

EDITED BY ANDREAS VOSS, MD, PHD
WILLIAM R. JARVIS, MD

SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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SHEA Newsletter Moves On-Line!

Welcome! I am pleased to announce that our *SHEA Newsletter* is moving on-line. In an effort to get the latest information to our members and meet a number of our SHEA strategic-plan objectives, we have decided to move our newsletter from hard copy to the Internet. We hope this will encourage more of our members to go on-line to our SHEA web site and to provide us with feedback on how we can improve. We recently established a SHEA Internet Committee, which in January provided the SHEA Board of Directors with some outstanding recommendations for improving our web site, as well as the products and functions of the web site for our members.

As we move into the new millennium, we, as an organization, want to improve the range and quality of the service we provide you. As the demands on your time increase, we are trying to identify more efficient ways to communicate with, inform, and educate

our members. We are establishing the capacity to communicate with all of our members via e-mail; have initiated, for the first time, on-line abstract submission for our annual meeting; have group e-mail lists for our SHEA committees; and will move our membership directory to our web site. These changes are small but important steps toward increasing communication with and among our members. Please let me know if you would like changes or additions to our web site. Also, please become active members in communicating important information about healthcare epidemiology to other members through our *SHEA Newsletter*. If you have items you would like to include in the newsletter, please send them to me (wrj1@cdc.gov) or to Dr. Andreas Voss at a.voss@mmb.azn.nl.

Sincerely yours,
William R. Jarvis, MD
President, SHEA

Institute of Medicine Issues Tuberculosis Report

In January 2001, the IOM released their report *Tuberculosis in the Workplace* (Marilyn J. Field, ed. Washington, DC: Committee on Regulating Occupational Exposure to Tuberculosis, Division of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Institute of Medicine, National Academy Press). In this report, the IOM assessed the current status of tuberculosis control programs in the United States and addressed the need for the OSHA TB Rule. The entire report can be found at <http://www.NAP.edu>.

Leapfrog Group Addresses Patient Safety

In November 2000, the Leapfrog Group for Patient Safety, sponsored by the Business Roundtable, issued their recommendations for reducing health-care costs and improving patient outcomes. This group of business leaders hopes that the recommendations made will be adopted by all non-rural hospitals providing care to their employees (and others). The recommendations included (1) computer physician order entry; (2) evidenced-based hospital referral for high-risk surgery or high-risk neonatal intensive care; and (3) ICU staffing with intensivists. Further information on these recommendations can be found at <http://www.leapfroggroup.org>.

Welcome to the New SHEA Board of Directors

New SHEA Board appointments:
President, William R. Jarvis, MD;
President-Elect, Barry Farr, MD, MSc; Vice President, Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH;

Past President, Dale N. Gerding, MD; Treasurer, Rebecca Wurtz, MD; Academic Councilor, Richard Platt, MD, MS; and Practice Councilor, Farrin Manian, MD.

Writer's Dinner During Annual Meeting

Robert Sherertz, Loreen Herwaldt, and Barry Farr invite SHEA members who write nonscientific pieces (poetry, fiction, nonfiction, etc) to join them for dinner at the SHEA meeting in Toronto. Each will pay for their own meal; the ticket for

admission is a piece of your work to read to the group. If interested, contact Dr. Sherertz at sherertz@wfulmc.edu prior to the meeting or let him know at the meeting that you wish to attend.

Brief items of interest for SHEA News or the SHEA Newsletter may be sent to Andreas Voss, MD, PhD, Dept. of Medical Microbiology, University of Nijmegen, Postbus 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, The Netherlands; fax, 31-024-354-0216; e-mail, a.voss@mmb.azn.nl.