

# Programs, Practices, People

## Applications Are Invited For EMS Systems Research

The Emergency Medical Services Systems Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-154) authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to provide support to States, local agencies, and other entities to plan, improve, and expand comprehensive and integrated systems to care for medical emergencies. Support for Emergency Medical Services Systems research will be provided through grants to public or private nonprofit entities; and through contracts to private (nonprofit or profit) entities and individuals.

*Coordination of services.* Existing technical information and medical capabilities seem to be adequate to deal with many medical emergencies, but efforts to provide more effective services have been hampered by the fragmentation of activities at the local and national levels. Under the act all community elements, including consumers, will have an opportunity to participate in the development of the EMS systems, and existing resources will be fully utilized.

The act is not directed at system components, such as transportation, communications, or equipment, but at the development of complete and coordinated delivery systems. Authority for support of research in emergency medical techniques, methods, devices,

and delivery is included in the act.

*Research.* The research will focus on the development of valid and useful information needed to assist in the design of community systems and in the development of policies. Projects using experimental or quasi-experimental designs are particularly desirable because they can improve the validity and generalizability of research results; interdisciplinary approaches are strongly encouraged.

Program interests encompass a wide variety of research areas, including organizational analysis, the efficacy of medical devices, pathophysiological changes following injury, consumer roles, and many others. The impact on EMS systems design of new policies and programs, such as health maintenance organizations, legislation on medical devices, or National Health Insurance, will also be addressed.

An EMS system is not conceived to be an isolated collection of resources, but rather a coordinated set of responses by the health care delivery system to a patient-initiated request for emergency care. Research efforts directed toward the design of efficient and effective EMS systems should consider the effects of these systems on other health and socioeconomic problems.

Grant and contract proposals will be evaluated by peer re-

view groups and administered in accordance with applicable regulations, policies, and procedures of the Bureau of Health Services Research. Grant proposals will be accepted for each deadline date (June 1, October 1, and February 1) beginning June 1, 1974. Notifications of proposed contract procurements will be announced in the *Commerce Business Daily*. Unsolicited contract proposals will be received at any time.

"Guidelines for Research in Emergency Medical Services Systems," grant application kits, and further information may be obtained from the Bureau of Health Services Research, Attention EMS, Health Resources Administration, DHEW, Rockville, Md. 20852.

## Bibliographies Available From National Library Of Medicine

Bibliographies on specific biomedical subjects are published periodically by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health. Prepared by MEDLARS in response to requests from physicians, researchers, and educators, these bibliographies are available to interested health professionals on request. They may be obtained (request by number) from the National Library of Medicine, Literature Search Program, Reference Section, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

73-8 Drugs in control of narcotic addiction. Supplement to LS 71-17. July 1971 through February 1973. 245 citations.

73-9 Acupuncture. Supplement to LS 72-1. March 1972 through March 1973. 90 citations.

73-10 Hospital architecture. January 1970 through March 1973. 330 citations in English.

73-11 Drug therapy of alcoholism. Supplement to LS 70-1. January 1970 through March 1973. 257 citations.

73-11 Psychotherapy in alcoholism. January 1970 through February 1973. 108 citations in English.

73-13 Psychological aspects of cancer. January 1970 through March 1973. 126 citations in English.

73-14 Neoplasm models. January 1970 through March 1973. 589 citations in English.

73-15 Psychopharmacology in geriatrics. Updates Literature Search 70-15. April 1970 through May 1973. 258 citations.

73-16 Control of obesity by diet. Updates LS 70-16. April 1970 through May 1973. 159 citations.

73-17 Sudden unexpected death in infants. Updates LS 71-14. April 1971 through June 1973. 108 citations.

73-18 Psychosurgery. January 1970 through May 1973. 99 citations.

73-19 Health aspects of prison populations. January 1970 through May 1973. 302 citations.

73-20 Cholelithiasis: etiology and drug therapy. January 1970 through July 1973. 147 citations.

73-21 The microwave oven. January 1970 through July 1973. 37 citations.

73-22 Adverse effects of intrauterine devices. January 1970 through July 1973. 372 citations.

72-23 Nomenclatures, subject headings, and classifications. January 1970 through July 1973. 511 citations.

73-24 Rape. January 1970 through June 1973. 64 citations.

73-25 Adverse effects or toxicity of implant materials. January 1970 through June 1973. 215 citations.

73-26 The hospital emergency room. January 1970 through June 1973. 194 citations.

73-27 Laparoscopic sterilization. January 1970 through July 1973.

80 citations.

