SHEA Newsletter

Edited by Robert A. Weinstein, MD

The Society of Hospital Epidemiologists of America

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SHEA Information/ Membership

The following information has been prepared for use as a SHEA information/membership brochure. A promotional mailing to infectious disease fellowship programs, infection control committee chairmen and hospital epidemiologists is being prepared. In the meantime, copies of this brochure are available from the Secretary's office (Dr. T. Townsend, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Brady, 119, 600 N. Wolfe St., Baltimore. MD 21205).

Purposes

- To foster the development and application of the science of hospital epidemiology.
- To represent the interests of the public and hospitalized patients by assuring that the best information and evidence developed by hospital epidemiologists—including hospital infection control—is incorporated into governmental, JCAHO and other guidelines and rules.
- To provide a forum for publishing scientific papers in the Society journal and presenting papers at Society sponsored medical meetings.
- To facilitate and improve the education and training of health professionals in the discipline of hospital epidemiology.

Background

SHEA was organized by physician epidemiologists knowledgeable in hospital infection control after a series of informal meetings and contacts at the annual Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy meetings.

In 1981 the initial organizational bylaws were approved and the first officers and Board of Directors were elected. The Society was formally incorporated as a not-for-profit, educational and scientific corporation in the State of New Jersey. SHEA has formal status as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Programs and Projects

- Provides *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* as the official SHEA journal as part of annual dues.
- Sponsors an annual educational luncheon meeting at ICAAC with a nationally-known, scientific guest speaker.
- Sponsors periodic major national meetings for hospital epidemiology.
- Provides formal liaison to groups with interest or activity in hospital epidemiology and/or infection control including: the Hospital Infection Program of the Centers for Disease Control, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, Division I of the American Society of Microbiology, the Clinical Affairs Committee of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and the Association for Practitioners in Infection Control.
- Sponsors courses in hospital epidemiology, including a course jointly developed with the Centers for Disease Control.
- Sponsors educational activities which have provided small grants for educational efforts in hospital epidemiology and infection control to SHEA members and has facilitated SHEA participation in international consultations concerning hospital epidemiology.
- Has established an ongoing committment to address important national issues and assist in the development of position papers on critical issues in hospital epidemiology and infection control. These have included a joint project on AIDS with APIC and a select working group on Severity of Illness Indices.

Membership Requirements

Two classes of membership exist including Active Members and

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Associate Members. Associate Members do not vote except on such matters which, pursuant to law, require the vote of all classes of members. Applicants for active membership must hold a doctoral degree and should either be: 1) the head of a hospital epidemiology program or engaged on a full-time basis as a hospital epidemiologist or 2) employed by a federal, state or local governmental health agency that has a direct interest in hospital epidemiology. Applicants holding a doctoral degree, but not meeting either 1) or 2) above, may be considered for membership, provided they work in the field of hospital epidemiology. Associate membership applicants must hold a doctoral degree and be participating in an appropriate training program in the field of hospital epidemiology. All applications for membership shall be initiated in writing by the candidate for membership and shall be submitted for consideration to the Board of T-rustees. A majority of the members of the Board of Trustees voting is required for acceptance to membership of all applicants.

Annual SHEA Luncheon/ Business Meeting

The annual SHEA luncheon and business meeting will be held in conjunction with the upcoming Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC) in Houston. Our on-site representative, Dr. Edward Septimus, has secured the ballroom of the Four Seasons Hotel for 11:30A.M.-2:00P.M., Monday, September 18, 1989. This location is within walking distance of the Convention Center, where ICAAC will be held. Because the IDSA meetings will be on the Saturday and Sunday preceding ICAAC, our SHEA meeting has been moved to Monday. Later this summer, you should be receiving more specific information and a luncheon reservation form for you and your guests.

Brief items of interest for the SHEA Newsletter may be sent to Robert A. Weinstein, MD, SHEA Newsletter Editor, Division of Infectious Diseases, Michael Reese Hospital, Lake Shore Drive at 31st St., Chicago, IL 60616. Copy must be typed, double-spaced, and may not exceed five pages.

Membership Application Inquiry:

Mail to: Secretary
Society of Hospital
Epidemiologists of America
% Slack, Incorporated
6900 Grove Road
Thorofare, NJ 08086

NAME: _____

CURRENT POSITION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

_____ ZIP _____

Doctoral Degree __ ML) __ PhD
Date and University:

_____

Specify work in hospital epidemiology and related fields:

_____

_____

Dates in this position:

_____

Related work in the field:

_____

(✔) Check type of membership application:

__ Active Membership
(Calendar year dues $7.5)

__ Associate Membership
(Calendar year dues $35)

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