

# Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology

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ICHE



Artist: Michael Calderwood

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## CONTENTS

## SHEA Position Paper

- 801** SHEA position statement on pandemic preparedness for policymakers: introduction and overview  
*Vincent P. Hsu, Sarah Haessler, David B. Banach, Lynne Jones Batshon, Westyn Branch-Elliman, Ghinwa Dumyati, Robin L. P. Jump, Anurag N. Malani, Trini A. Mathew, Rekha K. Murthy, Steven A. Pergam, Erica S. Shenoy and David J. Weber*
- 804** SHEA position statement on pandemic preparedness for policymakers: building a strong and resilient healthcare workforce  
*David B. Banach, Trini A. Mathew, Lynne Jones Batshon, Westyn Branch-Elliman, Ghinwa Dumyati, Sarah Haessler, Vincent P. Hsu, Robin L. P. Jump, Anurag N. Malani, Rekha K. Murthy, Steven A. Pergam, Erica S. Shenoy and David J. Weber*
- 808** SHEA position statement on pandemic preparedness for policymakers: the role of healthcare epidemiologists in communicating during infectious diseases outbreaks  
*Erica S. Shenoy, David B. Banach, Lynne Jones Batshon, Westyn Branch-Elliman, Ghinwa Dumyati, Sarah Haessler, Vincent P. Hsu, Robin L. P. Jump, Anurag N. Malani, Trini A. Mathew, Rekha K. Murthy, Steven A. Pergam, Matthew Wayne Seeger and David J. Weber*
- 813** Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America position statement on pandemic preparedness for policymakers: mitigating supply shortages  
*David Jay Weber, Anurag N. Malani, Erica S. Shenoy, David B. Banach, Lynne Jones Batshon, Westyn Branch-Elliman, Ghinwa Dumyati, Sarah Haessler, Vincent P. Hsu, Robin L.P. Jump, Trini A. Mathew, Rekha K. Murthy and Steven A. Pergam*
- 818** SHEA position statement on pandemic preparedness for policymakers: emerging infectious threats  
*Vincent P. Hsu, Steven A. Pergam, Erica S. Shenoy, David B. Banach, Lynne Jones Batshon, Westyn Branch-Elliman, Ghinwa Dumyati, Sarah Haessler, Robin L. P. Jump, Anurag N. Malani, Trini A. Mathew, Rekha K. Murthy and David J. Weber*
- 821** SHEA position statement on pandemic preparedness for policymakers: pandemic data collection, maintenance, and release  
*Westyn Branch-Elliman, David B. Banach, Lynne J. Batshon, Ghinwa Dumyati, Sarah Haessler, Vincent P. Hsu, Robin L.P. Jump, Anurag N. Malani, Trini A. Mathew, Rekha K. Murthy, Steven A. Pergam, Erica S. Shenoy and David J. Weber*

## Original Articles

- 826** Hospitalizations among family members increase the risk of MRSA infection in a household  
*Aaron C. Miller, Alan T. Arakkal, Daniel K. Sewell, Alberto M. Segre, Bijaya Adhikari, Philip M. Polgreen and For The CDC MInD-Healthcare Group*
- 833** Modeling relaxed policies for discontinuation of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* contact precautions  
*Jiaming Cui, Jack Heavey, Leo Lin, Eili Y. Klein, Gregory R. Madden, Costi D. Sifri, Bryan Lewis, Anil K. Vullikanti and B. Aditya Prakash*

- 839** Mortality associated with carbapenem resistance in *Klebsiella pneumoniae* bloodstream infection: A propensity score-matched study  
*Ling Wang, Chaoying Zeng, Xue Li, Yuqing Li, Zhihua Liu and Jing Hu*
- 847** The impact of an intervention to reduce dispersal from wastewater drain sites on carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* colonization and bloodstream infection on a hematopoietic cell transplant and hematologic malignancy unit  
*Lauren Fontana, Morgan Hakki, Egon A. Ozer, Amy Laird and Lynne Strasfeld*
- 856** Regional impact of multidrug-resistant organism prevention bundles implemented by facility type: A modeling study  
*Samuel E. Cincotta, Maroya S. Walters, D. Cal Ham, Rany Octaria, Jessica M. Healy, Rachel B. Slayton and Prabasaj Paul*
- 864** Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) and non-CAUTI hospital-onset urinary tract infections: Relative burden, cost, outcomes and related hospital-onset bacteremia and fungemia infections  
*Timothy Kelly, ChinEn Ai, Molly Jung and Calvin Yu*
- 872** Comparing multiple infection control measures in a nursing home setting: a simulation study  
*Haomin Li, Daniel K. Sewell, Ted Herman, Sriram V. Pemmeraju, Alberto M. Segre, Aaron C. Miller and Philip M. Polgreen and for the CDC MInD-Healthcare Group*
- 880** Environmental cleaning and disinfection in the operating room: a systematic scoping review through a human factors and systems engineering lens  
*Anping Xie, Hugo Sax, Oluseyi Daodu, Lamia Alam, Marium Sultan, Clare Rock, C. Matthew Stewart, Shawna J. Perry and Ayse P. Gurses*
- 890** Prevalence of unnecessary antibiotic prescriptions among dental visits, 2019  
*Ashlee M. Murphy, Ursula C. Patel, Geneva M. Wilson and Katie J. Suda*

