

# Upcoming Ethics Grand Rounds

- **December 3, 2003**
- **March 3, 2004**
- **April 7, 2004**

# The SARS Epidemic: How To Manage Health Care Personnel



# Probable cases worldwide: 16 June 2003

## Total: 8,460 cases, 799 deaths



# Clinical Presentation of SARS

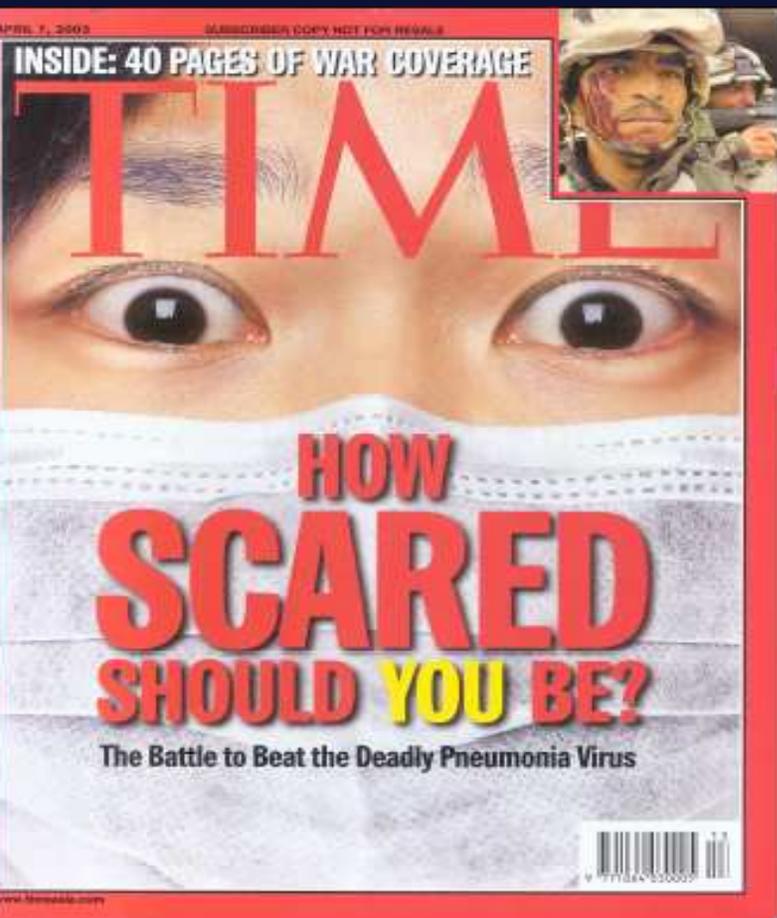
---

- **Presentation:** Non-specific respiratory or gastrointestinal disease
- **Require ICU:** 25%
- **Mortality:** 6%

# Transmission of SARS

---

- **Respiratory droplet**
- **Airborne**
- **Contact: gastrointestinal?**
- **Other?**



# How to prevent SARS Transmission

---

- **Isolation: Airborne & Contact**
- **N-95 Mask**
- **Avoid Contact: gown, gloves, etc.**
- **Avoid droplet procedures**

# **SARS Patients To Be Admitted to Clinical Center**

---

- **Patients on existing protocols may present with possible or confirmed SARS acquired in the community.**
- **A research protocol is proposed to bring SARS patients to the Clinical Center for investigation.**

# Dilemma

---

**Some staff members have declined to be available to care for possible or confirmed SARS cases.**

# Question

- **Is it acceptable for some health care workers to decline to care for SARS patients?**
- **Does it matter WHY the staff member declines?**
  - **Fear for personal safety**
  - **Fear for safety of personal contacts, such as family**
  - **Fear that staff member may have high susceptibility due to advanced age or immunodeficiency**