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A National RMP Conference and Workshop on Evaluation was held September 28 - 30 at the University of Chicago Center for Continuing Education.

Attendance

Over 250 persons attended. Of these about 160 were RMP Staff (coordinators, evaluation directors, and others); another 70 or so were participants and special invitees; with the remainder largely accounted for by RMPs staff. Several National Advisory Council (Mrs. Wyckoff and Dr. Cannon) and Review Committee members also were present.

Background and Objectives of Conference

The Conference was planned by an \underline{ad} \underline{hoc} steering committee of RMP evaluation directors and coordinators in conjunction with the RMPS Office of Program Planning and Evaluation. A survey of regional problems, needs, and expertise in evaluation resulted in the committee's decision that the primary objectives of the conference should be to:

- Present from various perspectives the differing needs for, and uses of, RMP evaluative material.
- . Re-emphasize (or introduce) the concept of program evaluation.
- Present philosophies and methodologies of evaluation in broad programmatic areas.
- Present methodologies of evaluation in narrower subject and project-oriented areas.
- Provide both formal and informal opportunity for consultation with evaluation experts.
- Provide RMP representatives concerned with evaluation an opportunity to become familiar with other RMP personnel in similar positions and with RMPS and outside evaluation resources.
- Discuss with participants the need and means for further formal mechanisms to improve RMP evaluation.

Program

A copy of the program, listing all speakers, is enclosed. A copy of the paper presented by Dr. Schon in the Monday plenary session is enclosed elsewhere in your agenda book. Enclosed herewith are copies of the remarks of Dr. Peter Fox (Office of Management and Budget) and Mr. John Blamphin (MEDICAL WORLD NEWS).

Proceedings of the conference, including the remarks of Drs. Scamidt and Wilbur at the Monday plenary session, Dr. Margulies' lunchcon remarks and those of Dr. Wilson on Wednesday, as well as the papers presented in the workshop and special interest sessions on Tuesday, will be available in about six to eight weeks. Copies will be sent to Council members then.

PROGRAM

NATIONAL REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ON EVALUATION

The University of Chicago

Center for Continuing Education

1307 East 60th Street

Chicago, Illinois 60637

ON Lobby

Professional Services Veterans Administration

MONDAY - September 28 (c	continued)	
	Richard S. Wilbur, M.D. Assistant Executive Vice President American Medical Association	
	John M. Blamphin Assistant Bureau Chief - Washington Offi MEDICAL WORLD NEWS	ce
12:30 p.m.	LUNCHEON	Dining Room
·	Speaker Harold Margulies, M.D. Acting Director Regional Medical Programs Service	
2 p.m	.DISCUSSION GROUP MEETINGS	As Assigned
	Eight separate assigned groups will be react, discuss and critique the strategolicies of evaluation against the back of morning presentations. (See assign registration packet.)	gies and ground
3:30 p.m	COFFEE BREAK	
4 p.m	.DISCUSSION GROUP MEETINGS (continued)	
5:30 p.m	SOCIAL HOUR Secon	d Floor Lounge
TUESDAY - September 29		
8:30 a.m 3 p.m	.WORKSHOPS S	ee Appendix A
	Workshops in five specific areas will be in three separate sessions. (See Appen WORKSHOP TOPICS AND ROOMS). These five shops will run concurrently, but attend be divided at the option of the partici	dix A - work- ance may

