

INFECTION CONTROL AND HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY[®]

EDITORIAL

Control of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus: The Ambivalence Persists

JOSEPH M. MYLOTTE, MD

73

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Epidemiology of Staphylococcus aureus Infections in Patients on Hemodialysis

J. ENA, MD, PhD; J.R. BOELAERT, MD; L.D. BOYKEN, BS; H.W. VAN LANDUYT; C.A. GODARD; L.A. HERWALDT, MD

78

Bacterial Contamination of Platelets at a University Hospital: Increased Identification Due to Intensified Surveillance

STEPHANIE ZAZA, MD; JEROME I. TOKARS, MD, MPH; ROSLYN YOMTOVIAN, MD; NORA V. HIRSCHLER, MD; MICHAEL R. JACOBS, MD, PhD; HILLIARD M. LAZARUS, MD; LAWRENCE T. GOODNOUGH, MD; LEE A. BLAND; MATTHEW J. ARDUINO, DRPH; WILLIAM R. JARVIS, MD

82

Epidemic Clostridium difficile- Associated Diarrhea: Role of Second- and Third-Generation Cephalosporins

DAVID E. NELSON, MD, MPH; STEVEN B. AUERBACH, MD, MPH; ALDONA L. BALTCH, MD; ETHEL DESJARDIN, BSN, CIC; CONSUELO BECK-SAGUE, MD, MPH; CAROL RHEAL, BSN, CIC; RAYMOND P. SMITH, MD; WILLIAM R. JARVIS, MD

88

Screening of Physicians for Tuberculosis

VICTORIA J. FRASER, MD; CHARLES M. KILO, MD; THOMAS C. BAILEY, MD; GERALD MEDOFF, MD; W. CLAIRBORNE DUNAGAN, MD

95

BRIEF REPORT

Predominance of Gram-Positive Microorganisms as a Cause of Septicemia in Patients with Hematological Malignancies

M. RUBIO; L. PALAU; J. ROMERO VIVAS; E. DEL PORTO; J. DIAZ-MEDIAVILLA; A. ALVARAZ; R. MARTINEZ; J.J. PICAZO

101

SPECIAL REPORT

Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA): A Briefing for Acute Care Hospitals and Nursing Facilities

JOHN M. BOYCE, MD; MARGUERITE M. JACKSON, RN, MS, FAAN; GINA PUGLIESE, RN, MS; MURRAY D. BATT, MD; DAVID FLEMING, MD; JULIA S. GARNER, RN, MN; ALAN I. HARTSTEIN, MD; CAROL A. KAUFFMAN, MD; MILDRED SIMMONS, RN; ROBERT WEINSTEIN, MD; CAROL O'BOYLE WILLIAMS, RN, MS; AND THE AHA TECHNICAL PANEL ON INFECTIONS WITHIN HOSPITALS

105

BEYOND INFECTION CONTROL: THE NEW HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

