

UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Occasional Paper 28

The General Medical Council is responsible for giving guidance to all medical schools about the content of courses leading to medical qualifications. Its recommendations are in fact much more clear and specific than is generally known and many highlight quite unambiguously the need for medical students to learn from general practice.

A working group of the Association of University Teachers in General Practice, United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland has studied the recommendations in detail and analysed the special contribution which general practice can play in meeting the GMC recommendations. Their comments will be invaluable in furthering discussions about departments of general practice in many universities.

Undergraduate Medical Education in General Practice, Occasional Paper 28, is available 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.

CLINICAL KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

Occasional Paper 27

How do general practitioners care for common clinical conditions? How much are they influenced by what they know and what they don't know? Are trainers any different and what would consultants feel about these clinical standards anyway? These and other controversial subjects have been tackled by Dr H. W. K. Acheson of the Department of General Practice, University of Manchester.

In a study carried out by postal questionnaire, Dr Acheson asked groups of practitioners what action they would take in relation to seven common clinical conditions and as a yardstick asked the same questions of groups of consultants in the specialties concerned. The answers are not only thought-provoking in themselves but have implications for undergraduate, vocational, and continuing education for general practice.

Clinical Knowledge and Education for General Practice, Occasional Paper 27, is available 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.

COMPUTERS IN PRIMARY CARE

Occasional Paper 13

Computers are coming. More and more general practitioners are computerizing aspects of their record systems in general medical practice.

Computers in Primary Care is the report of a working party of the Royal College of General Practitioners which describes the possibilities currently available and looks into the future, discussing both technical and financial aspects.

The members of this working party have between them considerable experience of using computers in general practice. Together they summarize the experience and philosophy which they have acquired which enables them to put forward a series of conclusions and recommendations for the future.

Computers in Primary Care was reprinted in 1982 and is available from the Publications Sales Office, Royal College of General Practitioners, 8 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE, price £3.00 post free. Payment should be made with order.

