

Facility	Location	Advantages	Disadvantages	Access	Comments
The Hospital for Tropical Diseases	London, England, UK	Probably the best worldwide for difficult diagnostic problems	Requires cash upfront for everything, very expensive, will not give estimates ahead of time, expensive to live in London.	Physicians can call for a consult with a tropical medicine registrar: 0845-155-5000	Don't even consider going there unless it is an emergency or you have an appointment
Hospital for Tropical Diseases; Mahidol ¹ University	Bangkok, Thailand	Excellent medical care by Western-trained docs at low cost	Requires cash upfront	?? Find them on the internet	They will probably refer you to a private hospital; Vichayut is good. English language is no problem.
Nairobi Hospital	Nairobi, Kenya	Excellent medical care by British-trained South Asians. Good food and service.	Requires cash upfront. Checking in and/or out can take a whole day. It's chaotic.	hosp@nairobihospital.org	Be sure to get South Asian doctors.
Mayo Clinic	Rochester, Minnesota, USA	Takes insurance; perhaps the best place Stateside	Not as good as London; the docs can't be as experienced in tropical problems.	?? Find them on the internet	They require a referral from a primary care physician.

¹ Mahidol is pronounced as if it were Mahidon. The accent is on the middle syllable—ma-HEE-doon.

Red flags: Common indications for a medical evacuation

Children	Adults
New seizure, not a febrile seizure ²	Any new seizure
Failure to thrive, to grow and gain weight normally	Unintentional weight loss
Unexplained fever lasting more than a week	Non-healing wound
	Painless, non-tender lump
Any age	
Any symptoms with increasing severity and frequency	
Loss of consciousness, lethargy, new onset of irrational behavior	
Weakness or paralysis	
Grossly abnormal vital signs	
Persistent vomiting or diarrhea with dehydration	
Elevated sedimentation rate.	

Green flags: Comforting factors if and when you decide not to evacuate:

The patient pursues his usual activities.

The condition existed a long time without changing much.

Others with similar illnesses have all recovered.

The patient has no underlying major illness such as diabetes or heart failure.

The sedimentation rate is normal.

² A febrile seizure is a seizure that occurs at the onset of a high fever in a child under 6 years old. The child is always alert a half-hour after the seizure.