Variation in Medical Practice: Implications for the Hospital Epidemiologist

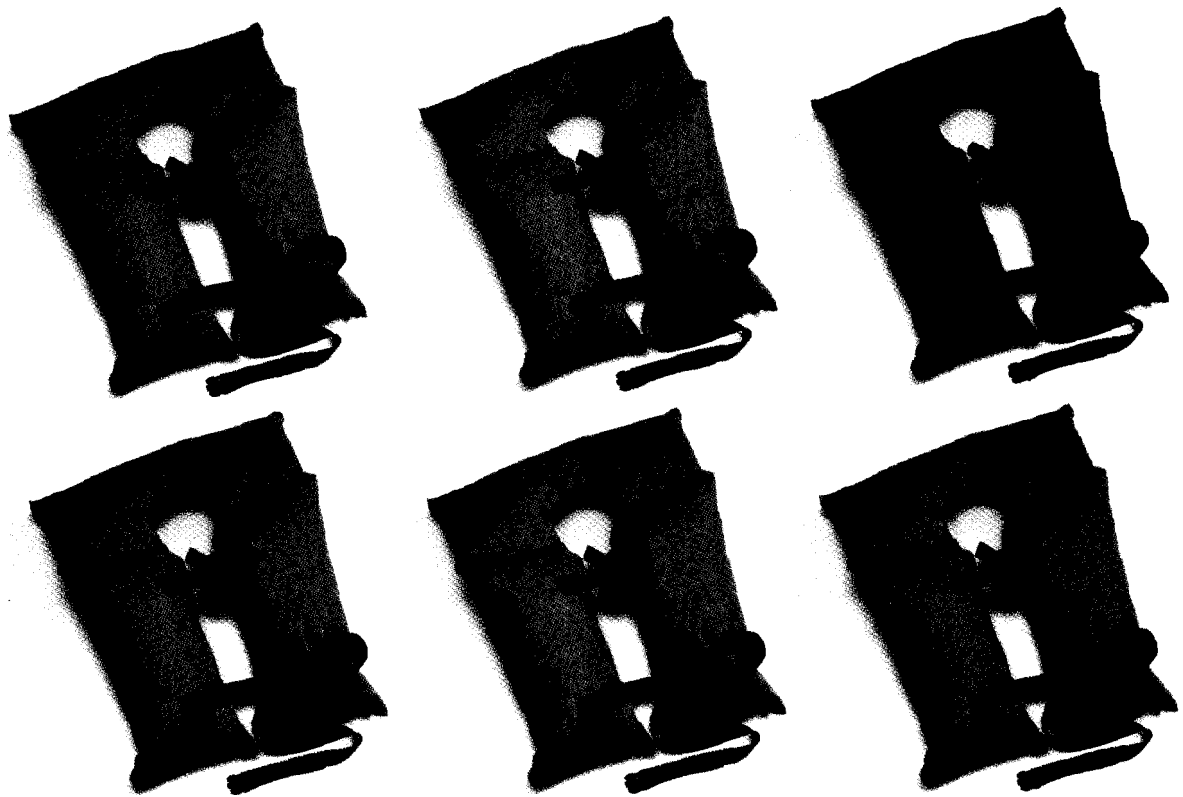
STEPHEN B. KRITCHEVSKY, PhD; AND BRYAN P. SIMMONS, MD

116

PROGRAM OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

123

Continued on page 65.

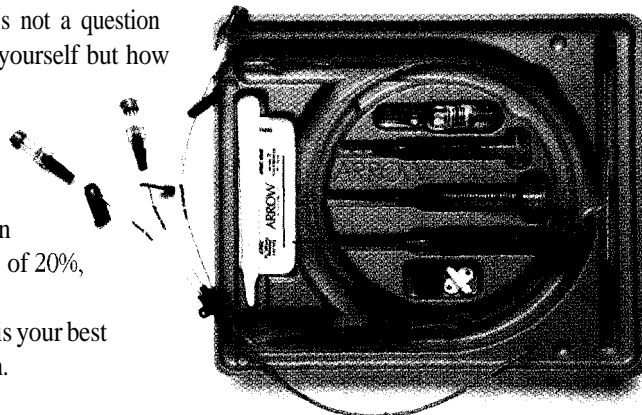


If the blue one protected 4 times better, would you use it?

When a risk arises, it's not a question of if you should protect yourself but how to best protect yourself.

With costly central venous catheter-related infections occurring at a rate of 3% to 12%, and an associated mortality rate of 20%, the risks are real.

ARROWgard Blue™ is your best defense against infection.



CVC catheters with the built-in protection of ARROWgard Blue™ are up to 80% less likely to develop bacteremia than

unprotected catheters! So you can save up to 80% of your CVC patients from the risk of a catheter-related bloodstream infection. And you can save your hospital from the expense of \$7,000 per infection.

To learn about all the benefits of ARROWgard Blue™ catheters, contact your Arrow representative or call 1800 523-8446.

A R R O W
INTERNATIONAL, INC.

1 Elliot, T.S.J. Intravascular-device related infections. J. Med. Microbiol.; 27:161-167; 1988. 2 ARROWgard Blue™ is a joint development of Daltex Medical Services, Inc., and Arrow International, Inc. using technology developed by Dr. Shanta Modak and colleagues, in the Department of Surgery, Columbia University. U.S. Patent Numbers 4,612,337, 4,563,485, 4,581,028, 5,019,096; other U.S. and foreign patents pending. 3 Maki, DG; Wheeler, S.J; Stolz, SM. Study Of anovelantisepticcoated Central venous catheter. Presented at the Society of Critical Care Medicine Annual Symposium; Washington, D.C., May 1991.

