infections, particularly in migrant populations.
- Identify the most common helminth infections affecting migrants,
- Recognize the clinical manifestations and complications associated with helminth infections, .
- Assess the long-term health impacts of chronic helminth infections on migrant populations.
- Implement effective screening protocols tailored to the specific health risks of migrant populations.
- Learn about the pharmacological treatments available for helminth infections and their appropriate use.

- Interactive lesson: Management of common Helminths infections Clinical cases of helminth infections
  - Key resource: A practical classification of helminths for clinicians
  - Key resources: Main chronic helminthiasis in migrants: clinical keys
- Video pill: Expert Insights: Resolving Clinical Questions on Helminthiasis (José Muñoz)

## **4.3. Basics of eosinophilia**

### **Specific learning objectives:**

- Familiarize yourself with the management of eosinophilia and its main causes in the migrant population
- Understand the rationale behind prescribing empirical treatment for patients with unexplained eosinophilia.
- Identify common liver parasites affecting migrants, their clinical presentation, diagnosis tools and treatment.

- Interactive lesson: About eosinophilia
- Protocol: Management of imported eosinophilia
- Interactive lesson: Management of imported liver parasites
  - Key resource: Main liver parasites; clinical keys
  - Key resource: Echinococcosis. Treatment recommendations by stage

## **5.- Return**

### **Specific learning objectives:**

- Recognize the returning home as part of the migration process and the main health problems associated

- Learn the difference between visiting friend and relative and other returning journeys
- Learn the main health problems during Hajj and Umrah pilgrimage

- Interactive lesson: Return and Pilgrimage
  - Key resource: SPECIAL TRAVEL GROUPS; VFR (pretravel advice)
  - Key resource: Health Requirements and Recommendations for Travelers to Saudi Arabia for Hajj – 1445H (2024)

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- Greenaway C, Castelli F. Infectious diseases at different stages of migration: an expert review. *J Travel Med.* 2019 Feb 1;26(2):taz007. doi: 10.1093/jtm/taz007. PMID: 30726941.
- Atención Primaria Gerencia de Gran Canaria, et al. Atención Sanitaria a Migrantes Recién Llegados a Gran Canaria en situación irregular por vía marítima [doc interno]. 2022.
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Public health guidance on screening and vaccination for infectious diseases in newly arrived migrants within the EU/EEA. Stockholm: ECDC; 2018.
- Hernando, Victoria PhD<sup>†‡</sup>; Álvarez-del Arco, Débora PhD<sup>†‡</sup>; Alejos, Belén MSc<sup>†‡</sup>; Monge, Susana MD<sup>†‡</sup>; Amato-Gauci, Andrew J. MD<sup>§</sup>; Noori, Teymur MD<sup>§</sup>; Pharris, Anastasia MD<sup>§</sup>; del Amo, Julia MD<sup>†‡</sup> HIV Infection in Migrant Populations in the European Union and European Economic Area in 2007–2012, *JAIDS Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes*: October 1, 2015 - Volume 70 - Issue 2 - p 204-211 doi: 10.1097/QAI.0000000000000717
- Dias, J.C.P.; Ramos, A.N.; Gontijo, E.D.; Luquetti, A.; Shikanai-Yasuda, M.A.; Coura, J.R.; Torres, R.M.; Melo, J.R.D.C.; De Almeida, E.A.; De Oliveira Junior, W.; et al. 2nd Brazilian Consensus on Chagas disease, 2015. *Rev. Soc. Bras. Med. Trop.* **2016**, 49, 3–60, doi:10.1590/0037-8682-0505-2016
- Rassi Jr A, Marin-Neto A. Seminar Chagas disease. *Lancet.* 2010;375:1388–402. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)60061-X
- Nunes MCP, Beaton A, Acquatella H, Bern C, Bolger AF, Echeverría LE, et al. Chagas Cardiomyopathy: An Update of Current Clinical Knowledge and Management: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association. *Circulation.* 2018. doi:10.1161/CIR.0000000000000599
- Pinazo MJ, et al. Benznidazole-Related Adverse Drug Reactions and Their Relationship to Serum Drug Concentrations in Patients with Chronic Chagas Disease. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother.* . 2013 Jan;57(1):390-5. doi: 10.1128/AAC.01401-12. Epub 2012 Oct 31.
- Greaves D, Coggle S, Pollard C, Aliyu SH, Moore EM. Strongyloides stercoralis infection. *BMJ.* 2013 Jul 30;347:f4610. doi: 10.1136/bmj.f4610. PMID: 23900531.
- Colley DG, Bustinduy AL, Secor WE, King CH. Human schistosomiasis. *Lancet.* 2014 Jun 28;383(9936):2253-64. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(13)61949-2. Epub 2014 Apr 1. PMID: 24698483; PMCID: PMC4672382.
- Prickett KA, Ferringer TC. Helminths: a clinical review and update. *Semin Cutan Med Surg.* 2014 Sep;33(3):128-32. doi: 10.12788/j.sder.0108. PMID: 25577852.
- Prieto-Pérez L, Pérez-Tanoira R, Cabello-Úbeda A, Petkova-Saiz E, Górgolas-Hernández-Mora M. Geohelminths [Geohelminths]. *Enferm Infecc*

