

Tiverton, Devon.
 Smith, Diana A., Flat 2, Arncliffe Grange, Harrogate Road, Leeds 17.
 Smith, Elizabeth S., 19 Baberton Mains Bank, Edinburgh, EH14.
 Smith, Margaret C., 177 Ledard Road, Glasgow.
 Smith, Norma H., 7 Adelaide Terrace, Dundee.
 Soloman, Melville, 380 Walkden Road, Worsley, Manchester.
 Staines, J. E., 30 St. Margaret's Drive, Tanfield Village, Co. Durham.
 Starey, C. J. H., Meadowcroft, Horsleys Green, Stokenchurch, High Wycombe, Bucks.
 Steel, Stephen, 14 Montagu Avenue, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE3.
 Stephenson, Geoffrey, 33 Kingswood Avenue, High West Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Stewart-Jones, John, 53 Beechgrove, Pendre Gardens, Brecon, Powys.
 Stirling, D. B., St. Triduans, 66 Restalrig Road South, Edinburgh.
 Strachan, Ronald, Kinfauns, Primrosehill Road, Cults, Aberdeen.
 Stradling, H. A., 75 Willis Road, Haddenham, Bucks.
 Street, S. H., 174 Old Road, Headington, Oxford.
 Stringer, L. Judith, 71 Ripplevale Grove, Islington, London, N.1.
 Stuart, F. M., 16 Hillview Avenue, Dumfries.
 Stuart, I. R., 21 Montague Court, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE3.
 Stubbings, Susan M., 18 Cherry Tree Close, Exeter, Devon.
 Sturton, E. W., Hollybank House, Skinner Street, Creswell, Worksop, Notts.
 Summers, R. O. C., Knight House, Wolverley Village, Kidderminster, Worcs.
 Sutherland, D. J., 27 St. Wilfrids Road, Bessacarr, Doncaster.
 Syred, J. R., Tillydown Cottage, St. Mary Bourne, Andover, Hants.
 Tait, H. A., 1 Aikman Place, St. Andrews, Fife.
 Taylor, D. B. S., Easingwold, 498 Chorley New Road, Bolton, Lancs.
 Thakor, R. S., 17 Glossop Street, Leicester.
 Thing, J. R., 72 Yorktown Road,

Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.
 Thompson, D. R., Old Vicarage, Church Street, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire.
 Thompson, Nicholas, Manor Cottage, 55 Sipton Road, Ascott-under-Wychwood, Oxon.
 Thompson, R. D., 4 Margarita Road, Fareham, Hampshire.
 Thornton, P. W., 59 Linefield Road, Carnoustie, Angus.
 Tohill, J. G., The Square, Stewartstown, Tyrone, N. Ireland.
 Tones, B. J., Glenaire, Green Lane, Glusburn, Keighley, W. Yorks.
 Tregenza, N. J. C., 1 Gurlyn Hill, Relubbus, Penzance, Cornwall.
 Turnbull, Marion, 57 Eden Drive, Sedgfield, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland.
 Turner, J. G., Higher Westaway, Newton Tracey, Barnstaple, Devon.
 Tutton, G. R., 794a Washwood Heath Road, Ward End, Birmingham 8.
 Tweedie, R. J., 12 Locks Close, Deeping St. James, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
 Udokang, Mariel J., 108 New Heath Close, Wednesfield, Nr. Wolverhampton.
 Usher, J. H., Little Gormellick, Lodge Hill, Liskeard, Cornwall.
 Waddington, G. E., Medical Centre, HMS Warrior, Northwood, Middlesex.
 Wagner, Catharine H., 11 Maes Maelwg, Beddau, Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan.
 Walder, G. P., 8 Shaftoe Way, Dinnington, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Walker, Christopher, 217 Park Lane, Fallings Park, Wolverhampton.
 Walker, Lynda J., 36 Highfield Drive, North Seaton, Ashington, Northumberland.
 Walker, S. A. J., Medical Centre, RAF Wildenrath, BFPO 42.
 Wankowski, Adam, 13 Castle Meadow, Offton, Ipswich, Suffolk.
 Wankowska, Heather C., 13 Castle Meadow, Offton, Ipswich, Suffolk.
 *Ward, R. W., The Surgery, Snainton, Scarborough, N. Yorks.
 Watson, R. D., 136 Shinfield Road, Reading, Berks.
 Webb, Sheila J., 9 Ledsham Close,

Birkenhead, Merseyside.
 Webster, B. J., 1 Brecon Close, Peterlee, Co. Durham.
 Welchew, Kathleen L., 14 Mountain Ash, Primrose Hill, Bath.
 Wharfe, S. M. W., 15 Paignton Avenue, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.
 Whittaker, Anne M., 12 Portland Square, Carlisle, Cumbria.
 Wildgoose, A. D., 31 Marlow Way, Clavering Park, Whickham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Wilkinson, A. J., 19 Park Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.
 Wilkinson, A. R., 50 Farmer's Close, Witney, Oxfordshire.
 Williams, D. H., 24 Cornfield Close, Llanishen, Cardiff.
 Williams, R. J., 18 Norton Terrace, Glynccorwg, West Glamorgan.
 Wood, M. R. D., 92 Horsley Avenue, Westburn Estate, Crawcrook, Ryton, Tyne and Wear.
 Wright, D. W., 29 Buchan Drive, Athollbank, Perth.
 Wright, K. J., 24 Trenchard Avenue, West End Road, Ruislip, Middlesex.
 Wynroe, Susan I., Nab Top Farm, Dale Road, Marple, Stockport.
 *Zermansky, A. G., 112a Dib Lane, Leeds 8.