INFECTION CONTROL AND HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY[™]

CONTENTS

BOOK REVIEWS

The Work Environment, Volume Two: Healthcare, Laboratories and Biosafety (Hansen DJ, ed)
John H. Keene, DrPH 120

Infecion Hospitalaria (Galvez R, Delgado M, Guillen JF)
Samuel Ponce-De-Leon, MD, MSc 121

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Control of MRSA in a Long-Term Care Facility
Andrew E. Simor, MD; Anne Augustin, RT, CIC; John Ng, RT; Stephen Betschel, BSc; Margaret McArthur, RN, CIC 69

Prolonged, Multipatient Use of Oxygen Humidifier Bottles (with Reply)
Gary Mermilliod, RRT; Pam Hansen, RRT; Charles Salemi, MD, MPH; Elizabeth Henderson, PhD; Gordon Ford, MD 70

Reducing Laundry Linen Sharps Contamination: Employee Safety Management
Mitchell I. Burken, MD; William Preston; Suzanne E. Atkinson, RN, MBA 71

MEDICAL NEWS

Gina Pugliese, RN, MS 130

FDA Issues Regulations for Screening Tissues for Transplantation 72

DOT Extends Compliance Date Again for Medical Waste Regulations 77

HIV Transmission Reported in Household Setting 87

EPA Issues Stop-Sale Orders on Four Medical Solutions 130

Contaminated Syringes Reused During Employee Vaccination Programs 130

First Reported Case of Patient-to-Patient Transmission of HIV in a Healthcare Setting 131

Surgeons Still Deficient in Hepatitis B Vaccination 131

Pediatric Emergency Departments-Missed Opportunities for Measles Vaccination During
Outbreaks 131

Distribution of HIV-Contaminated Blood Prompts Closer Monitoring of Blood Supply Programs 132

CDC Data Confirm Low Risk of HIV Transmission from HCW to Patient 132

Transmission of TB from Flight Attendant to Crew 133

Urine Tests Can Reveal Chlamydial Infection in Asymptomatic Men 133

Outbreak of Legionellosis Associated with Exposure to Hot Tub 133

Three Institutional Outbreaks of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Respiratory Infections 134

Immune Globulin Found Effective in Preventing RSV Disease 134

SHEA NEWS

C.Glen Mayhall, MD 135

In Memoriam: Alexander D. Langmuir, Pioneer in the Epidemiologic Sciences 135

SHEA to Cosponsor a Seminar at the 94th ASM General Meeting 135

Job Market: Opening for Hospital Epidemiologist 136

Study of Natural Rubber Latex Reactions 136

THE PUBLICATION OF ADVERTISING IN THE JOURNAL DOES NOT CONSTITUTE ANY GUARANTEE OR ENDORSEMENT BY THE SOCIETY FOR HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA OR SLACK INCORPORATED OF THE ADVERTISED PRODUCT OR SERVICE OR OF CLAIMS MADE BY THE ADVERTISER. THE PUBLICATION OF ARTICLES AND OTHER EDITORIAL MATERIAL IN THE JOURNAL DOES NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS OR ENDORSEMENT BY THE SOCIETY.

PUBLISHER: Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology (ISSN-0899-823X, Canadian GST#129780466) is published exclusively by SLACK Incorporated 12 times a year. Address: 6900 Grove Rd., Thorofare, NJ 08086. Telephone: (609) 8481000.

COPYRIGHT 1994 The Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America, Inc., and SLACK Incorporated. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher. Printed in the USA

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Requests should be addressed to the publisher (except Japan). In Japan, contact Woodbell Incorporated, 4-22-11, Kitakasai, Edogawaku, Tokyo 134, Japan. Subscription rates in the United States and possessions: Individual: One year-\$85.00; Two years-\$120.00; Three years-\$150.00; Institutional: One year-\$95.00; Two years-\$135.00; Three years-\$175.00. Fellows: \$20 per year with proof of training status. Canada: \$18.00 additional each year plus 7% for Canadian Goods & Services tax; all other countries: \$36.00 additional each year. Single copies of current issues may be obtained for \$15.00. United States and possessions; \$20.00 all other countries.

