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ernment Printing Office, Washington,
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209, 210, National Center for Health
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Cover: In 25 years the National Health Survey has evolved into a family of surveys and some 600 reports on the health status and vital statistics of the people of the United States. Papers in this issue of *Public Health Reports* tell of the Survey's past and future and about current projects of the National Center for Health Statistics here and in other countries.

Health Data Quiz

Questions Featuring Data From the National Center for Health Statistics—
Test Your Knowledge of Current Vital and Health Statistics

1. The chronic condition most frequently associated with activity limitation as reported in the National Interview Survey is _____.
 - a. arthritis and rheumatism
 - b. diabetes
 - c. heart disease
 - d. hypertension
2. _____ is the acute condition most frequently reported in household interviews.
 - a. upper respiratory conditions (including colds)
 - b. headaches
 - c. digestive disorders
3. Life expectancy at birth is highest for _____.
 - a. white males
 - b. all other males
 - c. white females
 - d. all other females
4. Infant mortality rates are lowest in the _____ Region.
 - a. Southern
 - b. Western
 - c. Northeastern
 - d. North Central
5. June is still the most popular month for marriages, but _____ is a close second.
 - a. August
 - b. May
 - c. July
 - d. September
6. _____ is the nonsurgical family planning method most used by married couples according to the National Survey of Family Growth.
 - a. diaphragm
 - b. oral contraceptive
 - c. IUD
 - d. condom
7. _____ continues to be the leading cause of death.
 - a. cancer
 - b. accidents
 - c. stroke
 - d. heart disease
8. Most women whose marriage ends in divorce (a) are _____ (b) are not _____ likely to remarry, according to the National Survey of Family Growth data on women ages 15–44.
9. Most Americans rely on _____ to pay their hospital bills.
 - a. Medicare
 - b. Medicaid
 - c. self or family
 - d. private insurance
10. Most Americans think that compared to other persons their age, their health is (a) excellent _____ (b) good _____ (c) fair _____ (d) poor _____, according to information collected in the National Health Interview Survey.
11. Although more deaths are caused by motor vehicle accidents, _____ accidents are more frequent.
 - a. work
 - b. home
 - c. sports
12. Most American mothers (a) do _____ (b) do not _____ nurse their babies, according to the National Survey of Family Growth.
13. According to the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, the physician most frequently visited by patients is the _____.
 - a. surgeon
 - b. medical specialist, including pediatrician
 - c. general practitioner or family physician
14. Excluding biopsies and diagnostic dilation and curettage of uterus, _____ is the most frequently

Tearsheet requests to Sandra Surber Smith, Chief, Scientific and Technical Information Branch, National Center for Health Statistics, Rm. 1–57, Center Bldg., 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

performed operation recorded in the National Hospital Discharge Survey.

- a. tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
- b. hysterectomy
- c. appendectomy

15. The ownership of the majority of hospitals in this country is _____, according to the National Master Facility Inventory Survey.

- a. Federal Government
- b. proprietary (operated for profit)
- c. State or local government
- d. nonprofit

16. Most Americans (a) are _____ (b) are not _____ overweight, according to skinfold measurements taken during the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

17. There are more _____ than any other single occupational group in the health field.

- a. physicians
- b. registered nurses
- c. health technologists and technicians
- d. nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants

18. _____ is the most common form of exercise among persons 20 years of age or over.

- a. bicycling
- b. jogging
- c. walking
- d. swimming

19. The median age of brides at first marriage is now a little over _____.

- a. 21 years
- b. 20 years
- c. 19 years
- d. 22 years

20. Each year there are more (a) _____ male births (b) _____ female births.

21. For young Americans under 25 years of age _____ is the leading cause of death.

- a. congenital anomalies
- b. accidents
- c. homicide
- d. suicide

22. The average weight for women aged 18-74 is approximately _____ as measured in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

- a. 130 pounds
- b. 145 pounds
- c. 155 pounds
- d. 120 pounds

23. The average weight for adult men is about _____ as determined in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

- a. 150 pounds
- b. 160 pounds
- c. 170 pounds
- d. 180 pounds

24. Most Americans (a) need _____ (b) do not need _____ some type of dental treatment.

25. The major expense in providing care to residents in nursing homes is _____, according to the 1977 National Nursing Home Survey.

