4. Cruse P, Foord R. A 5-year prospective study of 23,649 surgical wounds. Arch *Surg* 1973;107:206-210.
5. Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. ***Accreditation Manual for Hospitals.*** Chicago, IL: Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals; 1976.
6. Horan T, Gaynes R, Martone W, Jarvis W, Emori G. CDC definitions of nosocomial surgical site infections, 1992: a modification of CDC definitions of surgical wound infections. *Infect* ***Control*** Hosp *Epidemiol* 1992;13:606-608.
7. Freeman J, McGowan J. Methodologic issues in hospital epidemiology. I. Rates, case-finding, and interpretation. Rev *Infect Dis* 1981;3:658-667.
8. McGowan J, Finland M. Infection and antibiotic usage at Boston City Hospital: changes in prevalence during the decade 1964 1973. *J Infect Dis* 1974;129:421-428.
9. Freeman J, Rosner B, McGowan J. Adverse effects of nosocomial infection. *J Infect* ***Dis*** 1979;14:732-740.
10. Haley R, Schaberg D, McClish D, et al. The accuracy of retrospective chart review in measuring nosocomial infection rates: results of validation studies in pilot hospitals. ***Am J*** *Epidemiol* 1980;111:516-533.
11. Eickhoff T, Brachman P, Bennett J, Brown J. Surveillance of nosocomial infections in community hospitals. I. Surveillance methods, effectiveness, and initial results. *J* ***Infect Dis*** 1969;12:305-317.
12. Cardo D, Falk P, Mayhall G. Validation of surgical wound surveillance. *Infect* ***Control*** *Hosp Epidemiol* 1993;14:211-215.
13. Wenzel R, Osterman C, Hunting K, Gwaltney J. Hospital-acquired infections. I. Surveillance in a university hospital. *Am J Epidemiol* 1976;103:251-260.
14. Bimbaum D, King L. Disadvantages of infection surveillance by medical record chart review. ***Am J Infect Control*** 1981;9:15-17.
15. Laxson L, Blaser M, Parkhurst S. Surveillance for the detection of nosocomial infections and the potential for nosocomial outbreaks. I. Microbiology culture surveillance is an effective method of detecting nosocomial infection. ***Am J Infect Control*** 1984;12:318-324.
16. Evans R, Larsen R, Burke J, et al. Computer surveillance of hospital-acquired infections and antibiotic use. *JAMA* 1986;256:1007-1011.
17. Brodetick A, Motomi M, Nettleman M, Streed S, Wenzel R. Nosocomial infections: validation of surveillance and computer modeling to identify patients at risk. ***Am J Epidemiol*** 1990;131:734-***742.***
18. Haley R, Culver D, Morgan WM, White J, Emori TG, Hooton T. Increased recognition of infectious diseases in US hospitals through increased use of diagnostic tests, 1970-1976. ***Am J*** *Epidemiol* 1985;121:168-181.
19. Hook E, Hooton T, Horton C, Coyle M, Ramsey P, Turck M. Microbiologic evaluation of cutaneous cellulitis in adults. ***Arch Intern Med*** 1986;146:295-297.
20. Duvanel T, Auckanthaler R, Rohner P, Harms M, Saurat J. Quantitative cultures of biopsy specimens from cutaneous cellulitis. ***Arch*** *Intern* ***Med*** 1989;149:293-296.
21. Feldman L, Lamson M, Gallelli J, Bennett J. Surveillance of nosocomial infections by antibiotic monitoring. *JAMA* 1979;241:2806-2807.
22. Hirschhom L, Currier J, Platt R. Electronic surveillance of antibiotic exposure and coded discharge diagnoses as indicators of postoperative infection and other quality assurance measures. *Infect* ***Control*** *Hosp Epidemiol* 1993;14:21-28.
23. Platt R, Zucker J, Zaleznik D, et al. Prophylaxis against wound infection following herniorrhaphy or breast ***surgery.*** *J* ***Infect Dis*** 1992;166:556-560.
24. Simchen E, Wax Y, Pevsner B, et al. The Israeli Study of Surgical Infections (ISSI): I. Methods for developing a standardized surveillance system for a multicenter study of surgical infections. *Infect* ***Control*** *Hosp Epidemiol* 1988;9:232-240.

CDC Releases Strategic Plan for Emerging Infectious Diseases

by Gina Pugliese, RN, MS
Medical News Editor

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released ***Addressing Emerging Infectious Disease Threats: A Prevention Strategy for the United States.*** The executive summary of this plan was published in the ***Morbidity and Mortality Weekly*** *Report.*[1] The report summarizes the experience with a number of diseases posing serious threats to public health, such as the newly recognized hantavirus linked to a highly fatal pulmonary syndrome; the intestinal parasite, *Cryptosporidium,* causing the largest recognized outbreak of waterborne illness in U.S. history; an increasing incidence of drug resistance in community-acquired pneumococcal infections, linked to childcare centers and prior antibiotic use; and a newly described toxigenic *Vibrio cholerae* ***0139*** that emerged in southern Asia.

Three recent reports from the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine point out that the ability of the U.S. public health system to deal with emerging infectious disease problems is in serious jeopardy.[2-4] To detect and prevent emerging infections effectively, significant improvements are needed in the public health systems, program design, and infrastructure. Because meeting this challenge requires cooperation among a wide range of public and private organizations, the CDC has developed its prevention strategy in partnership with other federal agencies, state and local health departments, academic institutions, professional societies, international organizations, and experts in public health, infectious disease, and medical microbiology.

The CDC plan contains four critical goals: surveillance, applied research, prevention and control, and public health infrastructure. Single copies of the plan are available from the CDC's National Center for Infectious Disease, Office of Program Resources—EP, Mailstop C-14, 1600 Cliion Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30333.

REFERENCES

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Addressing emerging infectious disease threats: a prevention strategy for the United States: executive summary. *MMWR* 1994;43(RR-5).
2. Institute of Medicine. *Emergency* ***Infections:*** *Microbial Threats to Health* in *the U.S.* Washington, DC: National Academy Press; 1992.
3. Institute of Medicine. *The* U.S. *Capacity to Address Tropical Infectious Disease Problems.* Washington, DC: National Academy Press; 1987.
4. Institute of Medicine. *The Future* ***of*** *Public Health.* Washington, DC: National Academy Press: 1988.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0195941700010687 Published online by Cambridge University Press