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SOCIAL CLASS AND HEALTH STATUS: INEQUALITY OR DIFFERENCE

Occasional Paper 25

It has been known for many years that social class is a major determinant of health and death. What is not clear is how general practitioners respond to illness presented by patients in different social classes. Although the Black Report was unconvinced about differential response, Dr Donald Crombie in his important McConaghey Memorial Lecture provides new evidence that general practitioners actively compensate by providing more consultations and more care for patients in social classes 4 and 5.

This lecture gives the factual evidence and also provides striking tables showing that the variations of care between general practitioners is now greater than variation due to any obvious patient factor, including age, sex and social class; in other words the doctor is the most important variable in general medicine practice.

Occasional Paper 25 can be obtained from the Publications Sales Office, Royal College of General Practitioners, 8 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE, price £3.50, including postage. Payment should be made with order.

CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, PROBLEMS AND PROCEDURES 1984

Occasional Paper 26

The new College classification of health problems from the Manchester Research Unit of the Royal College of General Practitioners is a major academic event. This is the first time that the old College classification has been blended thoroughly with the *International Classification of Disease* and that it has been made available in both electronic and printed form.

The printed version, published as *Occasional Paper 26*, describes the background of the classification, offers guidance on its use, and gives the classification in full, first in code order and then in alphabetical groups.

Approved by the Council of the College in 1983, this is likely to be the definitive text on classification in general practice for many years.

Classification of Diseases, Problems and Procedures 1984, Occasional Paper 26, can be obtained from the Publications Sales Office, Royal College of General Practitioners, 8 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE, price £4.75 including postage. Payment should be made with order.

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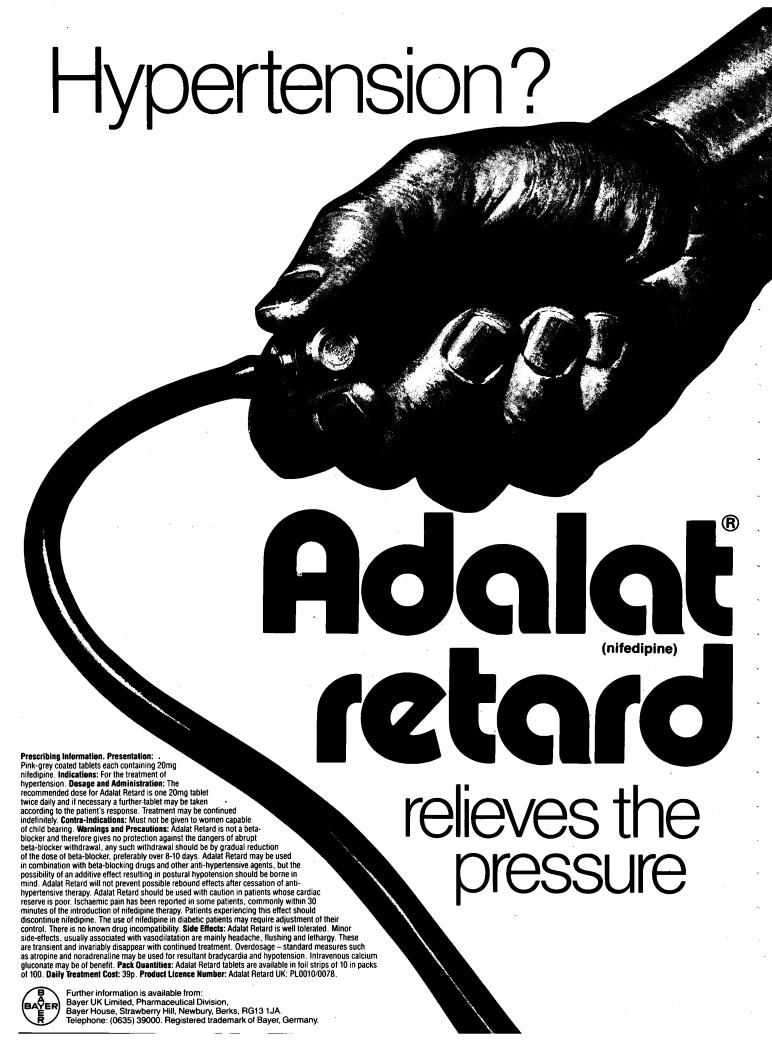
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The Scheme is recognized by the Royal College of General Practitioners. Hospital posts are resident.

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Further details may be obtained from: Mrs. E. Watt, Postgraduate Medical Office, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ Tel: 041 339-8855, Ext. 7275