

# SHEA News

## THE SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA

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## Can the Internet Cause Harm?

Alex Jadad and Miguel Villasis are conducting a systematic search of the biomedical peer-reviewed literature on the Internet for articles with data on harm caused by the use of information found on the Internet by members of the public. They

have found many articles warning about potential problems, but have not located any supporting evidence. If you know of any paper or web site with data on this topic, please contact them at villasm@mcmaster.ca.

## Health Care Quality Special Interest Group

The recently formed Health Care Quality (HCQ) Special Interest Group (SIG), sponsored by the American Society for Quality's Health Care Division and SHEA, has over 40 members worldwide. By e-mail, SIG members described their interests in health-care quality improvement (QI) and then developed, debated, and ratified seven goals with eight subordinate objectives. Also via e-mail, volunteer working parties considered each objective in detail and began taking action.

SIG invites you to participate in the inaugural symposium, "Collaborations to Improve Health Care Quality," which will be held in conjunction with SHEA's annual meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in April. Participants will be informed of progress, plans for collaborative initiatives, new funding, and applied research programs, and provided an opportunity for networking.

Interested in joining the HCQ-SIG? Please contact David Birnbaum, [brnbaum@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:brnbaum@interchange.ubc.ca).

## ESPID Change of Venue

Due to the current situation in Israel, the 19th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases has been moved to Istanbul, Turkey (see calendar). Info: [www.kenes.com/espид2001](http://www.kenes.com/espид2001).

## Calendar

**Mar 5-9.** Clinical Surveillance of Healthcare-Associated Infections. Chapel Hill, NC. Info: [eva\\_clontz@unc.edu](mailto:eva_clontz@unc.edu).

**Mar 19-23.** Extension Training Program for Infection Control Practitioners. Iowa City, IA. Info: Dawn Folkmann, 319-356-1606.

**Mar 26-28.** 19th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases. Istanbul, Turkey. Info: [espид2001@kenes.com](mailto:espид2001@kenes.com).

**Apr 1-3.** SHEA's 11th Annual Scientific Meeting. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Info: [www.shea-online.org](http://www.shea-online.org).

**Apr 1-4.** 11th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases. Istanbul, Turkey. Info: [www.akm.ch/eccmid](http://www.akm.ch/eccmid) or [www.escmid.org/eccmid2001](http://www.escmid.org/eccmid2001).

**Apr 12-13.** Third International Symposium on Antimicrobial Agents and Resistance. Seoul, Korea. Info: [www.ansorp.org/meeting/2001](http://www.ansorp.org/meeting/2001).

**Apr 19-21.** Symposium on the Control of Surgical Infections.

Florence, Italy. Info: [info@chemother.it](mailto:info@chemother.it).

**May 3-4.** Wisconsin APIC-2001 Seminar. Pewaukee, WI. Info: Nancy Andritsch, [andritsch.meske@ma-hc.com](mailto:andritsch.meske@ma-hc.com).

**May 5-8.** Fourth European Congress of Chemotherapy and Infection. Paris, France. Info: [congrex@congrex.se](mailto:congrex@congrex.se) or [www.congrex.se/ecc-4](http://www.congrex.se/ecc-4).

**May 7-9.** Directions for Success: Evidence-Based Health Care. Tucson, AZ. Info: [carden.asanson.m@ghc.org](mailto:carden.asanson.m@ghc.org).

**May 20-24.** 101st ASM General Meeting. Orlando, FL. Info: [meetingsinfo@asmusa.org](mailto:meetingsinfo@asmusa.org) or [www.asmusa.org](http://www.asmusa.org).

**Jun 24-27.** International Congress on Sexually Transmitted Infections. Berlin, Germany. Info: [berlin@cpb.de](mailto:berlin@cpb.de).

**Jun 27-29.** Sixth International Symposium on Modern Concepts in Endocarditis and Cardiovascular Infections. Sitges (Barcelona), Spain.

**Jun 30-Jul 3.** 22nd International Congress of Chemotherapy. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Info: [icc@eurocongres.com](mailto:icc@eurocongres.com).