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SHEA News

THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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OSHA's Proposed TB Standard

Michael L. Tapper, MD, chairman of the AIDS/TB Committee, responded to the reopening of the docket for OSHA's proposed TB standard. This has been an area of considerable controversy in the United States and an area of great concern to many SHEA members, especially because recent science and the significant achievements to control the transmission of TB in the workplace did not influence OSHA's proposed TB standard. Referring to SHEA's conclusions of February 1998, Dr. Tapper stated that "... the criterion for determining that existing conditions pose a significant risk to healthcare workers has not been met and that the promulgation of the proposed standard cannot be scientifically justified at this time."

SHEA CDC Guidelines

Just as a reminder, the SHEA CDC guidelines are still available! Twelve guidelines, including the new HIV and HBV postexposure prophylaxis guidelines, can be purchased by calling Etna Communications at 1-800-552-0076. A single volume is only \$99 for SHEA members.

Calendar

Nov 2-6. Second World Congress of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. Manila, Philippines. Info: 1161170@compuserve.com.

Nov 10. APIC's software course. Ft Lauderdale, FL. Info: <http://www.apic.org>.

Nov 18-21. Infectious Diseases Society of America 37th Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. Info: <http://www.idsociety.org>.

Dec 1-3. Sixth Conference of the Federation of Infection Societies. Manchester, UK. Info: fis.icms@dial.pipex.com.

Dec 13-17. HIS/PHLS Course in Sterilisation, Disinfection and Hospital Hygiene. Falfield, Gloucestershire, UK. Info: bcookson@phls.nhs.uk.

Feb 29-Mar 4. Fifth World Congress on Trauma, Shock, Inflammation and Sepsis. Munich, Germany. Info: faist@gch.med.uni-muenchen.de.

Mar 5-9. 10th Annual Scientific Meeting in conjunction with the Fourth Decennial International Conference on Nosocomial Infections and Healthcare-Associated Infections. Atlanta, GA. Info: <http://www.decennial.org>.

Apr 10-13. Ninth International Congress on Infectious Diseases. Buenos Aires, Argentina. Info: isidbos@aol.com.

May 3-5. 18th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Disease, Neonatal Infections Antimicrobial Practice. Noordwijk, The Netherlands. Info: y.beeukkes@mmb.azn.nl.

May 7-10. Third European Congress of Chemotherapy. Madrid, Spain. Info: ecc@congrex.se.

May 21-25. 100th American Society of Microbiology General Meeting. Los Angeles, CA. Info: meetingsinfo@asmusa.org.

May 25-27. Joint Meeting of the Surgical Infection Society Europe and the European Shock Society. Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Info: m.majoor@buro.kun.nl.

May 28-31. 10th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases. Stockholm, Sweden (including an ESCMID/SHEA symposium). Info: eccmid@stocon.se.

Spotted the Site?

For a web site with extensive safety information of interest to operating room managers, risk managers, infection control and occupational health professionals, hospitals and

healthcare networks, and industry, visit <http://www.safetyinfo.com>.

The HIS Working Party on the "Decontamination of Minimally Invasive Surgical Equipment" has issued its draft report for consultation. It can be downloaded from the web site <http://www.his.org.uk>.

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.