8:30 a.m. SESSION I

10:30 a.m. SESSION II

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	TUESDAY - September 29 (continued)	
_	12 noon	LUNCHEON - Not arranged	
	1:30 p.m	SESSION III	-
-	3:15 p.m	COFFEE BREAK	
	3:30 p.m	SPECIAL INTEREST MEETINGS	See Appendix B
		Meetings covering 12 selected areas of interest will be offered and run concu (See Appendix B - SPECIAL INTEREST MEE TOPICS AND ROOMS.)	rrently.
	5 p.m	ADJOURNMENT - sign up for consultation s Second Floor Lounge area	essions in
	WEDNESDAY - September 30		
	9 a.m	.PLENARY SESSION	Assembly Room
		Introduction Harold Margulies, M.D. Acting Director Regional Medical Programs Service	
•		"HSMHA - An Instrument for Improvement In Health Services"	
		Vernon E. Wilson, M.D. Administrator Health Services and Mental Health Administration	
		"RMP Evaluation - Where Have We Been; Where Do We Go From Here?" (Panelists to be announced.)	and
	10:20 a.m	.COFFEE BREAK	
-	10:30 a.m	. FOLLOW-THROUGH MEETING	Room 2-EF
		Members of the Ad Hoc Steering Committed planned the conference and selected RM and conference discussion leaders will discuss plans for follow-through. Otherwelcome to attend.	IPS staff meet to

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WEDNESDAY - September 30 (continued)

10:30 a.m. INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATION SESSIONS

Participants may request brief consultation sessions with conference presentors or any other participants. Scheduling may be done anytime Monday or Tuesday until 8:00 p.m. at the consultations desk in the Second Floor Lounge area. Requests may be made for specific consultants or by area of evaluation expertise, in which case an RMPS staff member will help in selecting an appropriate consultant.

12 noon ADJOURNMENT

WORKSHOP TOPICS AND ROOMS

Tuesday, September 29, 1970 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

WORKSHOPS & SESSIONS	8:30 to 10:15	10:30 to 12:00	1:30 tc 3:15
A - DATA (Room 2-D) I. The Values and Limitations of National Data II. Data for Ambulatory Care Planning III. The Computer and Health Information System	x	Х	X
B - MEASURING CHANGES IN BEHAVIOR (Room 1-AB) I. Measuring Changes in Knowledge II. Measuring Changes in Attitude III. Measuring Changes in Clinical Performance	Х	х	X
C - EVALUATION OF CHANGING HEALTH STATUS (Room 2-EF) I. The Value of Health Status Measures II. How to Measure Health Status III. The Relation of Process and End Result Evaluation	х	х	X
D - PROGRAM EVALUATION (Assembly Room) I. Concerns in Program Evaluation II. Design of Program Evaluation III. Implementation of Program Evaluation	X	x	Х
E - RESOURCE ALLOCATION/ECONOMICS (Room 2-BC) I. Social Scientists and RMP Evaluation: Role, Techniques and Usefulness II. Cost Benefit - Cost Effectiveness III. Resource Allocation and Management	X	Х	X

(See Appendix A-2 - A-10 for details of each Workshop Session)

Relevance of data to RMP planning and evaluation will be discussed. The Workshop will be carefully structured to provide for a free and informal exchange of ideas among RMP personnel concerned with data, rather than to teach statistical and epidemiological techniques.

Moderator:

Arthur R. Jacobs, M.D., M.P.H. Director of Statistical and

Evaluation Unit

Rochester Regional Medical Program

Associate Moderator:

Sarah J. Peterson

Biostatistician

Session A-I 8:30

The Values and Limitations of National

Data (U.S. Census Data and National

to 10:15 Health Survey Data)

Room 2-D Charles A Metzner, Ph.D.

Professor of Medical Care Organization

University of Michigan

Session A-II

10:30

Data for Ambulatory Care Planning

to 12:00 Room 2-D J. William Gavett, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, College of Management and Department of Preventive Medicine and Community

Health School of Medicine University of Rochester

Session A-III

1:30

to 3:15 Room 2-D David E. Reed, M.D.

Assistant Director of Evaluation Western Pennsylvania Regional Medical

Program

Katherine G. Bauer Research Associate

Harvard Center for Community Health and

The Computer and Health Information System

Medical Care

John E. Wennberg, M.D. Coordinator, Northern New England Regional

Medical Program

. A Regional Health Planning and Management

Data Base

Moderator: John S. Lloyd, Ph.D.