- a. operating costs, including food, drugs, and supplies
- b. labor costs, including wages, salaries, and benefits
- c. fixed costs, including equipment, rent, insurance, and taxes

26. The most common diagnosis among residents of nursing homes is _____.

- a. diseases of the circulatory system
- b. mental disorders and senility
- c. diseases of the musculoskeletal system
- d. diseases of the respiratory system

27. According to the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, _____ is the symptom most frequently reported as the reason for a physician visit.

- a. cough
- b. back symptoms
- c. sore throat
- d. colds

See page 236 for answers to the Health Data Quiz

plaintiff was released from the hospital on December 8 and returned to his former employment in the spring of 1977.

At trial, Petty's physician testified that the swine flu vaccination was the cause of his patient's sickness, which was diagnosed as a "serum sickness-like reaction to a foreign protein." Although a physical examination just before trial revealed no permanent physical disability, Petty testified that he continued to experience aches in his joints and muscles which limited his physical ability to work and engage in personal activities. The United States did not present any expert testimony that rebutted Petty's evidence regarding the diagnosis of serum sickness or the alleged injuries. The Court, therefore, held that it was compelled to conclude that the plaintiff's condition was proximately caused by the swine flu vaccination in question. Accordingly, Petty was awarded \$25,607.22 in special damages (including medical expenses and lost income), \$87,200 in general damages for residual injuries, and \$100,000 for pain and suffering from the onset of his illness to the time of trial.

NO INFORMED CONSENT

The District Court's decision is significant, not because the Court found a causal relationship between the swine flu inoculation and the particular injuries experienced by the plaintiff, but because it based the liability of the United States on the Government's negligence in failing to adequately warn vaccine recipients of the dangers associated with the vaccination. The Court found that pursuant to the Swine Flu Act and the Federal Tort Claims Act, the Government had a duty to warn and fully inform potential vaccinees of the "risks and benefits" of receiving the swine flu vaccine. In the Court's opinion, the standard registration form used in the program was misleading in that it did not ask the registrant to assume the risks associated with the vaccination or to waive any legal remedies. The registration form merely listed in summary fashion "important information" about influenza, the nature of the vaccine, possible side effects, and special precautions for certain groups of people (for example, young children, people with known allergy to eggs). The requested response to this information was a

signed statement that the registrant had read the form and understood the benefits and risks of the flu vaccination. In light of the statutory requirement, the Court held that the act of signing this form was not sufficient to waive a vaccinee's right to sue and did not, therefore, constitute informed consent.

A multidistrict court, which had coordinated all pretrial proceedings in the numerous swine flu claims against the United States (including this one), held that nothing in the Swine Flu Act bars a plaintiff from demonstrating that the Government had an obligation to warn vaccinees of potential hazards. Indeed, the legislation created a clear duty on the part of the United States to prepare and implement a "written consent form" as well as procedures for assuring that vaccinees were given information sufficient to make an informed decision. Thus, the Court found that the Government could not avoid liability by hiding behind the four corners of a complicated registration form. Although conceding the difficulty of drafting a consent form that meets the statutory standard of 42 U.S.C. § 247b(j)(1)(F), the Court reasoned that the Government's "hard sell campaign" to encourage program participation, together with the prior knowledge by Federal officials of certain neurological complications that might arise from the vaccination and the widespread disagreement among medical experts as to the actual need for the swine flu program, made a "full, adequate and understandable warning of the risks and benefits, and

rights and remedies" imperative. Under these circumstances, failure to give such warning constituted statutory negligence.

The Court also suggested that evidence showing that Petty was "a hard-working, healthy taxpayer" who "responded to the call of his country" created a moral obligation on the part of the Government as well as a legal one. The Court stated:

It may well be argued (and probably will be) that the Government should not nurse the American public from cradle to grave. . . . However, the plaintiff herein asked for nothing prior to his vaccination. . . . The Government should not now look lightly on plaintiff and his illness.