REPRINTS: All requests to reprint or use material published herein should be addressed to Lester Robeson, SLACK Incorporated, 6900 Grove Rd., Thorofare, NJ 08086. For reprint orders and prices, contact Lester Robeson at (609) 848-1000. Authorization to photocopy items for internal or personal use, or the internal or personal use of specific clients, is granted by SLACK Incorporated, provided that the base fee of \$1.00 per copy, plus \$.15 per page is paid directly to Copyright Clearance Center, 27 Congress St., Salem, MA 01970. This consent does not extend to other kinds of copying, such as for general distribution, resale, advertising and promotional purposes, or for creating new collective works.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notice should be sent to the publisher six weeks in advance of effective date. Include old and new addresses with zip codes. The publisher cannot accept responsibility for undelivered copies. Second-class postage is paid at Thorofare, New Jersey 08086, and additional entry points. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to SLACK Incorporated, 6900 Grove Rd., Thorofare, NJ 08086.

INFECTION CONTROL AND HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY is listed in Index Medicus, Current Content-Clinical Practice, Hospital Literature Index, Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature, Nursing Abstracts, and Laboratory Performance Information Exchange System.

EDITORIAL OFFICES

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
 A-1131 Medical Center North
 Nashville, TN 37232-2637
 (615) 343-1095; (615) 343-1882 (FAX)
 Email: iche@mcmail.vanderbilt.edu

EDITOR

Michael D. Decker, MD, MPH

MANAGING EDITOR

Susan Cantrell

STATISTICAL EDITOR

Beverly G. Mellen, PhD

SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITORS

C. Glen Mayhall, MD

Gina Pugliese, RN, MS

William Schaffner, MD

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Donald A. Goldmann, MD

Didier Pittet, MD, MS

Andreas Widmer, MD, MS

SECTION EDITORS**Beyond Infection Control:****The New Hospital Epidemiology**

Bryan P. Simmons, MD

Stephen B. Kritchevsky, PhD

Memphis, Tennessee

Wing Hong Seto, MD

Hong Kong

Disinfection and Sterilization

William A. Rutala, PhD, MPH

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Larry J. Strausbaugh, MD

Portland, Oregon

Robert W. Pinner, MD

Atlanta, Georgia

From the Laboratory

Marcus Zervos, MD

Royal Oak, Michigan

Fred C. Tenover, PhD

Atlanta, Georgia

Information Management

John A. Sellick, DO

Buffalo, New York

The International Perspective

Mary D. Nettleman, MD, MS

Richmond, Virginia

Issues in Surgery

James T. Lee, MD, PhD

St. Paul, Minnesota

Medical News

Gina Pugliese, RN, MS

Chicago, Illinois

Martin S. Favero, PhD

Irvine, California

Practical Healthcare Epidemiology

Loreen A. Herwaldt, MD

Iowa City, Iowa

SHEA News

Murray D. Batt, MD

Clarksburg, West Virginia

Statistics for Hospital Epidemiology

David Birnbaum, PhD, MPH

Sidney, British Columbia, Canada

Topics in Long-Term Care

Philip W. Smith, MD

Omaha, Nebraska

Topics in Occupational Medicine

David Weber, MD, MPH

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

INFECTION CONTROL AND HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY[®]

