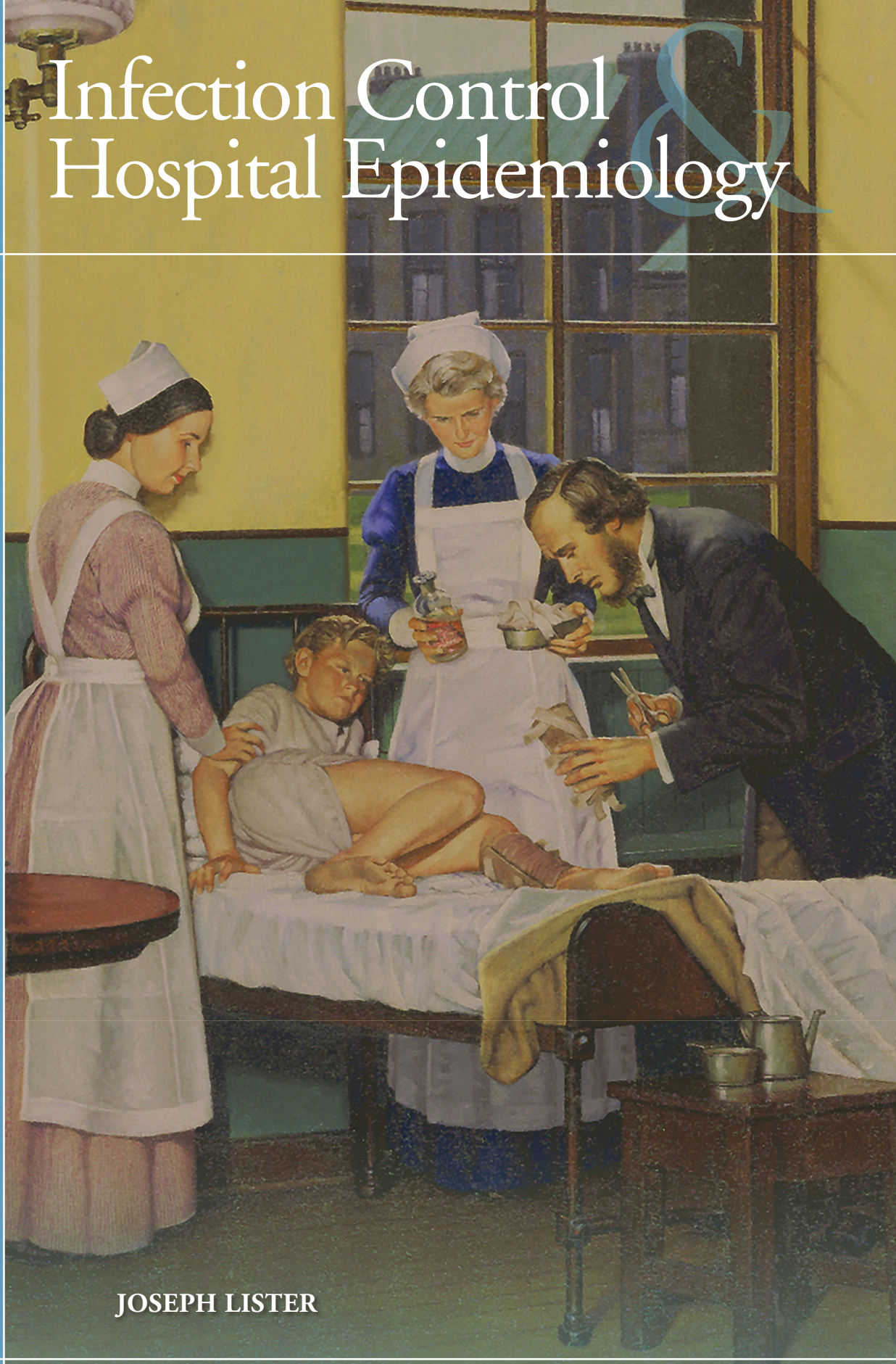


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Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology

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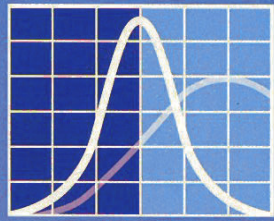
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CONTENTS

