EDITED BY C. GLEN MAYHALL, MD
MURRAY D. BATT, MD
EDWARD S. WONG, MD

SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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SHEA Annual Luncheon at ICAAC

The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America will host its Annual Luncheon during the joint meetings of the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC) and Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA). The luncheon will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 1995,12:00 noon to 2:00 PM. In response to your requests, there will not be a featured speaker this year; instead, we are having a networking luncheon featuring you! Meet with SHEA's officers and committee chairs and share your ideas, concerns, and needs. What do you expect from SHEA? For what programs are you looking? Come and meet your colleagues during this informal luncheon. Cost of the lunch is $25 for advance registration and $35 onsite. To request tickets, call (609) 845-1636 or fax (609) 853-0411.

Third World Pathogens/American Epidemiologists

The measures taken by the US Public Health Service Quarantine Division to eliminate the risk of Ebola introduction into the United States during the recent Zairean outbreak are similar to the measures taken 9 months ago during the pneumonic plague outbreak in India.

International air carriers were reminded that they are required by law to notify the closest quarantine station of the arrival of any sick passenger or crew member. Travelers arriving from the epidemic country were issued an advisory requesting that they monitor themselves for specific symptoms of illness and seek medical attention should they become ill. Passengers on board flights directly from Africa and Europe were issued Health Alert Notices requesting that they mention their international travel to their physician should they fall ill.

1. The *MMWR* supplement "Management of Patients with Suspected Viral Hemorrhagic Fever," February 26, 1988, has been redistributed to all concerned parties. (Revised contact names and telephone numbers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are available on Internet in a revision of the 1988 *MMWR*). The *MMWR* of June 16, 1995, contained updated information on Ebola management.

2. Hospitals near international airports are now requested to maintain a contract with the CDC agreeing to provide isolation facilities and medical treatment for ill passengers referred to them by a quarantine inspector.

In comparison with the measures described in Dustin Hoffman's current cinematic success, *Outbreak,* the above mentioned measures are considered a more rational approach to fulfilling the needs of the health field personnel and medical facilities involved in containing the introduction of diseases infectious to humans into the United States.

Search for Editor of SHEA News and SHEA Newsletter

Dr. Mayhall's term as Editor of the SHEA Newsletter and the SHEA News concludes soon, and a new Editor is being sought. Interested candidates should submit their CV and a letter describing their interest in the position to Dr. Elias Abrutyn, SHEA Publications Committee Chairman, Chief of Infectious Diseases (111ID) , VA Medical Center, University & Woodland Aves., Philadelphia, PA 19104-4594.

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