#### Concise Communications

- 900** Healthcare personnel opinions regarding the feasibility of a risk-tailored approach to contact precautions for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in the acute care setting  
*Lyndsay M. O'Hara, Anthony D. Harris, David P. Calfee, Graham M. Snyder, James Cottam, Nathan N. O'Hara and Elise M. Martin*
- 903** Differences in the incidence of nosocomial-onset COVID-19 among hospitalized patients with exposure to SARS-CoV-2  
*Masataka Nakagawa, Yumiko Fujishiro, Yohei Doi, Junichi Yamakami and Hitoshi Honda*
- 906** Impact of universal chlorhexidine bathing with or without COVID-19 intensive training on staff and resident COVID-19 case rates in nursing homes  
*Gabrielle M. Gussin, Raveena D. Singh, Shruti K. Gohil, Raheeb Saavedra, Thomas T. Tjoa, Kristine P. Nguyen, Robert Pedroza, Joshua B. Hsi, Kevin O'Brien, Chase Berman, Jessica Park, Emily A. Hsi, Kimia Ghasemian, Avy Osalvo, Stephanie Chun, Emily Fonda and Susan S. Huang*

#### Letters to the Editor

- 910** “Wine”ing about blood culture bottles: using easy-to-follow visual cues to collect appropriate volumes  
*Marina Keller, Thai Nguyen, Jamie Palazzo, Kirsten Lawton, Matt Landers, Suzanne Hyatt and Vishnu Chaturvedi*
- 911** Not all consequences should be accepted: Letter to the Editor Reply to “Reportable infections following colon surgery in a large public healthcare system in New York City: the consequences of being a level 1 trauma center”  
*Preeti Mehrotra, Ashley Dauphin, Matthew S. Lee and Patrick S. Gordon*

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## About the cover:



Title: *In Our Hands*, 2023

Beginning with volume 43 (January 2022), the cover of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology* (ICHE) will feature art inspired by or reflective of topics within the scope of the journal and their impact on patients, healthcare personnel and our society. These topics include healthcare-associated infections, antimicrobial resistance, and healthcare epidemiology. The intent is to feature original artwork that has been created by individuals who have a personal connection to one or more of these topics through their clinical work, research, or experience as a patient or an affected patient's family member, friend or advocate. The goal is to provide readers with a visual reminder of the human impact of the topics addressed in the journal and the importance of the work being done by those who read or contribute to ICHE and by all who are trying to make healthcare safer through the elimination of healthcare-associated infections.

For more information about the ICHE cover and how to submit artwork for consideration for a future cover, please visit the ICHE website: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/infection-control-and-hospital-epidemiology/front-covers>

**Artist:** Michael Calderwood, MD, MPH

**Medium:** Acrylic paints on canvas

### Dr. Calderwood spoke to ICHE about his artwork.

**What was the inspiration for this artwork?** Over the years, there have been many campaigns to improve hand hygiene in health care facilities (e.g., “Clean Hands Save Lives,” “My Health is in Your Hands,” “Speak up for Clean Hands”). During the past few years, though, the concept of the hand has taken on other meanings, as those in the healthcare community have lent a hand across a myriad of settings, have held the hand of patients, family, friends, and fellow healthcare workers who were suffering, and have stood hand-in-hand in facing the unknown, overcoming obstacles, and navigating the path forward. A hand held in an upward position, as shown in the painting, is also a means of saying “stop” or more specifically “prevent” as written on the palm. Whether it be in areas of HAI prevention, antimicrobial stewardship, outbreak investigation, diagnostic stewardship, or one of the many other topics covered within the pages of ICHE, the idea of prevention is one where safe and effective patient care is front and center in everything that we do. We are strongest when we work together toward a better future, recognizing that we each have something to teach, and we each have something to learn. As for the colors chosen in my art, many of our infection prevention strategies are targeted at infections involving blood, urine, wounds, stool, and water. You will see these each depicted, melding into a singular patina reminding us once again to wash our hands, as clean hands really do save lives.

**What is your personnel connection to the content of ICHE?** I am an active member of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA), having served on multiple committees, including the Publications Committee. I am both an author and a reviewer for ICHE. Recently, I was lead author on the 2022 update of the surgical site infection prevention section of the Compendium of Strategies to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections in Acute Care Hospitals. I have served in leadership roles in hospital epidemiology and antimicrobial stewardship, and I currently oversee both disciplines in my role as Chief Quality Officer at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.

*Dr. Calderwood is the Chief Quality Officer for Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire, USA. He is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and a staff physician in Infectious Disease & International Health.*

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Cover image: *In Our Hands*, 2023