EPIDEMIOLOGY OF HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS
EPID 764
WINTER-SPRING SEMESTER– 2017

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will introduce students to methods to prevent healthcare-associated infections. Specific topics include: surveillance, outbreak investigations, molecular epidemiology, key sites of infection (i.e., central line-associated bloodstream infection, ventilator-associated pneumonia, catheter-related urinary tract infections, and surgical site infections), key pathogens (methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, vancomycin-resistant enterococci, Clostridium difficile, multidrug-resistant Gram negative bacilli, norovirus, Mycobacterium tuberculosis), the role of the contaminated surface environment, sterilization and disinfection, occupational health (risks of bloodborne pathogen exposure, immunizations), and proven methods of preventing healthcare-associated infections.

There are no prerequisites for this course and non-epidemiology majors are welcome.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

This course is a seminar. Students are expected to present at each session. Students will have the option of choosing among various topics for each session. Reading will be chosen by the students or assigned by the instructors.

A final paper is required which will be to develop an infection control policy. Grading is as follows:

50% Discussions (5% each)
50% Final Paper
ATTENDING SPICE INFECTION CONTROL COURSE:

All students are encouraged to attend the SPICE Infection Control course which is scheduled for April 17 to April 21. There is no cost for attending this course. There will be no class on this week.

LIST OF TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

- Review of Pertinent Laws and Regulations Concerning Infection Control
- Assessing Your Infection Control Program
- Surveillance Techniques, Metrics and Risk Adjustment
- Bloodstream infections: Epidemiology and Prevention
- Urinary tract infections: Epidemiology and Prevention
- Pneumonia: Epidemiology and Prevention
- Antibiotic Stewardship
- Outbreak Investigations
- Occupational Health
- General Isolation Precautions
- Hand Hygiene
- Sterilization and Disinfection
- Healthcare-associated Pathogens
- Developing and Implementing Policies to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections

BASIC READING MATERIAL:

SPICE Course Syllabus (located in student room)