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# SHEA News

## THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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## SHEA Meets With OSHA and NIOSH at White House

Scheduled for Friday, April 19, a SHEA Team that included our past, present, and future presidents, as well as several members of the AIDS/TB task force and our Arkansas liaison, was scheduled to meet with representatives of OSHA and NIOSH to discuss the appropriateness of fit testing for healthcare

workers who will be using particulate respirators when they care for patients who have, or who may have, tuberculosis. The meeting was to be facilitated by Carol Rasco and her staff. Ms. Rasco is assistant to the President for domestic policy. She was the keynote speaker at last year's annual SHEA meeting.

## Demographics and Activities of SHEA Members

Last year, the membership committee, led by H. Gunner Deery II, designed a survey to learn more about our organization's membership. Based on a 52% response, we are an organization that is 90% physicians, 85% of whom are internists and 76% of whom are male. Seventy-two percent of our members stated that the size of their primary hospitals was 300 beds or more. Only 16% of

the hospitals were nonteaching. Seventy-five percent of the members said they did not have long-term-care healthcare epidemiology responsibilities. Fifty-six percent were involved in quality management, 9% chairing quality management at the time of the 1995 survey. We are planning to share a more detailed analysis of the information in the June *SHEA Newsletter*.

## New SHEA-Institute for Healthcare Improvement Course

SHEA and Institute for Healthcare Improvement recently announced their intention to collaborate on a new educational offering, "Improving Healthcare Through Clinical Epidemiology and Quality Improvement."

The course will be presented at the Hilton Towers, Washington, DC, November 22-25, 1996. The SHEA collaborators who were instrumental in designing

## Managed Care in Infectious Diseases

SHEA again will cosponsor a conference in collaboration with the Clinical Affairs Committee of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, and Opivita. The Managed Care in Infectious Diseases conference will be held at the Drake Hotel in Chicago in June. Plenary sessions will be held on Friday afternoon, June 21, and Saturday morning, June 22. On Saturday afternoon, several workshops will run concurrently on the subjects of HIV care, consultation issues, outpatient antibiotic therapy, and infection control. For more information and a conference brochure, please contact Sharon Hills, secretary to the Clinical Affairs Committee of IDSA, at 317-587-2344.

this course included Walter Hierholzer, Don Goldmann, and Ed Wong, Chair of the Education Committee. Registration information is available from the SHEA Meetings department, telephone 609-845-1720, fax 609-853 0411, e-mail: meetings@shea.ccmail.compuserv.com.

*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.*