

## Medical Issues in International Adoption

### *A Discussion Guide*

#### 1. Medical Issues in Individual Countries

- a. How did this lesson change your perceptions of the potential health risks when adopting internationally?

#### 2. Effects of Institutionalization

- a. This lesson states: "The chance that a child will be completely problem-free is essentially zero."
  - i. What concerns you about the problems your child may have because of the time he spent in an orphanage?

#### 3. How to Evaluate a Referral

- a. From what you learned in this lesson, what will help you make an informed decision about adopting a child based on the referral?
- b. This lesson suggests turning down a referral that you don't think you can handle.
  - i. Under what circumstances would you decline a referral?
  - ii. What sort of medical issues are you prepared to deal with? Which ones do you think might be too overwhelming for you and your family?

#### 4. Physicians and Medical Exams

- a. Do you have access to a pediatrician with experience with adopted children? If not, what do you plan to do to ensure your child gets appropriate medical care?

#### 5. Traveling to Receive your Child

- a. What aspects of this lesson made you feel more prepared to travel to bring your child home?

#### 6. Post-Adoption Services

- a. Which post-adoption resources do you feel your child may most likely need?
- b. Where have you found therapists with adoption experience and how far from your home?