73-28 Child abuse. January 1970 through July 1973. 303 citations.

73-29 Chemistry of common poisonous plants. January 1970 through July 1973. 156 citations.

73-30 Chagas' disease. January 1970 through July 1973. 404 citations.

73-31 Asbestos toxicity. January 1970 through July 1973. 363 citations.

73-32 Hypertension: diagnosis, occurrence and prevention (with emphasis on studies in the U.S.). January 1970 through July 1973. 216 citations in English.

73-33 Doping and sports. January 1970 through August 1973. 46 citations.

73-34 Herpesviruses and the etiology of mammalian tumors. January 1970 through August 1973. 182 citations.

73-35 Mental retardation: facilities, rehabilitation, services (with emphasis on the U.S.). January 1970 through August 1973. 253 citations in English.

73-36 Therapy of enuresis with imipramine. January 1970 through September 1973. 57 citations.

### **Health Insurance Benefits Advisory Council Supports Health Education**

The Health Insurance Benefits Advisory Council, (HIBAC) [established by law, to advise the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare on matters concerning Medicare-Medicaid programs] at a January 11, 1974, meeting approved the following recommendations:

1. Mandatory health activities in all health care programs, to be financed by third-party intermediaries and carriers

2. Establishment of a high-level Office of Consumer Health Education within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

3. Congressional approval of legislation authorizing the creation of a National Center for Health Education

4. Distribution of consumer health education information and materials to all appropriate providers and third-party intermediaries and carriers and to all appropriate governmental health and insurance departments and agencies, unions, and other consumer representatives.

The recommendations to be submitted to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare essentially follow those made by the President's Committee on Health Education and the HIBAC Subcommittee on Health Education.

### **Reduction of Lead in Paints Is Recommended**

Reducing the permissible lead content of paints from the present 0.5 percent to the "lowest practicable" concentration is recommended in a "Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate the Hazard of Lead in Paint," prepared for the Consumer Product Safety Commission by the National Academy of Sciences.

The report states that inadequate scientific information on lead poisoning prevents setting a more precise, scientific standard at this time. Special emphasis should be given to learning the lead absorption rate of children—the primary victims of lead poisoning. Between the ages of 1 and 6, many children develop pica. The condition is so common, according to one estimate, that 600,000 U.S. children would show increased blood lead content if tested. The report also notes that little is known about the chemical significance of increased blood lead content in children and suggests that further research investigate

possible physical and behavioral effects.

The eight-member panel that authored the report defined "lowest practicable" concentration as the "lowest concentration that can be achieved by existing technology." The panel pointed out that such a recommendation "must inevitably involve a value judgment in which one balances the likelihood of health damage at a given lead concentration against the likelihood of health damage from substitute materials, the effect of the change on the performance of the paint, and the cost of making the change."

The panel further stressed that any regulation governing the maximal lead content of paint must be based on the practicability of controlling the lead that enters paint accidentally during processing and on the availability of reliable analytic procedures. For example, in recent tests "lead free" paint was found to contain as much as 0.03 percent lead because of impurities in its stated ingredients.

The report also recommends that the Consumer Product Safety Commission set up a national paint surveillance system to insure that (a) established standards are being met, (b) such standards are reviewed biannually in the light of any additional information on lead that becomes available, and (c) research is sponsored to identify the normal amount of lead in the human body, sources of accidental lead in paints, and better methods of analyzing the lead content of paint and body tissues.

In the report, health depart-

ments and hospitals of major urban centers are encouraged to adopt compatible methods for the mass screening of children and for identification of the signs and symptoms of lead poisoning. Information from these sources, according to the report, should be deposited in a national registry that would prepare annual reports on the incidence of community lead poisoning and on new results from screening programs.

Copies of the report may be obtained from the Director, Public Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, 1750 K St., NW., Washington, D.C. 20207.

### **American Academy Of Medical Administration**

The 17th annual convocation and annual meeting of the American Academy of Medical Administration will be held August 11, 12, 1974, at the Continental Plaza Hotel, Chicago.

For information write Noel Barber, American Academy of Medical Administrators, 6 Beacon St., Boston, Mass. 02108.

### **Oral Vaccine for Cholera And Other Diseases**

A basic research study, under a fellowship from the Boston-based Medical Foundation and grants from the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, strongly suggests that an oral vaccine would provide better protection against cholera than the presently used injected type. The current type has proved to be only partially effective and does little to prevent people from becoming carriers.