The *Petty* decision contrasts with two other recent cases in which the legal sufficiency of the registration form used in the swine flu program was considered. In both *Bean v. United States*, Civil Action No. 79-F-571 (D.C. Colo., Aug. 19, 1980) and *Gundy v. United States*, Civil Action No. 79-F-587 (D.C. Colo., Sept. 9, 1980), the registration form was found to provide plaintiffs with adequate information to make an informed decision about the inoculation and thereby assume the inherent risks. The inconsistency of these rulings is likely to give rise to an appeal in the *Petty* case. At the time of publication, a motion for a new trial was pending before the District Court in Iowa, and a final judgment had not been entered.

—PETER A. PAVARINI, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Health and Human Services.

education notes

Industrial hygiene ventilation systems. The Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health at the University of Utah is offering a course entitled "Design and Evaluation of Industrial Hygiene Ventilation Systems" (National Institute of Occupa-

tional Safety and Health No. 588) at Salt Lake City, Utah, October 5-9, 1981. The tuition will be \$500. For further information, contact Ms. K. Blosch, University of Utah, Bldg. 112, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112, (801) 581-5710.

publications

FEDERAL

Alcohol and Women. Research Monograph No. 1. 260-page monograph—proceedings of a conference on the use and abuse of alcohol by women. *GPO Stock No. 017-024-11988-1. \$5.50.*

Alcohol and Nutrition. Research Monograph No. 2. 408-page indexed monograph—for researchers engaged in biomedical aspects of alcohol and nutrition. *GPO Stock No. 017-024-11954-7. \$6.00.*

Normative Approaches to the Prevention of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. 238-page monograph—a critical review of the “sociocultural model” of alcohol use. *GPO Stock No. 017-024-11984-9. \$5.00.*

Family Planning for Disabled People. *DHHS Publication No. (HSA) 81-5693. Reprinted January 1981. 185 pp. \$6.50. GPO Stock No. 017-026-00096-8.*

White House Conference on Families. WHCF Briefs Top Business Leaders on Improved Personnel Policies. *WHCF Final Report. \$6.50. GPO Stock No. 040-000-0430-1.*

Optimal Radiation Emissions from Selected Sources: Part I. Quartz Halogen

and Fluorescent Lamps. *DHHS Publication No. (FDA) 81-8136. 1981. \$6.50. GPO Stock No. 017-015-00177-6.*

Regulations for the Administration and Enforcement of the Radiation Control for Health and Safety Act of 1968 (July 1980). *DHHS Publication No. (FDA) 80-8035. \$3.75. GPO Stock No. 017-015-00173-3.*

Federal publications listed above are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Orders should be accompanied by check or money order and should be identified by title and GPO stock No.

You'd Be Amazed At How Many Teens Say “No.” *DHHS Publication No. (HSA) 81-5660. 1980. 6-page leaflet.*

Can You Picture Birth Control for Teens? *DHHS Publication No. (HSA) 81-5618. 1980. 6-page leaflet.*

Have You Solved The Body Puzzle? *DHHS Publication No. (HSA) 81-5620. 1980. 6-page leaflet.*

Maybe You Need to Take Another LOOK???? *DHHS Publication No. (HSA) 81-5617. 1980. 6-page leaflet.*

Here's The Word on BIRTHCONTROL. *DHHS Publication No. (HSA) 81-5616. 1980. 6-page leaflet.*

Free single copies of publications listed above are available from the Bureau of Community Health Services, HSA, Rm. 7A-20 Parklawn Bldg., 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Md. 20857.

The Community Connection: Resources for Youth Alcohol Abuse Prevention Programs. *A resource list of manuals for community planning and prevention programs for youth.*

The Right Question. Evaluation Tools for Youth Alcohol Abuse Prevention. *A resource listing of survey instruments to gather information on alcohol knowledge, attitudes, and drinking patterns of youth.*

Project Package for Medical Educators: *A package of materials resource listings, to be used by physician educators in medical schools.*

For free single copies of the above listed publications write to National Clearinghouse for Alcohol Information, P. O. Box 2345, Rockville, Md. 20852.

