

# AMAZON Medical Clinic Wish List

**Dr. Linnea Smith**

The below items are usually needed or at least usable by the clinic.  
(Any excess items are distributed to other equally or more needy entities in the area)

## **Antibiotics**

Amoxicillin  
Dicloxacillin  
Erythromycin  
Metronidazole  
Ophthalmic antibiotics  
Injectable antibiotics  
TMP-SMZ  
Biaxin  
Fluoroquinolones (Cipro, etc.)

## **Assorted prescription meds**

Kenalog/Depo Medrol  
Versed  
Prednisolone syrup  
Silvadene cream  
Theo-Dur  
Anti-fungals, any sort (Diflucan especially)  
Kwell, preferably the shampoo  
Narcotic pain meds  
Albuterol inhalers (not fancy things like Advair)

## **Laboratory**

Gloves, size medium (exam gloves)  
Sterile/surgical gloves, size 7 or 7 \_ and a few size 8  
Giemsa stain  
Instrument milk (lubricant/de-ruster for instruments)  
Microscope slides  
Urinalysis dipsticks

## **Over the counter items**

Multivitamins WITH IRON, for adults, kids and/or babies  
Ibuprofen  
Tylenol  
Dextromethorphan (Robitussin, etc.)  
Condoms  
Benadryl, especially the syrup form for children  
Non-sedating histamines  
Band-aids  
Pyridium

## **Assorted supplies**

Scalpel blades  
Cold sterile solution  
Gauze, preferably in bulk  
Insulin syringes

## **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

**Nothing outdated can be accepted; if brought into the country and discovered by Customs, anything expired will be confiscated; if gotten past Customs, I will have to discard such items.**

## **Important Notes and Comments Regarding the Clinic Wish List**

1) Please note again, that outdated medicines are **PROHIBITED BY LAW**. Given the difficulties of storing medicines here, expiration dates as far in advance as possible are appreciated.

2) If you bring sample medicines, the easiest way by far to carry them is to take them out of their individual packages. Samples come with an awful lot of container for a very small amount of medicine. Removing them from their bulky packages and consolidating them into a smaller container will make it much easier for you to transport them, will save me the effort of doing that here, and will not make it look as though you are bringing in a huge quantity of medical supplies when in fact you are bringing a modest amount.

Do remember to keep at least one of the little information sheets that come with the medications -- new drugs come out all the time, and tourists occasionally bring me things that I cannot identify. The name, dosage (number of milligrams, etc.), and expiration date should all be included on the label you put on the bottle.

3) Clinic needs vary from time to time. Any of the items on this list is welcome, and if I get overstocked I can easily find an entity nearby that can use the extras (the Regional Hospital, the medical center upriver at the town of Indiana, the midwife who has some training in medicine, have all benefited from the generosity of people like you). However, if you can contact me in advance of your arrival, I can give you a specific list of what would be most appreciated at that particular time.

4) On what you are allowed to bring in: basically, the law says that you are allowed to bring what you (or your group) might reasonably be expected to use during your stay here, and they are fairly liberal about that. If you intend to bring boxes or suitcases with nothing in them but medical supplies, you should be aware that they may be confiscated in Lima, in order to have Customs duties charged on them. In this case they are lost, as it is not worthwhile for me to fly to Lima and pay the administrative charges, plus the duties, in order to get the medicines. There have been instances of people bringing in a box or suitcase full of medicines, saying to the Customs people, "These are donated for a doctor working in the jungle," and being allowed to pass unmolested; there is however no guarantee that this will work, and NO system to obtain any simple sort of permission to import medicines. So, generally, you can bring what will fit in and around your socks, and if you want to make a larger contribution, I suggest that you do so in the form of money rather than materials, to the Amazon Medical Project, P.O. Box 194, Mazomanie, WI 53560 (we are a 501-c-3 organization, i.e., contributions are tax-deductible). I will then use the money to purchase the medicines that I specifically need (this also has the advantage of putting the money into the Peruvian economy, which can use it).

I can be reached by snail mail at: Linnea Smith, MD, Box 446, Iquitos, Peru.  
You can fax me in care of Explorama, at 011-5165-25-2533.  
Or you can e-mail to [linnea@amazonmedical.org](mailto:linnea@amazonmedical.org).

Do bear in mind that fax, e-mail, etc., are in Iquitos, whereas I actually live 50 miles downriver, going into the city about twice a month. So do not panic, if I don't answer you within 2 days. I will get your electronic communication when I go to the city, and will reply then. (This is why I suggest a month or two advance notice.)