The research, conducted at the Massachusetts General Hospital, has now demonstrated that antibodies in the gastrointestinal tract will protect a person from cholera. By preventing the toxin that is released in the intestine by cholera bacteria from attaching itself to the intestinal cell, these antibodies apparently can prevent the severe diarrhea and dehydration that might otherwise lead to death from cholera.

Proof of the manner in which the antibodies give protection underscores the need for producing or administering an oral vaccine, since this type would produce the greatest amount of antibodies in the intestine and thus be most effective in preventing disease.

The principal investigator for the study is Dr. W. Allan Walker, chief of the pediatric gastrointestinal unit at the hospital. His co-workers are Dr. Michael Fields, assistant head of the gastrointestinal unit, Beth Israel Hospital, and Dr. Kurt J. Isselbacher, chief of the gastrointestinal unit, Massachusetts General Hospital.

The new results relating to cholera represent one aspect of an overall study, under the Medical Foundation grant, of the role played by antibodies in intestinal secretions or on the surface of intestinal cells in protecting people from both infectious and allergic diseases.

The gastrointestinal tract is vulnerable to a host of agents, such as bacteria, viruses, and toxins, which potentially can cause diarrhea and cholera-like diseases. These agents can also pass from the intestine into the circulation and affect

other vital organs such as the liver (and cause hepatitis), the kidney (and cause nephritis), or the heart (and cause carditis). Walker will attempt to evaluate the different types of antibodies present in the gastrointestinal tract and investigate other specific disease states in addition to cholera, trying to determine how they can be controlled.

### **American Academy Of Pediatrics Offers Immunization Flyer**

A one-page flyer urging parents to make sure their children are adequately immunized against communicable disease has recently been made available by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The flyer warns that "One in three preschoolers aren't immunized" and points out that the childhood diseases, such as measles, rubella, poliomyelitis, whooping cough, and diphtheria, can cripple and kill children.

The flyer also contains an immunization schedule recommended by the Academy and urges parents to check with their family physician or local public health department if they are unsure about their child's immunization status.

The flyers, \$3 per 100, are available from the American Academy of Pediatrics, Dept. P., Box 1034, Evanston, Ill. 60204.

### **New Publication Explores Contributions of Midwives**

At the 16th congress of the International Confederation of Midwives, October 28–November 3, 1972, in Washington, D.C., 2,000 participants from

99 nations discussed future contributions of midwives to family planning, midwifery education and legislation, nutrition for maternal and child care, and effects of technology on the quality of childbirth.

The proceedings of the congress have been published by the International Confederation of Midwives and the American College of Nurse-Midwives. "New Horizons in Midwifery," a 250-page, paperback volume includes reports of preliminary and business sessions, photographs of events, and 40 scientific and educational papers.

The book may be purchased for \$6.50 per copy (\$3.50 for ACNM members) from the American College of Nurse-Midwives, ICM Congress Publications Office, 550 N. Broadway, Rm. 114, Baltimore, Md. 21205.

### **WHO Fellowships For Health Workers**

The World Health Organization will make available in 1975 a limited number of short-term fellowships for travel abroad related to the improvement and expansion of health services in the United States. This support is offered to U.S. citizens engaged in operational or educational aspects of public health who are employed by non-Federal governmental agencies or educational institutions.

In selecting applicants, a special committee will consider the person's professional background, the field and locale of the proposed study, and the utilization of the experience by the applicant on his return. Employees of the Federal Government are not eligi-

ble. Applications will not be considered for the purpose of pure research projects, for attendance at international meetings, nor from students in the midst of training at either the undergraduate or graduate level. Applicants may not be over 55 years of age.

A fellowship award will cover per diem and transportation. Except in very unusual circumstances, it will be limited to short-term travel programs averaging about 2 months. Employers of successful applicants will be expected to endorse applications and to continue salary during the fellowships. Priorities of award will be established up to the total of the funds available. The deadline for the receipt of completed applications is September 30, 1974.

Further information may be obtained from Dr. Robert W. Jones III, Chief, International Education Branch, Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, Room 2B-55, Bldg. 31, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

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## **Education Notes**

*Announcements for publication should be forwarded to Health Services Reports 6 months in advance of the deadline date for application for admission or financial aid, whichever is earlier.*

**International Conference on Alcohol, Drugs, and Traffic Safety.** The Sixth International Conference on Alcohol, Drugs, and Traffic Safety will be held in Toronto, Canada, September 8–13, 1974. It is being held in association with the International Committee on Alcohol, Drugs, and Traffic Safety and the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions.

Plenary sessions papers will deal with the epidemiology of alcohol and drug-related traffic accidents; pharmacological, physiological, and psychological aspects relevant to

driving impairment; analytic methods [for detection of alcohol and other drugs in blood samples, for example]; control and prevention [drinking-driving laws]; and public education and information.