The Relationship Between Yearly Earnings and Client Characteristics for Persons Receiving Alcoholism Treatment. *Order No. PB 80-118029. \$9.00. \$3.50 microfiche.*

A Manual for Evaluation Guidelines for CASPAR: A model program in alcohol education. *Order No. PB 80-210578. \$7.00. \$3.50 microfiche.*

Reporting Guide for Laser Light Shows and Displays. *DHHS Publication No. (FDA) 81-8140. 1981. Order No. PB 81-123218. \$5.00. \$3.50 microfiche.*

Above listed publications may be ordered from National Technical Information Service, 5258 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Va. 22161. Full payment must accompany orders.

Entry into Nursing. Part II. Student selection and retention in nursing schools. *DHHS Publication No. (HRA) 80-3. March 1981. 81 pages. Single copies may be requested from Bureau of Health Professions, Division of Nursing, HRA, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.*

FOCUS: VA Research and Development, Peptic Ulcer Disease. *Vol. 1, No. 1, March 1981. Single copies may be requested from Veterans Administration, Medicine and Surgery, Washington, D.C. 20420.*

A Winter Hazard for the Old. *DHHS Publication No. (NIH) 81-1464. Revised 1980. 12 page pamphlet. Single copies may be requested from Hypothermia, NIA-Expand, 8630 Fenton St., Suite 508, Silver Spring, Md. 20910.*

Work Disability in the United States—A Chartbook. *DHHS Publication No. (SSA) 13-11978. Single copies may be requested from the Office of Research and Statistics, SSA, Rm. 1120, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20009.*

Use of Special Aids, United States—1977. *DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 81-1563, Series 10, No. 135, October 1980; 40 pages.*

Computer-Assisted Spirometry Data Analysis for the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 1971-81. *DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 81-1360, Series 2, No. 86, October 1980; 48 pages.*

Proceedings of the 18th National Meeting of the Public Health Conference on Records and Statistics. New Challenges for Vital and Health Records. *DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 81-1214, 1980; 333 pages.*

Catalog of Public Use Data Tapes from the National Center for Health Statis-

tics. *DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 81-1213, November 1980; 61 pages.*

Free single copies of the above listed publications are available from the Scientific and Technical Information Branch, NCHS, Rm. 1-57, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

Health Care Financing Program Statistics—Medicare: Use of Home Health Services, 1977. *DHHS Publication No. (HCFA) 03064, January 1981; 20 pages.*

Health Care Financing: Grants for Research and Demonstrations, FY 1981. *DHHS Publication No. (HCFA) 03074, December 1980; 22 pages.*

Free single copies of the above listed publications may be requested from ORDS Publications, Rm. 1E9 Oak Meadows Bldg., 6340 Security Blvd., Baltimore, Md. 21235.

NON-FEDERAL

Epidemiologic Reviews. Vol. 2. *Edited by Philip E. Sartwell and Neal Nathanson. 1980; 231 pages. \$13.50. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Md. 21218.*

Getting Better. A Report on Health Care from the Salzburg Seminar. *Edited by Herbert P. Gleason. January 1981. 138 pages. \$22.50. Oelgeschlager, Gunn & Hain Publishers, Inc., 1278 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02138.*

A Resource Allocation Model for Child Survival. *By Howard Barnum, et al. September 1980. 190 pages. \$30. Oelgeschlager, Gunn & Hain, Publishers, Inc., 1278 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02138.*

Health Care Costs and Financing: A Guide to Information Sources. *Edited by Rita M. Keintz. 1981. \$34. 258 pages. Gale Research Co., Book Tower, 1249 Washington Blvd., Detroit, Mich. 48226.*

Health Services Directory: A Guide to Clinics, Treatment Centers, Rehabilitation Facilities, Care Programs, Counseling—Diagnostic Resources, and Related Human Service Institutions, Agencies, and Associations. 1st edition. *Edited by Anthony T. Kruzaz. 1981. \$60. 620 pages. Gale Research Co., Book Tower, 1249 Washington Blvd., Detroit, Mich. 48226.*

