



E000340

AREA

V minute news

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January 28, 1970

THE EARLY CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASE PROJECT....

funded in July, 1969, is now fully operational after a preparatory phase for organization and coordination with the Breathmobile Program of the TB and Respiratory Disease Association of LAC. Project headquarters are in the 11-200 Wing of LAC-USC Medical Center; patients are seen in the Out-Patient Dept. of the Medical Center, where the pulmonary laboratory for the project is also located.

A Symposium to discuss various approaches and their merits in the prophylactic management of emphysema, chronic bronchitis and other obstructive lung diseases in their "presymptomatic stage" was held on October 18, 1969 and attracted an audience of 105 physicians from all over California.

The first printout of patients detected as having pulmonary abnormalities by the Breathmobile was received in mid-December and the various phases of the project are now in full swing. It was anticipated that during the first year of operation, 150 physicians might respond to the invitation to participate in the program, however, the acceptance to date has been almost four times greater. While pleased, Dr. Wilbur Y. Hallett, Project Director, is concerned with the project's ability to cope with such unexpectedly large numbers, however, he is optimistic that with the cooperation of the Consulting Faculty, the job can be done. The project's main thrust will now be the instruction of community physicians in the education and management of patients with earliest manifestations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

The first meeting of the Faculty for the project to set up the details of the curriculum for physician training is scheduled for February 4.

Approval of this project has been indicated by the California Chapter of the American Society of Chest Physicians who presented Dr. Hallett with a check for \$1,000 to be used for the project as he sees fit. Another handsome contribution of \$9,000 has been made by the TB and Respiratory Disease Assoc. of LAC to be used towards the salary of another physician to assist Dr. Hallett in the work of the project.

**AREA V PACEMAKER REGISTRY PROJECT
WINS CONDITIONAL APPROVAL AND
HIGH PRAISE**

The Pacemaker Registry Project, designed by Michael Bilitch, MD, is one of five operational grant proposals submitted by California RMP Areas to receive the conditional approval of the National Advisory Council of RMP. The reviewers' comments about the Pacemaker Registry are described by Anthony L. Komaroff, MD, Programs Assistance Branch, RMP Service in a letter dated Jan. 16:

"There was general agreement among all reviewers that this was a carefully planned and innovative project, sharply focused and clearly directed at improving patient care. The reviewers felt it could produce valuable data as to techniques, methods, and instrumentation for use by the Region and the rest of the country. The Project leadership was obviously competent and dedicated. The reviewers were also impressed by the good prospects that this activity would become self-supporting in the future."

The other projects approved were: Medical Oncology (Area I) Multiphasic Screening for the Poor in San Joaquin County (Area III) Medical Library Services (Area IV) and Perinatal Monitoring (Area VI). Of the nine applications, two were returned for revision: Patient Monitoring (Area I) and Hyperlipidemia Screening (Area VII) and two were not approved: The Emergency Myocardial Infarction Rescue Unit (Area V) and Pretransfusion Training (Area III).

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**DR. PETIT ACTS TO IMPLEMENT
UNFUNDED, APPROVED PROJECTS**

After the announcement of the approval, without funds, of the second of AREA V projects (the Pacemaker Registry and the Community Health Agency and Information Referral System) DR. DONALD W. PETIT requested a special study of the core budget of AREA V to determine what funds might be made available to assist in at least partial implementation of these and other projects which are under consideration at this time. CHESTER A. RUDE, Chairman of the AREA ADVISORY GROUP and the members of the Steering Committee of AAG have been alerted that they will be asked to develop some priorities for selecting the activities which should be funded by rebudgeting. "By searching out other possible sources of funding to match ours, a great deal might be accomplished," said Dr. Petit. "It would be a pity if all the work that has gone into approved projects was wasted for lack of effort in looking for other interested parties to underwrite portions of proposals. We can try, at least. I have also asked the CARDIAC COMMITTEE to look into other resources for implementing some of the purposes of the Emergency Myocardial Infarction Rescue Unit which the National Advisory Council felt to be a duplication of other, presently funded, pilot projects. This fine proposal merits community support and it is my hope that sources of funding can be found for accomplishing some of its objectives."

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R M P - EAST LOS ANGELES

The search for three candidates for the position of Special Assistant for Mexican American health in Dr. Egeberg's Office is in full swing - watch for the news releases in the press and for the special TV interviews that have been arranged. All applications must be in the hands of the Selection Committee by February 14.

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Dr. Bernard Portnoy, recently appointed Asst. Medical Director, LAC/USC Medical Center, has indicated an interest in working with community groups to establish some type of health service in East Los Angeles. At a recent meeting, arranged through Sy Villa, Dr. Portnoy offered all the resources available through his office to assist in preliminary planning and in the development of relationships with the Medical Center, the Medical Society and the Medical School.

* * *

Mexican American men or women interested in enrolling in the LAC/USC School of Nursing should get in touch with Miss Norma De la Hoya, RN or Miss Pauline Rodriguez, RN, of the Mexican American Nurse Recruitment Program, 910 South Atlantic Boulevard, or telephone 263 9996. Special remedial classes in chemistry and other subjects are available but you must act immediately to become eligible for testing in February.

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Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. has forwarded to Joe Duarte some copies of correspondence which are evidence of his endeavors to interest the Office of Economic Opportunity in the health needs of the Northeast and East Los Angeles Health Districts. A reply from Donald Rumsfeld, Director of OEO, states that an appropriate official has been asked to review the Survey of Health Needs and to recommend how OEO might be of assistance to the community.

* * *

Some of Congressman Brown's inquiries have resulted in special interest being shown in the Survey in other Washington departments. On January 7, FRANK AGUILERA was asked to discuss the Survey with Dr. Michael McGarvey, Special Assistant to the Administrator for Youth Affairs in Health Services & Mental Health Administration, while he was in Los Angeles. It will also be the subject of a special meeting with FRANK on February 9, when Anthony L. Komaroff, M.D. Operations Officer, RMP Services, will be in AREA V.

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LUIS A. PINGARRON, who is a Member of the Board for the Mesa Directiva at Cal State and Chairman of the Model Cities Program subcommittee, is meeting with Arturo Bastidos, Deputy Director of Model Cities, East-Northeast Area and with Lou Negrete, Chairman of the Community Development Agency, to discuss the formation of a grassroots citizen participation group.

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