

Free Educational Symposium and Luncheon:

***"Facing the Next Pandemic of
Pan-resistant Gram-negative Bacilli"***

Thursday, September 30, 2004
11 am to 1 pm
Hynes Convention Center, Room 312
Boston, MA

Preceding the 42nd Annual Meeting of
The Infectious Diseases Society of America

A light lunch is provided, Admission is free.
Call 617-636-0966 or email stefanie.valovic@tufts.edu
to RSVP before 9/23/04.

Please reply early because space is limited

IDSA registration is not required for admission.

---PROGRAM---

Moderated by Stuart B. Levy, MD
APUA President,
Director, Center for Adaptation Genetics and Drug Resistance
Tufts University School of Medicine

***I. Past Pandemics of Pan-resistant Pathogens: Recent Relief and Current
Reemergence of Problem***

Thomas F. O'Brien, MD
APUA Vice President,
Director, Microbiology Laboratory
Brigham & Women's Hospital
Boston, MA

***II. Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacteria--Has the Imminent Crisis
Already Arrived?***

Karen Bush, MD
Team Leader, Antimicrobial Drug Discovery, Johnson & Johnson
Pharmaceutical Research and Development Institute

III. The Demise of Beta-Lactam Antibiotics in New York City

John Quale, MD

Division of Infectious Diseases, University Hospital of Brooklyn and Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn, NY

IV. Roundtable Discussion

A Warning and an Invitation from The Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics

Occasional clinical bacterial isolates, now mostly *Pseudomonas*, are resistant to all available effective antibiotics and thus virtually untreatable.

Over at least three time periods in our sixty-year antibiotic era, however, bacteria resistant to all existing antibiotics emerged and spread widely until a new antibiotic restored control.

In the 1950s strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* resistant to penicillin and eventually to all of the other antibiotics then existing (tetracycline, chloramphenicol, etc) raged throughout the world's hospitals, essentially untreatable until semi-synthetic penicillins and first generation cephalosporins became available in the 1960s.

Those new beta-lactam antibiotics also restored partial control over pan-resistant Gram-negative bacilli, which had become a growing nosocomial problem over the 1950s. That problem then worsened again over the 1960s as resistance to those antibiotics increased. Almost complete control was restored by the introduction of gentamicin and other newer aminoglycosides in the early 1970s, but then lost again in the late 1970s as plasmids encoding aminoglycoside-inactivating enzymes spread widely.

The introduction in the early 1980s of three new classes of agents, third generation cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones and carbapenems, each initially effective against nearly all Gram-negative bacilli, began an unprecedented quarter century in which one or more agents has been available to treat almost any bacterial infection.

Genes expressing resistance to third generation cephalosporins, fluoroquinolones and carbapenems has gradually been emerging and spreading, however, and their convergence in the same strains has begun once again to produce outbreaks of pan-resistant Gram-negative bacilli in some parts of the world, and now in the U.S.

APUA is issuing this mailing to warn of this new problem and inviting you to a luncheon symposium to discuss it, so that Infectious Disease specialists can be prepared when it emerges.

This symposium is sponsored by APUA with support from Bayer Pharmaceuticals Corporation and Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical.

Founded as a non-profit 501(c)3 global organization in 1981, The Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA)'s mission is to strengthen society's defenses against infectious disease by promoting appropriate antimicrobial access and use and controlling antimicrobial resistance on a worldwide basis.

With affiliated chapters in over 50 countries, APUA stands as the world's leading global organization conducting applied antimicrobial resistance research, education, capacity building and advocacy at the global and grassroots levels.

Visit www.apua.org to join APUA
