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SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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1998 SHEA Educational Meetings (and Beyond)

SHEA's Annual Meeting Planning Committee has worked out most of the details for the Eighth Annual Meeting of SHEA, to be held on April 5-7, 1998, in Orlando, Florida. This year, we expect to provide additional information on the Annual Meeting in our web site at http://www.medscape.com/SHEA. For those whose planning calendars are multiyear, the Ninth Annual Meeting will be held in San Francisco, April 18-20, 1999, and the Tenth Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Fourth Decennial International Conference on Nosocomial Infections in Atlanta, Georgia, April 16-19, 2000.

MRSA, VRE, VISA, and VRSA Survey

On September 25, 1997, the CDC Satellite Videoconference on VRE Control took place nationwide. A few weeks prior, the media (*Boston Globe,* August 21, 1997) reported a second case of VISA (vancomycin intermediately sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus)*.

Please participate in a quick-and-dirty survey of contemporary isolation practices, and compliance with them, for four real (or potentially) resistant gram-positive species:

	MRSA	VRE	VISA	VRSA
Gowns and gloves for entering the room	_____	_____	_____	_____
Gowns and gloves if any contact with patient or his environment	_____	_____	_____	_____
Gowns and gloves if substantial contact with patient or his environment	_____	_____	_____	_____
>50% of staff comply				
<50% of staff comply				
Acute-care hospital >250 occupied beds				
Acute-care hospital <250 occupied beds				
Chronic-care facility				

Indicate the state, province, or country of the facility being described._____

Send responses to these surveys to Murray D. Batt, MD, fax 702-328-4797, e-mail, mbatt.reno@worldnet.att.net, prior to October 31, 1997, to be tabulated for the January SHEA Board Planning Meeting.

Survey of SHEA News Readers' Favorite Educational/ Annual Meetings

This year was the first time the annual ICAAC and IDSA national educational meetings were held separately. The SHEA Board of Directors is interested in evaluating how this split affected our members and other readers. A subsequent news page will promulgate the results received, if we are able to show any correlation between SHEA members and news page readership and their willingness to answer surveys about meetings attended.

In 1996, did you attend any part of the IHI meeting in New Orleans in December? _____

In 1997, did you attend any part of the SHEA meeting in St Louis in April? _____

In 1997, did you attend any part of the IDSA meeting in San Francisco in September? _____

In 1997, did you attend any part of the ICAAC meeting in Toronto? _____

Please indicate your home state, province, country. _____

Please write in your professional discipline: _____

Are you a SHEA member? _____.

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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