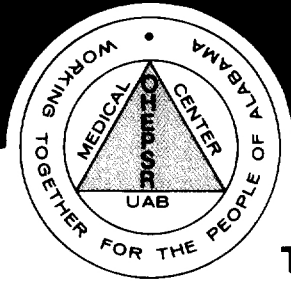




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Community Circle



FOR HEALTH

The University of Alabama in Birmingham

SPRING 1976 VOL 1, NO. 3

OFFICE OF HEALTH EXTENSION, PUBLIC SERVICE & RESEARCH

A Tribute to ARMP

A regrettable loss to the state of Alabama will occur in June when the Alabama Regional Medical Program (ARMP) is scheduled to be terminated. ARMP has been one of the more successful Regional Medical Programs in the nation. Its excellent "track record" has caused ARMP to be well regarded at the federal level. Therefore, the termination of ARMP should be considered as, simply stated, a sign of the times. In implementing P.L. 93-641, all Regional Medical Programs and CHP(b) agencies are being replaced by Health Systems Agencies (HSA's).

Since 1967, ARMP has been an active and vital force in stimulating planning, convening groups to identify local, regional and state health needs, and in seeking solutions to those needs. Even though ARMP is coming to a close, its efforts over the past 9 years will continue to benefit the people of Alabama through the many existing programs originally established with the help of ARMP.

We all know what an important role ARMP has played in improving the organization of health care services and delivery in this state — serving as a broker, catalyst, and precipitator in 116 statewide and regional programs such as Project H.E.L.P. (Health Extension Learning Program), the arthritis clinics at Huntsville, Mobile, and Tuscaloosa, the Emergency Medical Service training programs, hyper-

tension and cancer screening and education programs, MIST (Medical Information Service via Telephone), the Regional Technical Institute Jr. College Linkage Program, Health Manpower Conferences, development of high-risk nurseries and training for neonatal intensive care, and others.

But what ARMP has accomplished since last July in the face of termination is also exemplary. During this year of transition, ARMP's two major goals have been: 1) to continue funding 27 existing programs and activities until such time as the HSA's can assume responsibility for them or until other sources of funding are identified, and 2) to remain an active viable force in the implementation of P.L. 93-641.

The fact that ARMP has been able to initiate programs now strong enough to be either self-sustaining or be supported by some other agency attests to the visionary competency of ARMP's staff, the Regional Advisory Council, and the Executive Board, as well as many other individuals, agencies, and institutions. The mission of ARMP has been to coordinate available resources and manpower in developing new programs deemed necessary for the improvement of health care delivery to all citizens of Alabama. Alabamians should be proud, and special thanks should be extended to all those who have helped make this program a success.

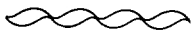
Just Around The Bend



The Alabama Sight Conservation Association, Inc., operated by The Lions of Alabama, has graciously donated its Mobile Vision Testing Unit to the UAB Medical Center. This unit is fully equipped for vision screening, treatment, minor surgery, and referrals.

In accepting this gift, Dr. S. Richardson Hill, Jr., Vice President for Health Affairs at UAB, stated: "The Medical Center is willing . . . to accept the responsibility for its maintenance and operation, as well as to develop a program to utilize the unit for the maximum benefit of all Alabamians. I would like to thank the Board of Directors of the Alabama Sight Conservation Association, Inc. for donating this unit to the UAB Medical Center."

Potential usage of the mobile unit in serving the people of Alabama is now being carefully studied by various members of the Medical Center staff, the dean of the School of Optometry, and the acting Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology of the School of Medicine at UAB, as well as the Alabama Sight Conservation Association, Inc., and Vocational Rehabilitation Services. From these discussions, the Office of Health Extension, Public Service and Research will develop a program of utilization for the Mobile Vision Testing Unit.



A new **MEDICAL-NUTRITION CLINIC** opened this month in the Diabetes Hospital at UAB. Directed by Dr. Roland L. Weinsier and the staff of The Nutrition Program, UAB School of Medicine, this new clinic will provide comprehensive medical management for **obese, hyperlipidemic, and diabetic persons**, as well as a broad spectrum of **nutrition-related disorders**. For information, contact Dr. Weinsier or Dr. Charles E. Butterworth at 205-934-5218, or Regina Duncan at 205-934-5377.

Deans Gather For "Rural Health Day" Symposium

Rural health care delivery is one of the most important issues facing health professionals in 1976. To address the status of rural health care delivery in Alabama, the University of Alabama in Birmingham Medical Center and the University of Alabama System Medical Education Program (UASMEP) are sponsoring "Rural Health Day," Thursday, April 8, 1976.

Offered in conjunction with the nation's Bicentennial observance of National Rural Health Week, April 4-10, this landmark one-day symposium will bring together all deans of the health professional schools at the UAB Medical Center, the dean of the School of Primary Medical Care in Huntsville, and the dean of the College of Community Health Sciences in Tuscaloosa. Each will present his or her view of the problems involved in dispensing health care to rural Alabamians as well as discussing existing or planned programs which are designed to help alleviate these problems.

Open to state and local health planners, Alabama mayors, and other interested members of the public, "Rural Health Day" will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., April 8, in Conference Room A of the New Basic Sciences Building, 1600 8th Avenue South in Birmingham.