Assistant Coordinator, Evaluation Area V - California Regional

Medical Program

Session B-I

8:30

to 10:15 Room 1-AB Measuring Changes in Knowledge

The discussion of techniques for measuring changes in knowledge -- some well known and some not so well known. Topics included will be paper-and-pencil measures as well as measures which have been developed for situations in which paper-and-pencil

technquies are inappropriate.

William R. Crawford, Ed.D.

Associate

Evaluation Studies Section

Center for Study of Medical Education

University of Illinois

Session B-II

10:30

to 12:00

Room 1-AB

Measuring Changes in Attitude

Display of methods and materials - the how-to-do-it of attitude assessments of

medical care providers, including ways attitude change can be objectively formulated, evaluated, and documented to show project and program impact. Opportunity for questions, problems, and needs in area of attitude evaluation.

Mitchell Schorow

Assistant Coordinator for Educational

Planning and Evaluation

Intermountain Regional Medical Program

Session B-III

1:30

to

3:15 Room 1-AB Measuring Changes in Clinical Performance

Discussion of various direct and indirect techniques of assessing clinical performance.

Advantages and disadvantages of each as well

(continued)

Session B-III (continued)

as criteria for the selection of specific measurement instruments will be discussed, with special attention given to the use and construction of "patient management problems."

Barbara J. Andrew, Ph.D. Assistant Professor Medical Education Research Division of Research in Medical Education University of Southern California

Workshop C - THE FVALUATION OF CHANGING HEALTH STATUS

Moderator:

Robert R. Carpenter, M.D. Director, Western Pennsylvania Regional Medical Program

Session C-1

The Value of Health Status Measures

8:30

to 10:15

Room 2-EF

This Workshop will consider the measurement of the "end result" of health care efforts in terms of patient and population well being. The difficulty of such measurements and their value is to be discussed. Examples of methods required to make and interpret measures of health status will be considered.

Sam Shapiro

Director of Research and Statistics Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York

Maureen M. Henderson, M.D. Professor, Preventive Medicine

Department of Preventive Medicine and

Rehabilitation

University of Maryland

Session C-II

10:30

to 12:00 Room 2-EF Howard R. Kelman, Ph.D.

How to Measure Health Status

Department of Preventive Medicine

and Public Health New York Medical College

Session C-III

The Relation of Process and End Result Evaluation

1:30

to 3:15 Room 2-EF Charles E. Lewis, M.D. Professor and Head

Health Administration Division

School of Public Health

This workship is planned for those who have an appreciation of the need for program evaluation but who are not familiar with the common methods or approaches. By participating in this Workshop, each person should: (1) know the methods for determining program evaluation priorities, (2) know the common method for obtaining program evaluation information, (3) be more confident of his ability to conceptualize program evaluation design, and (4) be able to design with or without the help of consultants a program evaluation design for his own program.

Moderator:

Harold W. Keairnes, M.D. Coordinator for Evaluation

Tri-State Regional Medical Program

Session D-I

Concerns in Program Evaluation Approaches to Program Evaluation: Lecture Α.

and Discussion.

8:30

to

10:15 Assembly Room

This lecture will introduce the workshop participants to: (1) The role of program evaluation in program development and funding procurement, (2) The common methods for obtaining and reporting program evaluation information and, (3) Method of assessing the utilization of program evaluation information. It will create the foundation for one of the workshop sessions.

Harold W. Keairnes, M.D. Coordinator for Evaluation Tri-State Regional Medical Program

В. Questions to be Answered by Program Evaluation: Panel Discussion.

> Through the technique of panel discussion, a series of questions will be developed which reflect the program evaluation needs of an illustrative RMP. The process will clarify the method by which evaluators can begin the task of designing their program evaluation activities.