Joint Statement

- 1391** Collaborative Efforts, Collective Impact
Linda R. Greene and Sara Cosgrove

SHEA Expert Guidance

- 1393** Outbreak Response and Incident Management: SHEA Guidance and Resources for Healthcare Epidemiologists in United States Acute-Care Hospitals
David B. Banach, B. Lynn Johnston, Duha Al-Zubeidi, Allison H. Bartlett, Susan Casey Bleasdale, Valerie M. Deloney, Kyle B. Enfield, Judith A. Guzman-Cottrill, Christopher Lowe, Luis Ostrosky-Zeichner, Kyle J. Popovich, Payal K. Patel, Karen Ravin, Theresa Rowe, Erica S. Shenoy, Roger Stienecker, Prithvi K. Tosh and Kavita K. Trivedi, and the Outbreak Response Training Program (ORTP) Advisory Panel

Original Articles

- 1420** Hand Hygiene Improvement and Sustainability: Assessing a Breakthrough Collaborative in Western Switzerland
Anthony Staines, Isabelle Amherdt, Estelle Lécureux, Christiane Petignat, Philippe Eggimann, Marcos Schwab and Didier Pittet
- 1428** *Commentary*: Battling Entropy in Infection Control Systems
Gio J. Baracco
- 1430** Shortening the Application Time of Alcohol-Based Hand Rubs to 15 Seconds May Improve the Frequency of Hand Antisepsis Actions in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
Axel Kramer, Didier Pittet, Romana Klasinc, Stefan Krebs, Torsten Koburger, Christoph Fusch and Ojan Assadian
- 1435** Effectiveness of a Behavioral Approach to Improve Healthcare Worker Compliance With Hospital Dress Code
Mireille Dekker, Martine G. Caris, Anne M. van Gunsteren, Rosa van Mansfeld, Cees Lucas and Christina M.J.E. Vandenbroucke-Grauls
- 1441** Risk Factors for Healthcare-Associated Infections in Adult Burn Patients
Paula D. Strassle, Felicia N. Williams, David J. Weber, Emily E. Sickbert-Bennett, Anne M. Lachiewicz, Sonia Napravnik, Samuel W. Jones, Bruce A. Cairns and David van Duin
- 1449** Preventing Respiratory Viral Transmission in Long-Term Care: Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Healthcare Personnel
Caroline A. O'Neil, Lindsay Kim, Mila M. Prill, Nimalie D. Stone, Shikha Garg, H. Keipp Talbot and Hilary M. Babcock
- 1457** Evaluating the Relationship Between Hospital Antibiotic Use and Antibiotic Resistance in Common Nosocomial Pathogens
Annie Wang, Nick Daneman, Charlie Tan, John S. Brownstein and Derek R. MacFadden
- 1464** Prevalence and Factors Associated With Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Organisms in Patients With Spinal Cord Injury
Charlesnika T. Evans, Margaret A. Fitzpatrick, Makoto M. Jones, Stephen P. Burns, Linda Poggensee, Swetha Ramanathan, Sherri L. LaVela, Nasia Safdar and Katie J. Suda

Cover image: Detail of Lister Introduces Antisepsis, from “The History of Medicine” by Robert Thom, used with permission from University of Michigan Museum of Art.

- 1472** Attributable Cost of *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Pediatric Patients
Preeti Mehrotra, Jisun Jang, Courtney Gidengil and Thomas J. Sandora
- 1478** Estimating Local Costs Associated With *Clostridium difficile* Infection Using Machine Learning and Electronic Medical Records
Theodore R. Pak, Kieran I. Chacko, Timothy O'Donnell, Shirish S. Huprikar, Harm van Bakel, Andrew Kasarskis and Erick R. Scott
- 1487** Identification of *Clostridium difficile* Reservoirs in The Patient Environment and Efficacy of Aerial Hydrogen Peroxide Decontamination
Samuel Yui, Shanom Ali, Monika Muzslay, Annette Jeanes and A. Peter R. Wilson
- 1493** Effect of Clinical Variables on the Volume of Blood Collected for Blood Cultures in an Adult Patient Population
R. Logan Jones, Harlan R. Sayles, Paul D. Fey and Mark E. Rupp