PRACTICE ORGANIZATION ROOM

The current display shows the Middlesbrough Health Centre. This large development by the Shopping Centre in Middlesbrough has many imaginative features and merits a visit.

It is intended to mount a series of displays over the next year showing examples of new or modernised premises and the Practice Organization Committee would be grateful to receive any information about such premises so that they may arrange to display it.

A number of displays are available for loan on application to Mrs J. Mant, Secretary to the Practice Organization Committee, Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, London SW7 1PU.

MEDICAL NEWS

APPOINTMENTS

Dr D. H. H. Metcalfe

Dr D. H. H. Metcalfe, MA, MB, B.CHIR, FRCGP, has been appointed Professor of General Practice at the University of Manchester.

Dr Metcalfe is 48, married, with three children, and was educated at the Leys School, Cambridge. After being commissioned in the Royal Tank Regiment he entered general practice in 1958.

In 1970 he was appointed Assistant

Professor in Family Medicine at the University of Rochester, New York, and returned to Britain in 1972 as Senior Lecturer in General Practice in the Department of Community Health at the Nottingham University Medical School. He was elected a fellow of the

Royal College of General Practitioners in 1975 and has held an honorary consultant contract with the Trent Regional Authority since 1976.

Dr Metcalfe has been active in the Royal College of General Practitioners for many years. He was elected to the Council of the College from 1973 to 1978 and was elected by the Council to the General Purposes Committee in 1973.

His publications have included articles in the *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners* on teaching family medicine in the United States, and articles in the *Journal of Family Practice* on referrals from family practice in New York State. He has also published a series in *Update* on problem orientated records in general practice.

Among his most recent publications has been "The recognition of family and social problems by general practitioners" and jointly with Professor James McCormick a paper on the role of the Royal College of General Practitioners, both recently published in this *Journal*.



Dr D. H. H. Metcalfe

Dr A. P. Fletcher

Dr A. P. Fletcher, PH.D, MB, BS, has been appointed Chief Scientific Officer at the Department of Health and Social Security. Dr Fletcher is 48 and took up his appointment on 3 July 1978.

Dr Ian T. Field

Dr Ian T. Field, MB, BS, Senior Medical Officer at the Department of Health and Social Security has been appointed head of the International Health Branch and Chief Medical and Health Services Adviser to the Ministry of Overseas Development. Dr Field will be promoted Senior Principal Medical Officer (Under Secretary) on taking up his new

appointment. He qualified in 1960, is now 45 years old, and formerly worked on the secretariat of the British Medical Association.

Dr F. J. Darby

Dr F. J. Darby, TD, MRCP, DIH, DMJ, has been appointed Deputy Chief Medical Adviser in the Department of Health and Social Security. He was formerly in general practice in Warwickshire and joined the Department in 1964. Latterly he has been working in the Primary Care Division. He took up his new appointment on 1 July.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE

The Royal Society of Medicine is holding a postgraduate study course for general practitioners from 23 to 27 October 1978, organized by the Section of General Practice and approved under Section 63.

The title will be "New Perspectives: Second Forum for General Practitioners" and the topics will include Threats to Vision, The Art of the Consultation, Hearing and Balance, Recent Advances in Dermatology, Pain Relief and the Care of the Dying, Alcoholism, Self Care, and Damage done by Doctors.

Further information can be obtained from the Conference Secretary, Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE.

TRANSFER OF MEDICAL RECORDS

About three million patients change doctors each year in England and Wales and about 450 staff of family practitioner committees deal with the transfer of medical records at a salary cost of about £938,000 a year.

Reference

British Medical Journal (1978). 1, 1493.

NATIONAL ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED WEEK

A national campaign is being organized by the Silver Jubilee Committee on Improving Access for the Disabled and is being led by the Minister for the Disabled, Mr Alf Morris.

The aim is to draw attention to the need to improve access for disabled people to all kinds of buildings, from shops and theatres to pubs and football grounds.

BUPA

The British United Provident Association in its Annual Report for 1977 reports an expansion in the number of subscribers for private medical health care with almost 70,000 new enrolments for 1977.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR SOCIAL WORK DIRECTORS

Mr Bruce Millan MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced that he intends to exercise the powers conferred on him by Section 3 (2) of the Social Work Scotland Act 1968 to prescribe the minimum qualifications required for appointment to a post of Director of Social Work. This will be the Certificate of Qualification in Social Work of the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work or an equivalent qualification.

USE OF CAR BELTS

It has been estimated that only 30 per cent of occupants of front seats of cars wear seat belts when the car is in motion.