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

- Jacques F. Acar, MD Paris, France
 J. Wesley Alexander, MD Cincinnati, Ohio
 Paul Arnow, MD Chicago, Illinois
 Graham A.J. Ayliffe, MD Birmingham, United Kingdom
 Neil L. Barg, MD Yakima, Washington
 Elizabeth Ann Bolyard, RN, MPH, CIC Atlanta, Georgia
 John M. Boyce, MD Providence, Rhode Island
 Professor Dr. Ilja Braveny Munich, Federal Republic of Germany
 Charles Bryan, MD Columbia, South Carolina
 Christian Brun-Buisson, MD Creteil, France
 Donald E. Craven, MD Boston, Massachusetts
 Sue Crow, MSN, RN, CIC Shreveport, Louisiana
 Franz Daschner, MD Freiburg, Federal Republic of Germany
 Leigh G. Donowitz, MD Charlottesville, Virginia
 Charles E. Edmiston, Jr., PhD Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 Theodore C. Eickhoff, MD Denver, Colorado
 Bruce Farber, MD Manhasset, New York
 Victoria J. Fraser, MD St. Louis, Missouri
 Peter C. Fuchs, MD, PhD Black Butte, Oregon
 Richard A. Garibaldi, MD Farmington, Connecticut
 Velvl Greene, PhD, MPH Beer Sheva, Israel
 Robert Gaynes, MD Atlanta, Georgia
 David W. Gregory, MD Nashville, Tennessee
 David K. Henderson, MD Bethesda, Maryland
 Peter N.R. Heseltine, MD Los Angeles, California
 Karen Hoffmann, RN, CIC, MS Chapel Hill, North Carolina
 Marguerite McMillan Jackson, RN, PhD San Diego, California
 Janine Jagger, MPH, PhD Charlottesville, Virginia
 William R. Jarvis, MD Atlanta, Georgia
 Douglas S. Kernodle, MD Nashville, Tennessee
 Robert H. Latham, MD Nashville, Tennessee
 Lewis B. Lefkowitz, MD Nashville, Tennessee
 Hsieh-Shong Leu, MD, MSc Taipei, Taiwan
 Jack Levy, MD Brussels, Belgium
 Victor Lorian, MD Bronx, New York
 Dennis G. Maki, MD Madison, Wisconsin
 Professor Dr. Walter Marget Munich, Federal Republic of Germany
 William J. Martone, MD Bethesda, Maryland
 Allison McGeer, MD Toronto, Ontario, Canada
 John E. McGowan, Jr., MD Atlanta, Georgia
 Jonathan L. Meakins, MD, DSc Montreal, Quebec, Canada
 Raf Mertens, MD Brussels, Belgium
 Robert R. Muder, MD Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
 Joseph M. Mylotte, MD, CIC Buffalo, New York
 Lindsay Nicolle, MD Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
 Juhani Ojajarvi, MD Helsinki, Finland
 Michael T. Osterholm, PhD, MPH Minneapolis, Minnesota
 Jan Evans Patterson, MD San Antonio, Texas
 Sindy M. Paul, MD Trenton, New Jersey
 Michael A. Pfaller, MD Iowa City, Iowa
 Samuel Ponce de Leon, MD, MSc Mexico City, Mexico
 Isaam Raad, MD Houston, Texas
 Manfred L. Rotter, MD, DipBact Vienna, Austria
 Theodore Sacks, MD Jerusalem, Israel
 William E. Scheckler, MD Madison, Wisconsin
 Kent Sepkowitz, MD New York City, New York
 Denis Spelman, MD Prahran Victoria, Australia
 Michael L. Tapper, MD New York, New York
 Clyde Thornsberrry, PhD Brentwood, Tennessee
 Professor Leonid P. Titov Minsk, Republic of Belarus
 Timothy R. Townsend, MD Millwood, Virginia
 Antoni Trilla, MD, PhD Barcelona, Spain
 Professor Wang Shu-Qun Beijing, People's Republic of China
 J. John Weems, Jr., MD Greenville, South Carolina
 Robert A. Weinstein, MD Chicago, Illinois
 Professor Dr. W. Weuffen Greifswald, Federal Republic of Germany
 Sergio B. Wey, MD São Paulo, Brazil
 Rebecca Wurtz, MD Evanston, Illinois

SLACK Incorporated

6900 Grove Road
 Thorofare, New Jersey 08086
 (609) 848-1000

Vice President/Group Publisher

Richard N. Roash

Publisher

John C. Carter

Editorial Director

Jennifer Kilpatrick

Production Editor

Shirley P. Strunk, ELS

Assistant Editor

Eileen C. Anderer

Circulation Manager

Lester J. Robeson, CCCC

Production Director

Christine Malin

Production Coordinator

Joanne Patterson

Publishing Director/ Advertising

Wayne McCourt

Pharmaceutical Group Sales Director

Michael LoPresti

Advertising Sales Representative

Jennine Kane

Classified/Recruitment Sales Manager

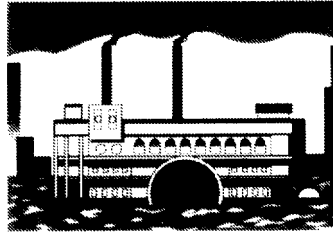
Michele Burch

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS
SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1994
SHEA WORKSHOP**