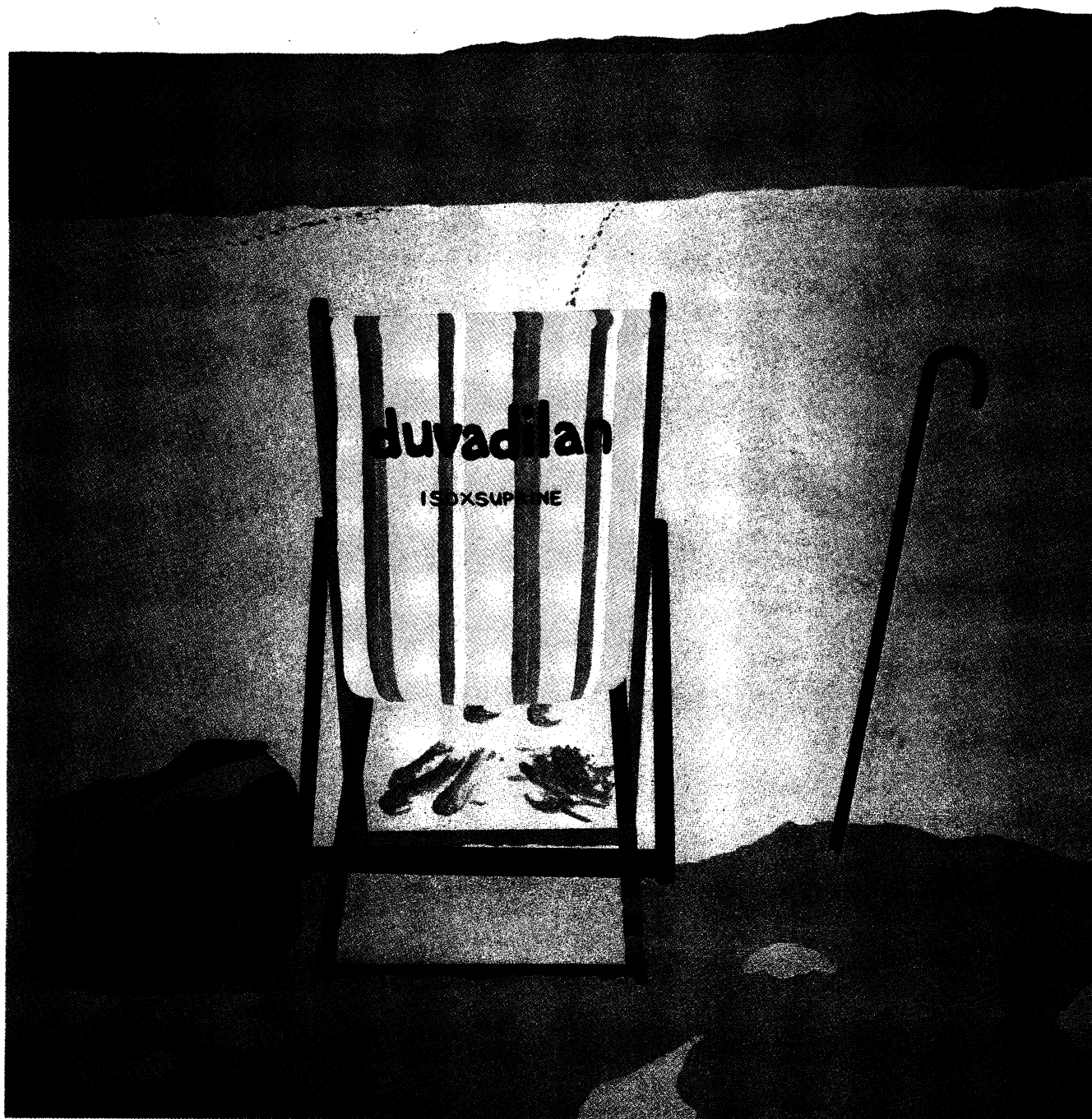
DOCTORS TALKING TO PATIENTS

Doctors Talking to Patients, by Professor P. S. Byrne, a distinguished past-President of the Royal College of General Practitioners, and Dr B. E. L. Long, an expert educationalist, was first published by HMSO in 1976.

This well-known book has made a major contribution to the understanding of the consultation in general practice and illustrates the potential for using modern methods of recording for analysing the problems of doctor-patient communication.

With permission of HMSO, the Royal College of General Practitioners has now reprinted *Doctors Talking to Patients* and so made available this classic work to a new generation of trainees and general practitioner principals.

Doctors Talking to Patients can be obtained from the Publications Sales Office, Royal College of General Practitioners, 8 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE, price £10.50, including postage. Payment should be made with order.



duphar Further information is available on request. Duphar Laboratories Limited, West End, Southampton. Tel: (STD 0703) 472281. 

COLLEGE PUBLICATIONS

The following publications can be obtained from the Publications Sales Office, Royal College of General Practitioners, 8 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE. All prices include postage and payment should be made with order.

REPORTS FROM GENERAL PRACTICE

18-21. Combined Reports of Prevention	£4.50
22. Healthier Children—Thinking Prevention	£5.50

OCCASIONAL PAPERS

4. A System of Training for General Practice (2nd edn)	£3.00
6. Some Aims for Training for General Practice	£2.75
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BOOKS AND BOOKLETS

The Future General Practitioner	£10.50*
Epidemiology and Research in a General Practice	£10.50
A History of the Royal College of General Practitioners	£12.00†
RCGP Members' Reference Book 1984	£17.50
Present State and Future Needs in General Practice	£5.50
Doctors Talking to Patients	£10.50
Notes for Lecturers	£1.00
Epidemiology in Country Practice	£5.50‡
Will Pickles of Wensleydale	£10.50‡
Handbook of Preventive Care for Pre-school Children	£1.00

* £1.00 and † £2.00 less for members of the College
‡ If ordered together, these two books can be obtained at the reduced price of £13.00.

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.

COMBINED REPORTS ON PREVENTION

Reports from General Practice 18–21

The College's campaign for health promotion and disease prevention in general practice was signalled by the publication in the years 1981–83 of a series of documents on different aspects of preventive medicine in general practice.

Although at the time these were distributed free of charge with the *Journal* to all Fellows, Members and Associates of the College, the steady demand for these documents has led to several of them going out of print.