Harold W. Keairnes, M.D. Coordinator for Evaluation Tri-State Regional Medical Program

(continued)

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Session D-I

(continued)

Avery M. Colt Field Associate of Eastern Massachusetts Tri-State Regional Medical Program

Claire G. Farrisey
Special Projects Coordinator
Tri-State Regional Medical Program

Osler L. Peterson, M.D.
Associate Director for Data Collection
Tri-State Regional Medical Program and
Acting Chairman
Department of Preventive Medicine
Harvard Medical School

Dean J. Siebert, M.D.
Associate Coordinator for Dartmouth
Medical School
Tri-State Regional Medical Program

Ruth B. Mott Research Associate for Data Collection Tri-State Regional Medical Program

Session D-II 10:30 to

to 12:00 Assembly Room Design of Program Evaluation

The Workshop will divide into three small discussion groups. Each group will consist of one or two staff members from the illustrative RMP, and three consultants with specific interest in, and special concern with, program evaluation. (Up to ten workshop participants and an unlimited number of observers. Advance registration of participants is recommended.)

Priorities for evaluation activities will be developed by discussions in each small group. The consultant will provide detailed information about methods and techniques for obtaining the information that answers the high priority questions. Some emphasis will be placed upon the problems of program evaluation and planning that have been precipitated by the new Anniversary Review Guidelines.

Session D-II (continued)

Seven people listed above in Session I

Plus

James J. Dunlop, Ph.D. Arthur D. Little, Inc.

Robert K. Ausman, M.D. Deputy Director Florida Regional Medical Program

Jack E. Thomson, Ed.D Coordinator of Evaluation California Regional Medical Program

Robert Beckman, Ph.D. Director of Research Nassau-Suffolk Regional Medical Program

William R. Thompson
Deputy Director
Washington/Alaska Regional Medical
Program

Paul E. White, Ph.D.
Division of Behavioral Sciences
Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and
Public Health

Jeannette Forsyth, Ph.D.
Project Administrator, Information Support
System
Tri-State Regional Medical Program

Session D-III Implementation of Program Evaluation

1:30

to A. 3:15

Making program evaluation useful.

Assembly Room

The small groups will continue discussion by focusing on some of the operation problems of program evaluation: e.g., funding, reporting turn-around-time, special requirements, etc.

B. The range of solutions in the small groups will join together to compare the results of two discussion sessions and to demonstrate the range of possible solutions to common problems.

All consultants from the first two sessions will participate.

Moderator: John Glasgow, Ph.D.

Associate Coordinator, Research

and Evaluation

Connecticut Regional Medical Program

Session E-I

8:30

Social Scientists and RMP Evaluation: Role, Techniques, and Usefulness

to 10:15 Room 2-BC

Panel discussion to clarify purpose of evaluation, the potential role of the social scientist in terms of available tools and their applicability, and development of a consensus concerning framework within which a socioeconomic analysis may be profitably applied.

Panel Members

A. A. Florin, M.D.
Coordinator, New Jersey Regional Medical
Program

Michael Zubcoff, Ph.D. Head, Health Economics Section Tennessee Mid-South Regional Medical Program

James R. Jeffers, Ph.D. Director, Medical Economics Research Center University of Iowa

John E. Wennberg, M.D.
Coordinator, Northern New England Regional
Medical Program

Conrad Seipp, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Health Services Research
Center
University of North Carolina

Session E-II 10:30

to 12:00 Room 2-BC Cost Benefit - Cost Effectiveness Studies

Explanation of the purpose, objectives and methodology of such studies with particular attention to the values and defects of these studies when applied to health care issues.

(continued)

Session E-II (continued)

Robert L. Berg, M.D.

Professor and Chairman, Department of
Preventive Medicine and Community Health
University of Rochester

Session E-III 1:30 Resource Allocation and Management

to 3:15 Room 2-BC Consideration of the economic allocation of scarce resources within the contest of alternate planning approaches of resource allocation, particularly PPBS.

Panel Members

Wayne A. Kimmel
Program Analyst, Office of the Assistant
Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Department of Health, Education and Welfare

Charles W. Caldwell, M.P.A. Associate Coordinator, Iowa Regional Medical Program

Charles L. Joiner, Ph.D.