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF



**The Society for
Hospital Epidemiology of America**



March 20-22, 1994

New Orleans Marriott Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana

The 1994 meeting will include an expanded and enlarged set of "Meet the Consultant" sessions offering an opportunity to meet with specialists in one particular area of interest or concern to you. In conjunction with the meeting for the first time, two satellite workshops will be offered for anyone interested in or desiring specialized knowledge in "Quality Improvement" or in "The Use of Personal Computers in Hospital Epidemiology". The Society has structured the workshops to be held on the afternoon of Saturday, March **19, 1994**. The workshops will be held concurrently at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel starting at **1:00** pm.

1. "Using Quality Management and Clinical Epidemiology to Improve Infection Control Outcomes and Program Performance" (*Presented jointly by the Society for Hospital Epidemiology Of America (SHEA) and the Institute FOR Health-care Improvement*)

This unique program is targeted at physicians and nurses who are responsible for managing infection control programs and are looking for fresh approaches to achieving their goals.

Faculty:

Donald Berwick, M.D., Institute for Health Care Improvement

Emily Rhinehart, R.N., C.I.C., Director of CQI Services, AIG Consultants, Inc.

Donald A. Goldmann, M.D., The Children's Hospital, Boston, MA

Bryan I? Simmons, M.D., Methodist Hospital, Memphis, TN

2. "Personal Computers for Infection Control"

A necessary and innovative introduction and overview of the role personal computers play in infection control. The workshop will allow a structured interactive approach to integrating PC's into your working environment and update you on some specialized software available to assist you.

Faculty:

David R. Reagan, M.D., Quillen College of Medicine, Johnson City, TN

Robert Sherertz, M.D., Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston Salem, NC

For further information regarding the SHEA Fourth Annual Meeting or the Workshops, please contact SHEA Meetings Department, 875 Kings Highway, Suite 200, Woodbury, NJ 08096-3172. TELE: 609-845-1720; FAX: 609-853-0411.

THE SOCIETY FOR HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Degree: M.D. Ph.D. _____ Other: _____

Hospital position (if applicable): _____

Areas of interest within hospital epidemiology: (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Antimicrobial e	<input type="checkbox"/> Nosocomial pneumonia	<input type="checkbox"/> Protective devices and equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Cost-benefit research	<input type="checkbox"/> Nosocomial urinary tract infection	<input type="checkbox"/> Q.A., CQI, QM, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Health services research	<input type="checkbox"/> i n d O u t c o m e t o r s	<input type="checkbox"/> Surgical site infection
<input type="checkbox"/> Intravascular device-associated infection	<input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacoepidemiology	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____		

Business Address: _____

City

State

Zip Code

Business Telephone: (_____) - _____ Fax: (_____) - _____

Home Address: _____

City

State

Zip Code

Home Telephone: (_____) - _____

Indicate preferred address for correspondence, journal, and membership directory listing.

H o m e B u s i n e s s

How/Where did you hear about SHEA? _____

MEMBERSHIP FEE: (Non-U.S. members pay with draft for U.S. dollars)

_____ Active Membership (Calendar year dues \$85)

Applicants must hold a doctoral degree and should either work in the field of hospital epidemiology or have a direct interest in hospital epidemiology.

_____ Associate Membership (Calendar year dues \$35). Training Program ends in _____ / _____
MO. Yr.

Applicants must hold a doctoral degree and be participating in an appropriate training program.
Proof of training must accompany this application.

Membership Fee includes subscription to the Society's official journal, *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*

Make checks payable in **U.S.** dollars **to:** The Society for Hospital Epidemiology of America

PAYMENT: Check Credit Card: Visa Mastercard **Please note we cannot process American Express**

Account No. _____ Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

Send Application and Remittance To: SHEA Membership Department
875 Kings Highway, Suite 200
Woodbury, NJ 08096-3 172
609-845-1636
609-853-0411 Fax