ROAD ACCIDENTS

The estimated cost of treating victims of road accidents was between £50m and £55m during 1977/78. About 40 per cent of serious injured casualties travelled by car. Victims of road accidents occupied 1.4 per cent of hospital beds.

Reference

Hansard (1978). Parliamentary answer, Social Services.

GRAVES MEDICAL AUDIOVISUAL LIBRARY

One of the facilities available at Holly House, Chelmsford, the new home of Graves Medical Audiovisual Library, is a large seminar room for students, well appointed with colour television complete with Sony U-matic videocassette machine, Kodak Carousel slide projector with audiocassette player, and 16 mm film projector with sound and an overhead projector.

Tape-slide programmes may be requested from the librarian, who will advise on programmes from her stock of over one thousand titles on medical and paramedical subjects.

This educational facility is much appreciated by local general practitioners and it is envisaged that other medical groups, such as nurses from the local school of nursing, and physiotherapists, will make use of the seminar room in the future.

Overseas doctors are always welcome, but arrangements for visiting the Library should first be made with the

Administrator by telephoning Chelmsford (0245) 83351.

New tape-slides

The following tape-slides are now available on loan or for sale:

Basic Pharmacokinetics by Dr Stephen H. Curry, 77-93.

Part One discusses the principles of pharmacokinetics as related to prescribing without mathematics. Part Two considers the principles with mathematics. 38 slides. 44 minutes.

A Surgical Approach to the Nature of Shock by Mr Ian Massey, 77-84. Part of the Basic Science Series of tape-slide programmes produced for the Royal College of Surgeons of England. 48 slides. 54 minutes.

FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEES

The Minister of State, Mr Roland Moyle, has given information about the number of complaints investigated by family practitioner committees in the last five years. (See Table 1.)

Reference

Family Practitioner Services (1978). 5, 113.

ABORTION IN ITALY

On 18 May 1978 the Italian parliament approved a Bill legalizing abortion for the first time in the country's history.

The new law permits abortion on demand in the first 90 days of pregnancy for any woman over 18 who

says that childbirth would endanger her physical or mental health. A medical certificate will be required after more than 90 days and girls under the age of 18 must have the approval of a parent or guardian for an abortion.

Reference

The Times (1978). 19 May, p. 6.

HOME CONFINEMENT

A Gallup poll has been reported covering 1,054 people which shows that 82 per cent of women and 75 per cent of men think that facilities for home births should be available. Only 10 per cent of men and 12 per cent of women thought that they should not.

However, in 1974 only 28,425 babies were born at home compared with 689,578 in hospital.

Reference

The Guardian (1978). 12 May.

Table 1. Complaints investigated by family practitioner committees, 1973-77.

	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	Total
<i>Doctors</i>						
Number of complaints investigated	508	434	545	587	596	2,670
Number of complaints substantiated*	98	65	92	81	85	421
Percentage substantiated	19.3	15.0	16.9	13.8	14.3	15.8
<i>Ophthalmic medical practitioners and opticians**</i>						
Number of complaints investigated	4	10	6	20	14	54
Number of complaints substantiated*	2	5	1	11	6	25
Percentage substantiated	50.0	50.0	16.7	55.0	42.9	46.3
<i>Chemists</i>						
Number of complaints investigated	60	38	40	52	58	248
Number of complaints substantiated*	40	29	27	42	52	190
Percentage substantiated	66.7	76.3	67.5	80.8	89.7	76.5
<i>Dentists</i>						
Number of complaints investigated	252	236	272	266	277	1,303
Number of complaints substantiated*	112	125	125	144	130	636
Percentage substantiated	44.4	53.0	45.9	54.1	46.9	48.8
<i>Total</i>						
Number of complaints investigated	824	718	863	925	945	4,275
Number of complaints substantiated	252	224	245	278	273	1,272
Percentage substantiated	30.6	31.0	28.4	30.0	28.9	29.8

*By finding that there had been a breach of the terms of service.

**The figures for ophthalmic medical practitioners and opticians have been grouped together because separate statistics are not maintained.

LONDON TEACHING HOSPITALS

The Government has published a discussion document which proposes that the management of the 12 London postgraduate teaching hospitals should be reorganized.

GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

The General Medical Council has agreed to proposals to change its rules of procedure for its disciplinary committee. It will in future be possible for any party or witness at disciplinary proceedings to apply for the press and public to be excluded from the hearing. Even if no such application is made the committee may itself exclude the press and public if it thinks that to do so is "in the interests of justice or desirable, having regard to the nature either of the case or of the evidence to be given".

The changes will be discussed with organizations representing medical practitioners and must be approved by the Privy Council before implementation.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON POSTGRADUATE TRAINING FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

The Joint Committee on Postgraduate Training for General Practice and the Royal College of General Practitioners have approved the vocational training scheme at Newham.

The following vocational training schemes have been re-approved: Hemel Hempstead, Chertsey, Chelmsford, Dewsbury. These schemes are recognized by the Royal College of General Practitioners for the purpose of the MRCGP examination.