



## **Emerging infectious diseases: Australia is not an island**

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Multidrug resistant organisms have become the norm for many of Australia's near neighbours. Untreatable tuberculosis, gram-negative sepsis and malaria are looking like the reality for our region. There also remains the certainty of future pandemics of influenza, with Asia/Southeast Asia a predicted source of origin. New zoonotic infections are also likely to emerge from the diminishing rain forests of Borneo and elsewhere. Global air travel now makes us all near-neighbours, as evident with SARS, MERS and ebola.