

## MEDICAL NEWS

### Primary Care Research in 1981

Abstracts submitted to five societies concerned with primary care research have been organized and collected in a single volume by the Society for Research and Education in Primary Care Internal Medicine, the Ambulatory Pediatrics Association and the North American Primary Care Research Group. The abstracts of these societies as well as of the Society for Teachers of Family Medicine and the Society for Adolescent Medicine are included. Abstracts have been organized in sections which include education, clinical decision-making and clinical epidemiology, practice, practitioner, patients, research issues, clinical studies, and behavioural issues.

Free copies of this volume are available from the Publication Office, The Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, N.Y., 10036. A mailing label should be enclosed.

### Meetings and Courses

#### *Workshop on Prescribing in General Practice*

The Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, London SW7 1PU, 24-28 May 1982.

**Organizers:** Dr Martin Brodie, Consultant Clinical Pharmacologist, Western Infirmary, Glasgow; Dr Colin Leonard, Senior Lecturer in General Practice, Charing Cross Hospital Medical School; Dr William Styles, The Grove Health Centre, Goldhawk Road, London W12.

**Aims:** to promote safer and more rational prescribing amongst workshop members by:

1. Increasing members' knowledge of the basic pharmacological principles that are important in the use of drugs.
2. Applying these principles to the ways in which drugs are used in general practice.
3. Considering the hazards of using drugs and how adverse reactions can be predicted.
4. Evaluating the range of preparations available for specific disorders.
5. Encouraging members to review their own prescribing both during the workshop and in the future.

**Methods:** Basic pharmacological principles will be reviewed and applied to commonly used drugs. These sessions will be mainly information giving, but the approach will not be rigidly didactic and general discussion will be encouraged.

A special feature of the Workshop will be the sessions based on members' case notes. A condition of membership of the Workshop will be for each participant to bring along case notes or other details of patients requiring specific treatment for a range of clinical conditions, and whose management presents difficult problems. Each member will be required to provide details of:

- a) A patient on anticonvulsant drugs.
- b) A patient being treated for congestive cardiac failure.
- c) An elderly patient on drug therapy.
- d) A patient being prescribed four or more preparations.
- e) A patient being treated for hypertension.

A further feature will be the unusual way in which use is made of the outside speakers. The Workshop will present the invited speakers with the management difficulties which they have been discussing; the speaker will then be able to tailor his or her contribution to the needs of the workshop.

The success of the week will depend very much on the extent to which workshop members participate and make use of the expertise arranged for them.

Further details from Miss Elizabeth Monk, Courses Secretary, The Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, London SW7 1PU.

#### *Refresher Courses in the South West*

**Exeter, 28 March — 2 April.** Trainers' course. Details from Department of General Practice, Postgraduate Medical Centre, Barrack Road, Exeter EX2 5DW. Tel: Exeter 31159.

**Truro, 13—23 April.** GP refresher course on general subjects. Details from Postgraduate Secretary, Cornwall Postgraduate Medical Centre, Royal Cornwall Hospital (Treliske), Truro, Cornwall. Tel: Taunton 74242 ext 225.

**Cheltenham, 17—21 May.** GP refresher course. Details from Mrs M. Roberts, Postgraduate Secretary, Postgraduate Medical Centre, 2 College Lawn, Cheltenham GL53 7AG. Tel: Cheltenham 580344.

### *MRCGP Examination*

Study Course, Roehampton, Wednesday evenings from 17 February. Details from Dr James Scobie, The Surgery, 1 Glebe Road, Barnes, London SW13 0DR.

### *Early Years in Practice*

A residential course for young College members and recent entrants to general practice will be held at Alderley House, Macclesfield, Cheshire on 4-6 March. The course will attempt to give doctors who have been only a few years in practice the opportunity to examine their clinical activities, exchange information and views with their colleagues and to define attainable objectives of clinical care. Learning will be through active participation and some preparatory work will be requested to make this possible.

Topics to be covered will include measuring your work, clinical standards, help and support, problems of practice, what can be done, and interviewing skills. The meetings will be held at Alderley House by kind permission of ICI Limited, Pharmaceuticals Division, and accommodation will be in a local hotel. A charge will be made for meals and accommodation which will be reimbursable under Section 63. The course will start on Thursday afternoon and end at Saturday lunch-time. Numbers will be restricted because of accommodation. Those wishing to attend should write forthwith to Dr A. K. Ross (Senior Lecturer in general practice at the University of Keele) at The Surgery, Palmerston Street, Wolstanton, Newcastle, Staffs ST5 8BN.

### *SIMG Meetings*

**SIMG Spring Seminar, Copenhagen, 6-8 May 1982.** The topic will be "Communication in General Practice". The number of participants from each country is restricted and participation is only possible by invitation. Anyone from the UK who wishes to attend should contact Dr Lotte Newman, The White House, 1 Ardwick Road, Hampstead, London NW2.

**SIMG Autumn Conference, Klagenfurt, Austria, 13-18 September 1982.** Subjects to be discussed will include venereal diseases and their management, holiday and travel problems, the patient as an individual, problems associated with drug therapy, results of the European General Practitioner Research Group, and the problems of adolescent medicine. Papers are invited. For further details, contact Dr Lotte Newman, address as above.