- Microbiol Clin. 2016 Jun-Jul;34(6):384-9. Spanish. doi: 10.1016/j.eimc.2016.02.002. Epub 2016 Mar 12. PMID: 26980233
- White Jr, A. C., Coyle, C. M., Rajshekhar, V., Singh, G., Hauser, W. A., Mohanty, A., ... & Nash, T. E. (2018). Diagnosis and treatment of neurocysticercosis: 2017 clinical practice guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH). *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 66(8), e49-e75.
  - Useful resource: <https://www.iamat.org/world-schistosomiasis-risk-chart>
  - Agyemang C et al. Non-communicable diseases in migrants: an expert review. *Journal of Travel Medicine*. Nov 2018
  - <https://www.uab.cat/web/the-foundation/wassu-uab-foundation-1345801939114.html>
  - Kaplan A, Hechavarría S, Martín M, Bonhoure I. Health consequences of female genital mutilation/cutting in the Gambia, evidence into action. *Reprod Health*. 2011
  - González Martínez MÁ, Castaño Suero MJ, Guerrero Muñoz M, Francisco Rossetti A, Sequeira Aymar E, Roca Saumell C. Atención inicial al paciente inmigrante en atención primaria [Initial assessment of immigrant patients in primary care]. *Aten Primaria*. 2024 Jul;56(7):102896. Spanish. doi: 10.1016/j.aprim.2024.102896. Epub 2024 Feb 27. PMID: 38417201; PMCID: PMC10909696.
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  - Sequeira-Aymar E, Cruz A, Serra-Burriel M, di Lollo X, Gonçalves AQ, Camps-Vilà L, Monclus-Gonzalez MM, Revuelta-Muñoz EM, Busquet-Solé N, Sarriegui-Domínguez S, Casellas A, Llorca MRD, Aguilar-Martín C, Jacques-Aviñó C, Hargreaves S, Requena-Mendez A; CRIBMI (IS-MiHealth) Working Group. Improving the detection of infectious diseases in at-risk migrants with an innovative integrated multi-infection screening digital decision support tool (IS-MiHealth) in primary care: a pilot cluster-randomized-controlled trial. *J Travel Med*. 2022 Nov 4;29(7):taab100. doi: 10.1093/jtm/taab100. PMID: 34230959; PMCID: PMC9635062.
  - Gómez I Prat J, Peremiquel-Trillas P, Claveria Guiu I, Caro Mendivelso J, Choque E, de Los Santos JJ, Sulleiro E, Ouaarab Essadek H, Albajar Viñas P, Ascaso Terren C. Comparative evaluation of community interventions for the immigrant population of Latin American origin at risk for Chagas disease in the city of Barcelona. *PLoS One*. 2020 Jul 14;15(7):e0235466. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0235466. PMID: 32663211; PMCID: PMC7360029.
  - World report on the health of refugees and migrants <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240054462>
  - Boutayeb A. The Burden of Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases in Developing Countries. *Handbook of Disease Burdens and Quality of Life Measures*. 2010:531-46. doi: 10.1007/978-0-387-78665-0\_32. PMCID: PMC7122505.
  - WHO World report on the health of refugees and migrants, from page 115 <https://www.migrationdataportal.org/sites/g/files/tmzbdl251/files/2023-09/World-report-on-the-health-of-refugees-and-migrants.pdf>
  - Agyemang C, van den Born BJ. Non-communicable diseases in migrants: an expert review. *J Travel Med*. 2019 Feb 1;26(2):tay107. doi: 10.1093/jtm/tay107. PMID: 30346574.

- Mental health in refugee and migrants: risk and protective factors to access to health care: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240081840>
- IOM. Coming home can be harder than leaving: the psychosocial challenges of being a returnee  
<https://americas.iom.int/en/blogs/coming-home-can-be-harder-leaving-psychosocial-challenges-being-returnee>
- Davies AA, Borland RM, Blake C, West HE. The dynamics of health and return migration. PLoS Med. 2011 Jun;8(6):e1001046. doi: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1001046. Epub 2011 Jun 21. PMID: 21738448; PMCID: PMC3124523.
- CDC VFR  
<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2024/work-and-other-reasons/visiting-friends-and-relatives>
- Hajj and Umrah CDC Recommendations  
<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2024/itineraries/saudi-arabia-hajj-and-umrah-pilgrimages>
- Umrah -  
[https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/HealthAwareness/Pilgrims\\_Health/Documents/Health-Regulations-Umrah-EN.pdf](https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/HealthAwareness/Pilgrims_Health/Documents/Health-Regulations-Umrah-EN.pdf)
- Health advices for pilgrims  
[https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/HealthAwareness/Pilgrims\\_Health/Pages/Guidelines-for-Hajj.aspx](https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/HealthAwareness/Pilgrims_Health/Pages/Guidelines-for-Hajj.aspx)

This course has the scientific endorsement of SEIMC and SEMTSI.

