

APIC

Association for Professionals in
Infection Control and Epidemiology

January – March

Number 1 2004

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Dear Members:

Welcome to 2004!

Our first 2004 educational meeting was held on January 28, 2004, at the University of Illinois. Dr. Jarvis discussed, “Antibiotic Resistance”. His presentation outlined the impact resistance is having on healthcare and a number of ways that infection control program can fight resistance.

The meeting also featured a report from the field. Beth Beck presented some personal experience in dealing with infections from the OR.

Finally, Mary Alice Lavin informed the group of the progress the IHA and IDPH are having in defining indicators for the Illinois Hospital Report Card Act related to ventilator associated pneumonia, surgical site and line related infections. The IDPH is still working to define these indicators and have stated that when hospitals report on the indicators they willing to be asked to report retrospectively. Mary Alice will keep the chapter informed of any updates regarding the indicators.

National News: Gerry Genovese, Membership Secretary, was elected to the National APIC Nominating Committee. Please join the Board in congratulating Gerry and wishing her well as she takes on this national committee role. The chapter bylaws state that a member cannot hold a chapter board position and a national position. Gerry has elected step down as Membership Secretary. At the January

28 meeting the membership was asked to contact the board if interested. The board will appoint to the position and make the announcement at our next meeting.

The Research Foundation of National APIC has a number of awards, grants and scholarships available to dedicated members. For more information on the Research Foundation, grant programs and any other questions related to research awards contact:

Research Foundation for Prevention of Complications Associated with Healthcare
1275 K Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 200054006 or 202 7891890

APIC National's web site has a Sentinel Event Analysis. If you are struggling with your role in a sentinel event, this analysis will give you helpful hints and scenarios from expert APIC members.

APIC appointed a new Executive Director, Kathy Warye. MS. Warye previously served as the Senior Vice President of education and government programs for the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI).

In response to OSHA's recent decision to apply the General Industry Respiratory Protection Standard to respiratory protection against TB, APIC has sent an official letter to OSHA Administrator John Henshaw. APIC members are encouraged to write to OSHA what the new fit-testing requirement would mean to your facility. Attached to this newsletter is a letter you can send.

Willingness to Serve

Are you interested in serve as a board member or on one of the chapter committees? Working on the Board can be a great challenge and a lot of fun. If you are interested please contact any of the board members for more information.

Programs being offered

Emerging Infectious Disease Issues in Long –Term Care will be presented May 21, 2004 in Madison, Wisconsin. If you are interested you can call 608-262-1397.

Illinois Department of Public Health Annual Immunization and Communicable Disease Conference and Downstate Bioterrorism Summit will be presented June 14 –16, 2004 in Springfield, Illinois. If you are interested call 217-522-5687 or e-mail: jbaker@ipha.com.

APIC 2004 National Conference June 6 – June 10 is being held Phoenix. You can go to the web site for more conference information.

Positions Available:

Opportunities for Infection Control – Contact Jim Brown (jbrown@galileosearch.com) and Erin Caruso has more opportunities (erincaruso@verizon.net).

Mark your Calendar: October 15,2004 - the Annual Chicago APIC Infection Control Update and Educational Event. December 1, 2004 - the Chicago APIC Business Meeting.

Sincerely:
Carol Schultz