Director, Bureau of Research and Community
Service
Alabama Regional Medical Program

SPECIAL INTEREST MEETING TOPICS AND ROOMS

Tuesday, September 29, 1970 3:30 - 5 p.m.

1.	Statistical Models and Operations ResearchConference Lounge
2.	Coronary Care Training Evaluation
3.	A Systems Approach to Coronary Care EvaluationPress Room
4.	Evaluation of Instructional Technology ProjectsRoom 2-EF
5.	Evaluation of Physician EducationRoom 1-C
6.	Evaluation of Multiphasic ScreeningRoom 1-B
7.	Evaluation of Stroke - Rehabilitation ProjectsRoom 2-A
8.	Evaluation of Cancer RegistriesLibrary
9.	Evaluation of Regional Advisory GroupsRoom 2-B
10.	Medical Care Evaluation
11.	Evaluation of New Categories of Manpower
12.	Training for EvaluatorsAssembly Room

SPECIAL INTEREST MEETINGS Tuesday, September 29, 1970 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

STATISTICAL MODELS AND OPERATIONS RESEARCH 1.

Conference Lounge

Moderator:

Francis C. Ichniowski

Acting Chief, Systems Management, RMPS

Paper:

David H. Gustafson, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Industrial Engineering Division

University of Wisconsin

Vernon E. Weckworth, Ph.D. Director, Systems Development Project University of Minnesota

Member, Regional Advisory Group Northlands Regional Medical Program

Discussion

2. EVALUATION OF CORONARY CARE TRAINING Room 1-A

Moderator:

Rodger M. Shepherd, M.D. Assistant Program Director, Continuing

Education

Presbyterian Medical Center San Francisco, California

Report:

Daniele Deverin

Cybern Education, Inc.

. Report on Xerox Study of Twelve National

Coronary Care Training Centers

Presentation:

Mariella Larter, M.S.

Coordinator, Washington/Alaska Coronary Care Unit Nurse Training Program

Discussion

3. A SYSTEMS APPROACH TO CORONARY CARE EVALUATION Press Room

Moderator:

Morton Robins
Acting Chief, Study Design and Analysis
Staff, RMPS

(continued on next page)

Report:

M.A. Rockwell, M.D. Director, Rand Health Program

Rand Corporation

. A Study of Coronary Care Unit Effectiveness Progress Report and Proposal for Further

Presentation:

Morton Robins

Acting Chief, Study Design and Analysis

Staff, RMPS

. Evaluation of Mobile Coronary Care

Ambulances

Discussion

4. EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

Room 2-EF

Moderator:

James E. Dyson, Ph.D.

Director, Continuing Education Division Colorado-Wyoming Regional Medical

Program

Short

Presentations:

Cecelia C. Conrath Chief, Continuing Education and

Training Branch, RMPS
. RMPS Policy on Instructional Technology

James Barrett, Ph.D.

Continuing Education Division
Colorado-Wyoming Regional Medical Program
. Assessment of Interest of Participants

M. Gene Aldridge

Continuing Education Division

Colorado-Wyoming Regional Medical Program

. Feedback Projected

Consultations Via Audio and Visual Telephone Conference:

William J. Paisley, Ph.D. Director, ERIC Clearinghouse on Educational

Media and Technology Stanford University

Elizabeth Norman, Ph.D.

Northeastern University College of Nursing

Frederick Breitenfeld, Jr., Ph.D.

Executive Director

Maryland Center for Public Broadcasting

(continued on next page)

EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS (continued)

Consultations Via Audio and Visual Telephone Conference:

Gerald W. Gaston, D.D.S.

Project Supervisor, Computer Assisted

Instruction (CAI)

Ohio State Regional Medical Program

David L. Bell Filmmaker

Altadena, California

Summary:

William Engbretson, Ph.D. President, Governor's State University Park Forest, Illinois

5. EVALUATION OF PHYSICIAN EDUCATION Room 1-C

Moderator:

Daniel Fleisher, M.D. Director of Health Professions

Temple University

Resource:

William B. Munier, M.D. Staff Assistant, Continuing Education and Training Branch, RMPS

Audience will study and discuss three surrogate projects.