Commentaries

- 1498** Antibiotic Awareness Week and Hospital Antimicrobial Use Point Prevalence Study
Nalini Singh, Arno Muller, Gabriel Levy Hara, Jose Luis Castro and Pilar Ramon-Pardo
- 1501** Twitter Me This—Can Social Media Revolutionize Academic Medicine?
Kelly Cawcutt

Concise Communications

- 1503** Antimicrobial Stewardship Practices Reported by California Hospitals Following New Legislative Requirements: Analysis of National Healthcare Safety Network Annual Survey Data, 2014-2015
Kyle Rizzo, Melissa Kealey and Erin Epton
- 1506** Peer Comparison of Anti-MRSA Agent Prescription in the Inpatient Setting
Jacqueline T. Bork, Daniel J. Morgan, Emily L. Heil, Lisa Pineles and Michael Kleinberg
- 1509** A “Stone in the Pond” Approach to Contact Tracing: Responding to a Large-Scale, Nosocomial Tuberculosis Exposure in a Moderate TB-Burden Setting
N. Bagdasarian, H. C. Chan, S. Ang, M. S. Isa, S. M. Chan and D. A. Fisher

Letters to the Editor

- 1512** Site of Acquisition of *Clostridium difficile* Colonization: Hospital or Nursing Home?
Joseph M. Mylotte
- 1513** Laxative Use in the Setting of Positive Testing for *Clostridium difficile* Infection
Syed M. Ahmad, Natalia Blanco, Courtney M. Dewart, Anna Dobosz and Anurag N. Malani

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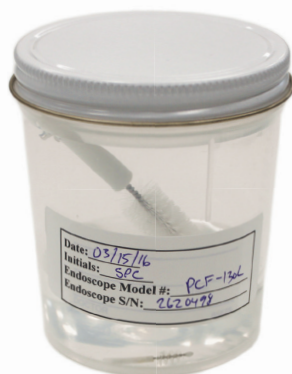


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About the cover:



The cover format of each volume of *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology* honors one of the many professionals throughout history who recognized not only how disease might be spread but also how the principles of epidemiology could be applied to reduce healthcare-associated infections.

Joseph Lister (1827–1912) was born to a Quaker family in the outskirts of London. His father, Joseph Jackson Lister, worked as a wine merchant by day and pursued the study of optics as a hobby. His work helped found modern microscopy, for which he was elected to the Royal Academy in 1832.

Young Lister decided to become a surgeon at an early age. Due to his religious affiliation, Lister was barred from attending older universities of greater prestige and settled upon study at the University of London, from which he received his medical degree and Fellowship in the Royal Academy of Surgeons. Lister moved to Edinburgh in 1853 to work under Mr. Syme, one of the preeminent British surgeons of the day. In Edinburgh, Lister made important observations on the pathogenesis of inflammation. He also gained a wife, Syme's daughter, Agnes, but in doing so had to become a member of the Church of England. Agnes worked closely beside Lister for many years, recording his experiments in great detail.

By 1856, Lister assumed professorship in surgery at the University of Glasgow, where he began to develop his principles of antiseptic surgery. At the time, surgical mortality rates from sepsis ranged from 23% to 60%, and it was assumed that putrefaction and purulent infection of wounds originated from tainted air. Based on the work of his colleague, Louis Pasteur, Lister performed a series of meticulous experiments in which he used antiseptics and developed optimal wound dressing techniques that focused on keeping wounds clean rather than excluding air. Lister traveled widely in the United Kingdom, Europe, and the United States promoting his wound-care techniques. He returned briefly to Edinburgh before assuming the Chair of Clinical Surgery at King's College in London. In 1891, Lister became a Founder of the British Institute for Preventive Medicine, the first academic medical research institute in the United Kingdom. He served as the Institute's President, and the organization was ultimately renamed in his honor. Lister served as President of the Royal Society of London and was appointed to the House of Lords. After his death, Lord Lister chose not to be buried in Westminster Abbey but rather was laid to rest next to his wife.

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