EDITED BY MURRAY D. BATT, MD

SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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Networking Reception for SHEA at IDSA Meeting

SHEA will hold a networking reception at the IDSA meeting in Denver on November 14, 6:30-8:00 PM. SHEA members and those interested in joining SHEA are welcome to share in an evening of fellowship. Meeting location and time will be posted at the meeting. SHEA acknowledges generous support from Wyeth Ayerst to support this meeting.

SHEA Web Site Update

For those who want the most current information from SHEA, sign on to the SHEA web site at http://www.netscape.com/SHEA. Currently available on the web site are the full texts of SHEA's recent responses (1) to HCFA regarding that agency's proposal for the addition of hospital nosocomial surveillance data to the conditions of participation for hospitals in Medicare and (2) to OSHA with respect to their proposed final TB control rules. Also available are not only the program outline for next year's SHEA meeting in San Francisco (April 18-20, 1999) but also the annual meeting dates and locations for the next 5 years of SHEA meetings. Most useful as well are links to many current web sites relevant to epidemiology, infection control, infectious diseases, and quality improvement. If you have further ideas to improve this web site, contact Dr. John Sellick, chair of SHEA's publications committee at jsellick@acsu.buffalo.edu.

1998 SHEA Membership Survey

As of September 1, the response rate to the SHEA membership survey, originally mailed to members in July, already was approaching 50%. This survey is intended to obtain information needed for SHEA to identify and meet member needs better. It also will help target the sponsors, advertisers, and exhibitors whose support is used, along with member dues, for SHEA to accomplish its mission and to meet members' needs. As with previous SHEA surveys, the results will be reported back to SHEA members in subsequent issues of the *SHEA NewsLetter* and the SHEA News page. Information was solicited in the survey concerning members' demographics and characteristics of their primary hospital affiliation. Detail was requested concerning specific compensation for the respondents' work in healthcare epidemiology in relation to their total compensation. The method of contracting for this compensation was queried, as well as the specific content of those contracts. Additional information requested included membership in other professional organizations and pharmaceutical prescribing activities.

Respondents also were asked to prioritize key healthcare epidemiology issues and the value of SHEA membership. The survey was reprinted in the summer *SHEA NewsLetter* to make it easier for those SHEA members who had not yet sent in their completed survey to do so. Replacement copies of the survey are also available for those members who have not yet responded. Call SHEA headquarters at 609-423-0087.

Editor for SHEA News and *SHEA NewsLetter*

The SHEA Publications Committee still is accepting applications from members who wish to fill the next 3-year term as editor of SHEA News and the *SHEA NewsLetter.* The editor has the opportunity to participate in board and committee meetings, and interacts with the SHEA Board and committee chairs and liaisons to develop copy for the quarterly newsletter and the monthly news page that appears in *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology.* Technical assistance in editing and publishing is done by the ICHE managing editor for the news page and by the SHEA Executive Office for the *NewsLetter.* Interested members should contact Stephanie Dickinson at SHEA headquarters, 609-423-0087, or by e-mail, sdickinson.TMGNotes@smarthub.com.

Brief items of interest for the SHEA News or NewsLetter may be sent to Murray D. Batt, MD, SHEA News Editor, United Hospital Center, PO Box 1680, Clarksburg, WV 26302; fax 304-624-2909; e-mail, battm@uhcwv.org and batttmu@aol.com.

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