EVALUATION OF MULTIPHASIC SCREENING

Room 1-B

Presentations:

Donald N. Logsdon, M.D.

Associate Director, Multiphasic Health

Screening Center

Department of Community Health Brookdale Hospital Center

. State of the Art of Multiphasic Screening

Evaluation

Frank R. Mark, M.D. Chief, Operations Research and Systems

Analysis, RMPS

. Suggested Evaluation of MPS Projects

Discussion of predistributed case history

EVALUATION OF STROKE - REHABILITATION 7.

Room 2-A

Moderator:

Jerome Tobis, M.D.

Chairman Department of Physican Medicine

and Rehabilitation

University of California at Irvine

(continued on next page)

EVALUATION OF STROKE - REHABILITATION (continued)

Presentations:

Charles M. Wylie, Ph.D. Professor, Public Health Administration

University of Michigan

. Overview of Stroke and Rehabilitation

Evaluation

Bertram L. Tesman, M.D.

Assistant Coordinator, Stroke Program

California Regional Medical Program - Area VIII

. A Comprehensive Stroke Program, Irvine

California

B. Lionel Truscott, M.D. Director, Stroke Program

North Carolina Regional Medical Program

. A Comprehensive Stroke Program,

North Carolina

Philip A. Klieger, M.D. Assistant Director for Organizational

Liaison for Stroke and Rehabilitation, RMPS

. Stroke and Rehabilitation - The

National Picture

Discussion

8. EVALUATION OF CANCER REGISTRIES

Library

Moderator:

Charles R. Key, M.D.

Assistant Director for Cancer New Mexico Regional Medical Program

Presentations:

Charles R. Smart, M.D.

Director, Intermountain Tumor Registry
Salt Lake City, Utah
. Methodologies for Evaluating Effectiveness

and Value of Registries

George Linden Chief, California Tumor Registry State Department of Health

Berkeley, California

. Alternative Methodologies for Evaluation

of Registries

Discussion

9. EVALUATION OF REGIONAL ADVISORY GROUPS

Room 2-B

Moderator:

James P. Harkness, Ph.D. Deputy Coordinator, New Jersey Regional

Medical Program

Presentations:

David A. Pearson, M.P.H. School of Public Health

Yale University

. RAGs as a Factor in the Regionalization

Process

Homer Hagedorn, Ph.D. Arthur D. Little, Inc.

. Findings of the A.D.L. Study of RMPs Related to the Functioning and

Characteristics of RAGs.

Paul E. White, Ph.D.

Division of Behavioral Sciences Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and

Public Health

. Regional Advisory Groups and Decision Making - Preliminary Findings From

a Contractual Study

Discussion

10. MEDICAL CARE EVALUATION

Room 2-C

Moderator:

Glen E. Hastings, M.D.

Coordinator, Nassau-Suffolk Regional Medical Program

Resource

Consultant:

John W. Williamson, M.D.

Professor, Department of Medical Care

and Hospitals

Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and

Public Health

Discussion:

Group will consider end results evaluation and its applicability to assessing quality

of health care, including definition of categories of appropriate measures, examples of end results measures, and implementation

of end results evaluation.

11. EVALUATION OF NEW CATEGORIES OF MANPOWER

Room 2-D

Panelists:

'Harriet Kitzman

Department of Pediatrics Strong Memorial Hospital University of Rochester . Expanded Role of the Nurse

Sarah Mazelas

Evaluation Director

California Regional Medical Program - Area I

. The Physician Assistant Program

Resource:

Veronica L. Conley, Ph.D. Head, Allied Health Section, Continuing Education and Training Branch, RMPS

Discussion

12. TRAINING FOR EVALUATORS

Assembly Room

Presentations:

George E. Miller, M.D. Director for Study of Medical

Education

University of Illinois

Donald Pochyly, Ph.D. Chief of Training, Center for Study

of Medical Education University of Illinois

Resource:

Marian E. Leach, Ph.D. Head, Educational Sciences Section, Continuing Education and Training

Branch, RMPS

This interactive session will focus on two kinds of training:
a) that which prepares operational staff with basic understandings about evaluation and, b) that which is applicable to persons with special training and already highly qualified in their own areas. Examples of the Center's work in evaluation and training with individual Regions will be presented.

