

Lessons learned

Type de contenu : Texte

Type de médiation : sans médiation

Type de support : Volume

Titre(s) : Lessons learned : the Australian military and tropical medicine / Geoffrey Grant Quail

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Publication : Newport (N.S.W.) : Big sky publishing, 2017

Description matérielle : 1 vol. (254 pages) : illustrations, portr., graph., tabl. ; 24 cm

ISBN : 978-1-925520-22-4
1-925520-22-6

EAN : 9781925520224 rel.

Classification décimale Dewey : 355.345 099

Note sur les bibliographies et les index : Bibliographie pages 215-221. Index

Note sur le contenu : ch. One The Impact Of Tropical Disease On The Outcome Of Military Campaigns Tropical Diseases Unfamiliar To Western Society Strongyloides stercoralis (Strongyloides), Ancylostoma duodenale and Necator americanus (Hookworm) ch. Two The Contribution Of The British Military To Tropical Medicine Formation Of The Royal Army Medical Corps And School The Formation Of The Australian Army Medical Corps Medical Aspects Of The Sudan Conflict And The South African War The Australian Army Medical Service From Federation To The Great War Reflections On The Development Of Military Tropical Medicine ch. Three The Great War And Tropical Disease What Lessons Did We Learn ? Recruitment Medical Problems The Gallipoli Campaign Lessons Learned Tropical Diseases Experienced In Other Middle East Campaigns Research By The Australian Army Medical Corps In The Great War The Great War In Reflection Note continued: ch. Four The Second World War Were We Prepared For War In The Tropics ? The Inter-War Period Tropical Diseases During The Second World War Their Prevention And Management Formation Of The Land Headquarters Medical Research Unit Malaria Research By The United States Forces LHQMRU Clinical Trials Antimalarial Drug Trials In Great Britain Reflections On Lessons Learned From World War Two ch. Five Post-War Lethargy The Korean War Malaysia And Beyond: The Australian Army's Malaria Experience 1946-1965 Tropical Medicine And The Vietnam War Formation Of The Australian Army Malaria Research Unit ch. Six The Rieckmann Era (1984-2005) Major Research Activities During The Rieckmann Era Review Of The Rieckmann Era Reflections ch. Seven The Australian Military And Tropical Medicine A Continuing Close Association Antimalarial Compounds And Their Origin Malaria

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Résumé ou extrait : La 4e de couv. indique : "Historically, prolonged campaigns have been frequently lost or won because of the greater fitness of one of the combatant armies. In the twentieth century, infection was still a major problem, leading to withdrawal from Gallipoli, and the near defeat of the Allies due to malaria early in the Second World War's Pacific campaign. Malaria emerged again as a major problem in the Vietnam War. The Australian Army Medical Corps, founded in 1901, learned from past medical experience. However, errors leading to significant morbidity did occur mainly in relation to malaria. These errors included lack of instruction of doctors sent to New Guinea with the Australian Force in the Great War, inadequate prophylactic measures against malaria in New Guinea early in World War Two, failure to perceive the threat of emerging resistant strains of malaria in the 1960s, and military commanders not fully implementing the recommendations of their medical advisers. Many Australian campaigns have taken place in tropical locations; a substantial amount of scientific work to prevent and manage tropical diseases has therefore been conducted by the Army Medical Corps' medical researchers-particularly in the Land Headquarters Medical Research Unit and the Army Malaria Institute. Their work extends well beyond the military, greatly improving health outcomes throughout the world. This book recognises the efforts of both individuals and the Army's Tropical Disease Research units since Federation in helping the Army succeed in battle."

Sujet - Collectivité : Australie Australian Army. Medical Corps. Grande-Bretagne Army. Royal army medical corps. Australie Australian Army. Malaria research unit. Australie Australian Army. Land headquarters medical research unit. -- Histoire -- Histoire

Sujet - Nom commun : Médecine militaire -- Australie -- Histoire
Médecine tropicale -- Australie -- Histoire
Forces armées -- Australie -- Soins médicaux

Sujet - Nom géographique : Australia