Combined Reports on Prevention thus brings together between one set of covers *Reports from General Practice 18, 19, 20 and 21*. These four together can now be obtained from the Publications Sales Office, Royal College of General Practitioners, 8 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE, price £4.50 including postage. Payment should be made with order.



The Cardio-Protectors

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'Tenormin' and 'Tenormin' LS Prescribing Notes

PRESENTATION: 'Tenormin' tablets containing atenolol 100mg are round, bi-convex, orange and film coated. 'Tenormin' LS tablets containing atenolol 50mg are round, bi-convex, orange and film coated.

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SIDE EFFECTS: Coldness of extremities, bradycardia and muscular fatigue may occur. Sleep disturbance rarely seen. Rashes and dry eyes have been reported with beta-blockers – consider discontinuance if they occur.

PACK SIZE AND BASIC NHS COST: 'Tenormin' 28's £6.98; 'Tenormin' LS 28's £4.88.

PRODUCT LICENCE NUMBER: 'Tenormin' 29/122; 'Tenormin' LS 29/86.

'Tenormin', 'Tenormin' LS are trademarks.



Full prescribing information is available on request to the Company.
Stuart Pharmaceuticals Limited,
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Hypertension?



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pressure

Prescribing Information. Presentation:

Pink-grey coated tablets each containing 20mg

nifedipine. **Indications:** For the treatment of

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recommended dose for Adalat Retard is one 20mg tablet

twice daily and if necessary a further tablet may be taken

according to the patient's response. Treatment may be continued

indefinitely. **Contra-Indications:** Must not be given to women capable

of child bearing. **Warnings and Precautions:** Adalat Retard is not a beta-

blocker and therefore gives no protection against the dangers of abrupt

beta-blocker withdrawal, any such withdrawal should be by gradual reduction

of the dose of beta-blocker, preferably over 8-10 days. Adalat Retard may be used

in combination with beta-blocking drugs and other anti-hypertensive agents, but the

possibility of an additive effect resulting in postural hypotension should be borne in

mind. Adalat Retard will not prevent possible rebound effects after cessation of anti-

hypertensive therapy. Adalat Retard should be used with caution in patients whose cardiac

reserve is poor. Ischaemic pain has been reported in some patients, commonly within 30

minutes of the introduction of nifedipine therapy. Patients experiencing this effect should

discontinue nifedipine. The use of nifedipine in diabetic patients may require adjustment of their

control. There is no known drug incompatibility. **Side Effects:** Adalat Retard is well tolerated. Minor

side-effects, usually associated with vasodilatation are mainly headache, flushing and lethargy. These

are transient and invariably disappear with continued treatment. Overdosage - standard measures such

as atropine and noradrenaline may be used for resultant bradycardia and hypotension. Intravenous calcium

gluconate may be of benefit. **Pack Quantities:** Adalat Retard tablets are available in foil strips of 10 in packs

of 100. **Daily Treatment Cost:** 39p. **Product Licence Number:** Adalat Retard UK: PL0010/0078.



Further information is available from:

Bayer UK Limited, Pharmaceutical Division,

Bayer House, Strawberry Hill, Newbury, Berks, RG13 1JA.

Telephone: (0635) 39000. Registered trademark of Bayer, Germany.

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The charge for space in this section is £6.35 per single column centimetre, plus 30p if a box number is required. Fellows, Members and Associates of the Royal College of General Practitioners may claim a 10 per cent reduction. Replies to box numbers should be sent to the above address, with the box number on the envelope.

The inclusion of an advertisement in this *Journal* does not imply any recommendation and the Editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. All recruitment advertisements in this section are open to both men and women.

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THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS NORTH AND WEST LONDON FACULTY

The MRCGP Examination A Study Day for Overseas Graduates

SATURDAY 20 APRIL 1985

A one day meeting will be held at the Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, London SW7 1PU, on Saturday 20 April 1985, for doctors who graduated outside the United Kingdom to study aspects of the MRCGP examination. Some educational and cultural problems will be discussed with the current examiners and teachers. Both trainees and established principals will be welcome. In the past, this meeting has proved useful and in each case it has been over-subscribed.

For further details and an application form, please apply to: Mrs Sue Smith, Education Division, The Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, London SW7 1PU.

Approval under Section 63 is being sought