STATUS REPORT EARMARKED EVALUATION FUNDS

Background

The 1968 legislative extension of Regional Medical Programs earmarked up to one percent of appropriated funds for evaluation to be utilized at the discretion of the Secretary of HEW. This legislative proviso has become increasingly common to most health, education, and other DHEW service-oriented grant programs. It is expected that this provision will remain in the legislation for the foreseeable future and that the Regional Medical Programs Service will be asked to program approximately one-half of the one percent earmarked funds, with DHEW and HSNHA splitting the other one-half for programming by them.

Available Funds and Implementation

It is estimated that during FY-71 approximately \$700,000 will be available to the Regional Medical Programs Service for the earmarked evaluation studies. The final amount available is, of course, dependent upon the appropriation now under Congressional consideration. Departmental policy requires that the funds be used for grants, contracts and consultant services; they may not be used to support RMPS staff and in-house evaluation activities. In this connection, the new multiprogram grants (Section 910 of the Regional Medical Programs Service legislation) may be one possible mechanism to support these activities, and the recently-issued guidelines on these grants included a statement to this effect.

The Office of the Secretary, DHEW, must approve the use of all evaluation earmarked funds, and each Program has been asked to develop an evaluation plan on how it tentatively anticipates to program the funds. Departmental guidelines on the development of the plans were broad and suggested that the evaluation activities be primarily (1) retrospective, (2) results oriented and, (3) of assistance to the decision-making levels of the Federal establishment and perhaps to the grantees (collectively) themselves. "Quick and dirty" studies as well as long-range studies should be considered. In addition, evaluation methodologies, information systems, and some types of training were considered appropriate if they were judged to be priority areas.

On-going and Proposed Activities

A. On-going

Of the estimated \$700,000 available to the Regional Medical Programs Service in FY-71 for this activity, approximately \$200,000 may be considered already committed to two contracts initiated in late FY-70 and an additional \$20,000 has been spent on the evaluation conference held in Chicago in late September. The two on-going contracts include:

(1) Information Support System for Regional Medical Programs -- Harvard Center for Community Health

Director: Harold Keairnes, M.D.

Amount: \$110,000

This contract is testing and developing a socio-political information support system for management and self-appraisal to assist a Region in assessing regional status, identifying changes in the medical system resulting from Regional Medical Program activities, and comparing the effectiveness of organizational processes in promoting change. Four Regional Medical Programs are now participating in this study begun July 1, 1970, including one Region which "bought into" the study on an independent basis. The first series of interviews with Regional Advisory Group members, selected key regional health leaders and core staff members have been held and feedback to the Program Coordinators is now underway. Document analysis is underway and the field interviewer for each PMP has been selected from the core staffs.

(2) Training of Health Professionals in Characteristics of Effective Evaluation -- University of Illinois College of Medicine

Director: George Miller, M.D.

Amount: \$85,000

This contract supports short-term training for an estimated 250 evaluators and health professionals in Regional Medical Programs on the use of special evaluative techniques. One workshop has already been held and four more are planned for the fiscal year.

B. Proposed

The RMPS evaluation plan covers a wide range of subject areas, including (1) the development of management information systems, (2) evaluating the extent and effectiveness of cooperative arrangements, (3) evaluating the role of RMPs in the implementation and adoption of the heart guidelines, and (4) assessing demonstration activities. This plan is now under review by the Department and final clearance is expected shortly. Several of these proposed evaluation activities (items 1 and 3) are under active consideration.