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SHEA News

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Materials for National Adult Immunization Awareness Week

The National Coalition for Adult Immunization (NCAI) has produced consumer education brochures, posters, and pharmacy insert cards addressing immunization against influenza, pneumococcal disease, hepatitis A and B, rubeola, mumps and rubella, diphtheria and tetanus, and varicella. A sample set of these materials is available by calling NCAI at 301-656-0003. (Bulk orders are available at low cost). These materials may be useful in health providers' offices, in pharmacies, and at health fairs. They were developed by a broad coalition of healthcare organizations with support from the CDC, as well as an educational grant from Merck Vaccine Division.

CDC's Video Conference Series on Viral Hepatitis Kicks Off in November

"Hepatitis C: Diagnosis, Clinical Management, and Prevention" will be the first of a series of two live satellite video conference programs on viral hepatitis. The CDC and the Public Health Training Network are cosponsoring the programs, the first of which is to be broadcast on November 22, 11:30 AM to 2 PM (Pacific Time), with a repeat broadcast from 3 PM to 5:30 PM (Pacific Time). Information on how to register and how to obtain continuing education credits for participating is available by calling 800-CDC-FAXX and requesting to have document #130010 faxed to you.

ProMED Describes Availability of Infectious Diseases Software

ProMED-mail subscribers recently were made aware (in ProMED Digest v97.n180) of software produced by the Global Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology Network (GIDEON). A review of this software in *JAMA* (April 2, 1997) stated ". . . anyone who has never used a good artificial intelligence program would do well to start at the top with GIDEON, . . . which is designed to (assist to) diagnose infectious diseases based on the symptoms, signs, and laboratory findings that you enter for your patient." It also has epidemiology, therapy, and microbiology modules. Further information and a demonstration is available at the Web site http://www.cyinfo.com. The purchase price to those who mention the ProMED-mail offer is discounted to $395 from the list price of $1,195. GIDEONS' developers have agreed to donate copies of this software to several developing countries' HealthNet nodes, as well as to make a donation to ProMED mail in proportion to the number of copies sold. The US distributor is reachable at 800-316-8585.

II Pan-American Congress

On April 19-21, 1998, the II Pan-American Congress on Hospital Infections will be held concurrently with the I Argentine Congress on Hospital Infections and Quality Healthcare at Mar del Plata, Argentina.

The goals of this Congress are to consider three components of the new age in hospital epidemiology: clinical practice in infectious diseases, including guideline development implemtnation; infection control and surveillance; and, quality improvement and cost containment.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is December 15, 997.

Further information is available by writing to the General Secretariat, Ana Juan Congresos, Sarmiento 1562-4º "F" (1042) Buenos Aires, Argentina; by faxing, (54-1) 382-6703; or e-mailing, anajuan@anajuan.com. Web site: http://www.anajuan.com/anajuan/usuarios.

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.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0195941700092535 Published online by Cambridge University Press