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SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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Evaluation of Processes and Indicators in Infection Control (EPIC) Study

This summer, SHEA's Project to Monitor Indicators (PMI) Committee will start a new study that addresses clinical indicators related to primary bloodstream infection (BSI) associated with central venous catheters. The indicator portion of the study will evaluate the effect of various performance-measurement systems on a hospital's BSI rate. The process portion of the study will assess patient, device, practitioner, and organizational characteristics that have an impact on these rates. To obtain more information on this study and the benefits of participation to your organization, contact Stephen B. Kritchevsky, PhD, Chair of the PMI, by telephone (901-448-8220), by e-mail at skritchevsky@utmem1.utmem.edu, or by mail at the Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Tennessee, 66 N Pauline, Suite 663, Memphis TN 38105.

Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education Approves SHEA

SHEA recently received notification from ACCME that it is now fully accredited as a sponsor of CME programs. This decision was based on a recent site visit conducted by ACCME. It was determined that the mission statement, needs assessment, objectives, educational design, evaluation, and management of our CME offerings during the 2 years that SHEA was provisionally accredited were all in substantial compliance with ACCME requirements.

As a result of this, not only SHEA's own presentations, such as our annual meeting and our training courses, can continue to offer physicians CME credit but we also can do so for organizations that are able to follow the ACCME guidelines but have not gone through the rigorous process of ACCME accreditation that SHEA underwent under the leadership of Robert Weinstein, MD, who continues as chair of the SHEA CME Committee.

Smith Named Chair of Nominating Committee

In 1999, SHEA members will be sent ballots to elect a new vice-president (who will become, 3 years later, the president of SHEA). We also must select a new practice councilor and a new academic councilor to serve on the board of SHEA for the following year. Members of SHEA who would like to have themselves or other members considered for nominations as officers of SHEA should submit their suggestions by September 1, 1998, to Philip Smith, MD, Clarkson Hospital, 650 North Tower, Doctors Bldg, 4242 Farnam, Omaha, NE 68131.

Search for Next *SHEA Newsletter*/ News Page Editor

The term for the editor of SHEA News and the *SHEA Newsletter* is 3 years. For smooth transition for the next editor, it is desirable to identify that individual before the end of summer 1998. Interested individuals should send a resume with their relevant experience to John Sellick, DO, Chair, SHEA Publications Committee, 152 Crosby Blvd, Amherst NY 14226; e-mail: <jsellick@acsu.buffalo.edu>. Please mention your interest or experience in electronic, as well as written, communication.

Antimicrobial Use and Resistance Video Conference

SHEA, along with the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, and the Hospital Infections Program and the Public Health Training Program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will cosponsor a 2+ hour program on the above topic, on Thursday, August 20, 1998, 9 AM-11:30 AM EDT (12:00 Noon-2:30 PM PDT) and repeated from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM EDT (4:00 PM-6:30 PM PDT), with live questions and answers. More information on this program can be obtained from the CDC fax line, 888-232-3299 (specify document).

Brief items of interest for the SHEA News or Newsletter may be sent to Murray D. Batt, MD, SHEA News Editor, Washoe Medical Center, 77 Pringle Way, Reno, NV 89520; fax (702) 328-4797.

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