Health Groups in Washington: A Directory, 1981. *\$4 single copy. Discounts are available when ordering 5 or more copies. 44 pages. National Health Council, 70 West 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018.*

July 1980 Survey Results: HMO Enrollment and Utilization in the U.S. *17 pages. \$3.50. InterStudy, Attention: Library, P.O. Box 5, Excelsior, Minn. 55331.*

Better Homes and Gardens Women's Health and Medical Guide. *By Patricia J. Cooper. 1981. 699 pages. \$24.95. Meredith Corp., Public Relations Dept., Locust at 17th, Des Moines, Iowa 50336. Available from most local bookstores, department stores, or wherever books are sold.*

Long Term Care for the Aging: Organization and Administration. Annotated Bibliography. *By Leonard S. Rosenfeld and Susan Gaylord. October 1980. 98 pages. Department of Health Administration, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514.*

The Right to Die With Dignity. *By Elizabeth Ogg. Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 587. October 1980. 28 pages; 50 cents. Public Affairs Pamphlets, 381 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10016.*

Adopting A Child. *By Maxine Phillips. Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 585. September 1980. 28 pages; 50 cents. Public Affairs Pamphlets, 381 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10016.*

Hospital Nurse Recruitment and Retention: A Source Book for Executive Management. 1981. *AHA Catalog No. 1312. \$20 for AHA members and \$25 for nonmembers. American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60611.*

The Changing Role of the Hospital: Options for the Future. 1981. *AHA Catalog No. 1186. \$28 for AHA members and \$35 for nonmembers. American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60611.*

Nuptiality Patterns in Developing Countries: Implications for Fertility. *By Jane S. Durch. December 1980. 43 pages. Population Reference Bureau, Inc., 1337 Connecticut Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20036.*

America's Elderly in the 1980s. *By Beth J. Soldo. November 1980. 48 pages. Vol. 35, No. 4. Population Reference Bureau, Inc., 1337 Connecticut Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20036.*

Population Growth and Poverty in the Developing World. *By Nancy Birdsall. December 1980. 48 pages. Vol. 35, No. 5. Population Reference Bureau, Inc., 1337 Connecticut Ave., NW., Washington, D.C. 20036.*

Evaluations of Firms and Professionals Who Provide Consumer Services. An

Annotated Bibliography of Consumer Studies. By Gregg Jackson and Francine Meyer. December 1980. 68 pages. Washington Center for the Study of Services, 1518 K St., NW., Suite 406, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Women, Health, and Choice. By Margarete Sandelowski. January 1981. 278 pages. \$11.95 paperback. Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 07632.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Economics and Health Policy. Proceedings of the 13th Round Table Conference, Geneva, Switzerland, November 8-9, 1979. Edited by A. Griffiths and Z. Bankowski. 1980. 320 pages (ISBN 92-9036-004-6). (English/French editions) Geneva.

Evaluation of Certain Food Additives. Twenty-fourth report of the Joint FAO/

WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives. WHO Technical Report Series No. 653, 1980. 38 pages (ISBN 92 4 120653 5). (French and Spanish editions in preparation.)

Hypertension Related to Health Care—Research Priorities. Copenhagen, October 24, 1979. 1980. 64 pages (ISBN 92 9020 171 1). WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen.

Problems Related to Alcohol Consumption. WHO Technical Report Series No. 650, 1980. 72 pages (ISBN 92 4 1206500). (French and Spanish editions in preparation.)

Chronic Respiratory Diseases in Children in Relation to Air Pollution. By J. R. T. Colley and L. J. Brassler. 1980. 91 pages (ISBN 92 9020 167 3). WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen.

Drug Problems in the Sociocultural Context. A Basis for Policies and Programme Planning. Edited by G. Edwards and A. Arif. 1980. 258 pages (ISBN 92 4 130073 6). Geneva. (French and Spanish editions in preparation.)

Summary Reports on Meetings, 1979. 99 pages (ISBN 92 9020 197 5). WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen. (French, English, German, and Russian editions are available.)

World Health Statistics Annual, 1980. Health Personnel and Hospital Establishments. Geneva. 171 pages (ISBN 92 4 0677803 4). Bilingual edition (English and French).

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