The registration fee is \$50. Participants are urged to register before the conference. For registration forms and more information, write to Conference Manager, Sixth International Conference on Alcohol, Drugs, and Traffic Safety, 33 Russell St., Toronto, Ontario M5S 2S1 Canada.

**Biohazard and Injury Control in the Biomedical Laboratory.** Tuition-free short courses teaching practical methods to control potential health and safety hazards in the laboratory will be conducted in 1974 by the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. These courses, sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, will introduce basic theory and practices of laboratory safety and contamination control.

Senior-level technicians from all biomedical research laboratories, particularly viral oncology research units, are invited to attend. Technicians are offered a choice of three courses. Two 3½-day courses, featuring both laboratory and lecture sessions, will be conducted in Minneapolis at the University of Minnesota June 11–14 and again September 17–20, 1974. A 3-day course without laboratory sessions will be held at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., December 10–11, 1974.

Because the courses are tuition free, each laboratory pays only its representative's travel and living expenses. Enrollment is limited. For more information and applications, write to Dr. Donald Vesley, School of Public Health, 1158 Mayo, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn. 55455.

**Master's Program to Prepare Local Public Health Directors.** The Department of Health Administration, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, offers a 21-month Master of Public Health program to prepare students for executive positions in local health agencies. It includes a 7-month placement in a local agency

with a local health director as preceptor.

A limited number of traineeships are expected to be available. Persons with a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution and at least 2 years of administrative experience in health-related organizations are eligible for admission. For further information, write to the Community Health Services Administration Program, Department of Health Administration, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 27514.

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## Publications

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### FEDERAL

**Brucellosis Surveillance, 1972.** *DHEW Publication No. (CDC) 74-8186; February 1974; 14 pages.* Center for Disease Control, Attn.: Bacterial Zoonoses Sect., Bacterial Diseases Division, Bureau of Epidemiology, Atlanta, Ga. 30333.

**Special Health Career Opportunity Grants.** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74-5; 1973; 27 pages.*

**Solid Waste Recycling Projects.** A national directory. *By Penelope Hansen. SW-45 (EPA); 1973; 284 pages; \$2.15.*

**Solid Waste Demonstration Projects.** Proceedings of a symposium, Cincinnati, Ohio, May 4–6, 1971. *By Patricia L. Stump. SW-4p (EPA); 1972; 256 pages; \$1.50.*

**Solid Waste Management.** Available information materials. *SW-58.20 (EPA); October 1973; 59 pages.*

**Survey of Facilities Using Land Application of Wastewater.** *EPA-9-73006; \$6.80.*

**Hepatitis.** *DHEW (NIH) 74-122; 1974; 12 pages; 30 cents.*

**Do We Care About Research Animals?** *DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 74-355; folder.* Office of Science and Health Reports, Division of Research Resources, National Institutes of Health, Bldg. 31, Room 5B-39, Bethesda, Md. 20014.

**Manganese.** 1973; 191 pages; \$5.50. *Printing and Publishing Office, Na-*

*tional Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20418.*

**Directory, State and Areawide Comprehensive Health Planning Agencies Under Section 314 of the PHS Act.** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74,001; July 1973; 94 pages.*

**Section 1122 of the Social Security Amendments—Some Questions and Answers.** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74,002; 1974; folder.*

**Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Demonstration: A summary report (second printing).** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74-3102; March 1973; 77 pages.*

**The Computer Assisted EKG From Laboratory to Community.** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74-3104; September 1973; 37 pages.*

**A Profile of the United States Public Health Service, 1798-1948.** *By Bess Furman in consultation with Ralph C. Williams, MD, author of The United States Public Health Service, 1798–1950. DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 73-369; 487 pages; \$4.35.*

**National Center for Health Statistics Impairments Due to Injury, United States, 1971.** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74-1514, Series 10, No. 87; December 1973; 53 pages; 90 cents.*

**Acute Conditions, Incidence and Associated Disability, United States, July 1971–June 1972.** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74-1515, Series 10, No. 88; January 1974; 68 pages; \$1.05.*

**Health Characteristics by Geographic Region, Large Metropolitan Areas and Other Places of Residence, United States, 1969–70.** *DHEW Publication No. (HRA) 74-1513, Series 10, No. 86; January 1974; 56 pages; 90 cents.*

**Federal publications may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. Orders should be accompanied by cash, check, or money order and should fully identify the publication. Single copies may be obtained from the originating bureau.**