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SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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SHEA Annual Meeting Opportunities

Preregistration closed in March for the sixth annual meeting, to be held in Washington, DC, April 21-23, 1996. Although record attendance is expected, on-site registration may be possible. If your schedule and budget will permit attendance, please call the SHEA meetings department, (609) 845-1720, to ascertain availability for any of the four workshops on April 20, as well as for the annual meeting.

Included with the 1996 SHEA dues statement was a request for you to express interest in participating in a SHEA committee. At the annual meeting, there will be a bulletin board sign-up opportunity where you may indicate interest in any of the standing or position paper committees (see the recently distributed 1996 *Membership and Resource Directory,* page 4).

The content for the 1997 seventh annual meeting program will be finalized in May 1996. Please forward suggestions to Leonard Mermel, Coordinator for the Scientific Program, or to Glen Mayhall, Chair of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee.

Occasional Surveys: Varicella Immunization for Healthcare Workers in Acute-Care Facilities

As epidemiologists continue to see new patient exposure episodes involving healthcare workers with chickenpox, they must consider how they intend to use the new varicella vaccine. How SHEA members are organizing the deployment of a vaccine strategy in their organizations is queried in the following survey. The results of this survey will be published in a subsequent issue.

Varicella susceptibility information is obtained on:
(1) Newly hired patient-care employees /__/
(2) Current patient-care employees /__/
(3) Medical staff /__/

Varicella vaccine is offered to:
(1) Susceptible new hires /__/
(2) Susceptible current employees /__/
(3) Susceptible medical staff /__/

Cost of vaccine and its administration is assumed by:
(1) Individual immunized /__/
(2) Healthcare organization /__/

By means of :

(1) History of chickenpox /__/
(2) By serology /__/

Susceptibility is confirmed by:
(1) History of chickenpox /__/
(2) By serology /__/

Nature of organization:
(1) Teaching: /__/Y) or /__/N
(2) Size: (average daily census):
(a.) <100 beds
(b.) 100-250 beds
(c.) 251-400 beds
(d.) >401 beds
(3) Finance:
(1) Privately owned
(2) Government owned

Organization's zipcode _____ (to reduce duplication in tallying results).

Please fax your responses to Murray D. Batt, MD, Quality Services, (702) 328-4797; by email to 102554.2707@compuserv.com; or by US mail at Washoe Medical Center, 77 Pringle Way, Reno, NV 89520.

Brief items of interest for the SHEA News or Newsletter may be sent to Murray D. Batt, SHEA News Editor, Washoe Medical Center, 77 Pringle Way, Reno NV 89520.

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