EDITED BY MURRAY D. BATT, MD

SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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SHEA Input Into Government's Hepatitis C Recommendations

Rebecca Wurtz, MD, represented SHEA at a July meeting that reviewed the draft document "Recommendations for the Identification, Counseling, Testing, and Referral of Persons at Risk for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection." Dr. Wurtz indicates that the draft document was vague about specific recommendations for postexposure testing and follow-up in the healthcare setting. She advocated more research funding to answer questions that still remain about optimal diagnostic tests and therapeutic recommendations. A final version of the recommendations is expected to be published in the *Morbidity Mortality Weekly Reports* this fall.

New SHEA Meetings Manager

SHEA continues to use the Talley Management Group to administer its affairs, with Stephanie Dickinson as the SHEA executive director. She reports that the newest member of the Talley Management Group, Heather Mirabelli, has replaced Ann Khorey in managing SHEA meetings. Ms. Mirabelli, a graduate of LaSalle University of Philadelphia, brings her experience with regional, national, and international trade associations to Talley Management and will be responsible for managing all aspects of SHEA's Annual Meeting. Anyone with ideas for improving any aspect of the meeting or for recruiting additional exhibitors to the meeting can call Heather at 609-423-7222.

Financial Assistance for Associate Members to Attend SHEA Educational Meetings

At the recent SHEA Business Meeting, held during the 1998 Annual Meeting, John McGowan announced his initiation of a fund to provide support to SHEA Trainee members' attendance at our educational activities. Active and Invited Members or nonmembers who are seeking additional opportunities for contributing their personal funds or their honoraria to this fund are encouraged to contact Stephanie Dickinson at 609-423-0087. She will be happy to facilitate any and all donations to this fund.

Upcoming SHEA Educational Activities

SHEA has cooperated with the American Society of Microbiology to develop the symposium on vancomycin resistance to be presented at the 38th Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, which will take place in San Diego on September 24-27. SHEA also will have a presence at the second stand-alone meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, to take place in Denver from November 12-15, 1998.

The next SHEA/CDC Training Course in Hospital Epidemiology will be held in Redondo Beach, California, October 17-20, 1998. Registration is possible by fax, at 609-423-3420, until October 1, 1998 (with payment by credit card.) Detailed information on registration for this course may be obtained by calling SHEA at 609-423-7222, ext. 350.

Brief items of interest for the SHEA News or Newsletter may be sent to Murray D. Batt, MD, SHEA News Editor, by email at battm@uhewv.org, by fax at 304-624-2909, or by US mail at United Hospital Center, PO Box 1680, Clarksburg, WV 26302.

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