The featured speakers will be Drs. Keith D. Blayney, S. Richardson Hill, Jr., Charles A. McCallum, Jr., Marie L. O'Koren, Henry B. Peters, James A. Pittman, Jr., G. Gayle Stephens, and William R. Willard.

Following presentations by the above, an open discussion and responses to questions or comments from the audience will take place. Dr. William F. Bridgers, Special Assistant to the Vice President for Health Affairs at UAB, is coordinating the program and will serve as moderator of the panel discussion.

The People Behind MIST

MIST (Medical Information Service via Telephone) is truly a fine example of applying modern communication technology to humanitarian endeavors. But please don't think of MIST as an impersonal communications network. MIST is PEOPLE . . . people who appreciate the job you are doing and therefore try their best to help you in any way they can.



Margaret S. Klapper, M.D.
Executive Director



Mrs. Irene B. Harper
Coordinator



Mrs. Sandra Nicholson

Last year, 29,538 calls were placed through the MIST lines. This year, MIST expects to handle approximately 32,500 calls, according to Irene Harper, Coordinator. Whenever a program is highly successful as is MIST, there are bound to be "growing pains" associated with necessary expansion. During the past several months, MIST has had to install more efficient telephone equipment and train new operators in order to accommodate the growing number of calls. We can only hope you have not experienced any inconveniences as a result of this expansion, and appreciate your patience as we attempt to improve our service to the physicians and health professionals of Alabama.



Mrs. Helen Hoffine



Mrs. Barbara Tisdale

As a reminder, the MIST operators are on duty five days a week, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. After 5:30 p.m. and on weekends, calls are handled through the University Hospital switchboard. Please limit your night and weekend calls to the real emergencies.



Mr. David Pitts



Mrs. Mary Jo Funderburg



Mrs. Polly Mash



Mr. Theodis ("T") Buggs



Miss Pam Asher

This is your reference sheet for continuing education courses to be offered by the UAB Medical Center. Since the present schedule may be added to or revised, please contact the individual schools for specific information and registration applications.

School of Community and Allied Health Resources (SCAHR)

May 29,30 The Mississippi Optometric Assistants Conference

Contact: William O. Schuller, O.D.
Director, Optometric Technicians Program
RTI 202, University Station
The University of Alabama in Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama 35294 (205-934-2078)

February 20- April Emergency Medical Technician Program – A Basic EMT Refresher Course

March Pharmacology (Begins the latter part of March and continues for 4-5 weeks)

June Extrication Course

Contact: David Markem
Emergency Medical Services Training Program
SCAHR 112, University Station
The University of Alabama in Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama 35294 (205-934-2629)

School of Dentistry

April 3 Oral Problems in the Aging Patient: Diagnosis and Treatment

3, 4 New Concepts in Pedodontics for the General Practitioner

3, 4 Panoramic Radiology: Its Use and Interpretation

10, 11 Removable Partial Denture Design Applied to Internal, External and Special Attachments

May 1, 2 Modern Hypnosis in Dentistry

15, 16 Dental Radiography for Auxiliary Personnel

Contact: Edwin M. Speed, D.M.D.
Director of Continuing Education
Room 1, KPH, University Station
The University of Alabama in Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama 35294 (205-934-4625)

(over)



School of Medicine

- April 9, 10 "What Can Cancer Chemotherapy Do For Your Patient? — The Role of Adriamycin®"
- 19-21 Workshop on "Feeding the Handicapped"
- 21, 22 Jefferson County March of Dimes "Current Practical Methods of Fetal Surveillance"
- May 13, 14 Society for Adolescent Medicine "Immunology and Infectious Disease in Adolescence"

Contact: Benjamin B. Wells, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Dean
Director, Division of Continuing Medical Education
University of Alabama School of Medicine
419 MT, University Station
Birmingham, Alabama 35294 (205-934-2687)

School of Nursing

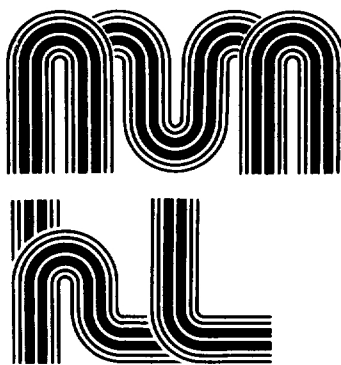
- March-August Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program
- March-August Adult Health Nurse Practitioner Program (V.A. Hospital)
- Spring Quarter N.191 Cardiovascular Nursing Course
- April 1 & 2 2-Day Follow-up for Leadership Training Program for Head Nurses, Huntsville
- April-July OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner Program
- May 13-14 2-Day Follow-up for Leadership Training Program for Head Nurses, Mobile
- Summer Quarter N.191 Cardiovascular Nursing Course

Contact: Phyllis M. Loucks, R.N.
Director of Continuing Education
102B, SN, University Station
The University of Alabama in Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama 35294 (205-934-5357)

School of Optometry

- TBA "Emergency Care" — Five programs will be held this spring. Exact dates have not yet been set.

Contact: John R. Pierce, Ph.D.
Director of Continuing Education
School of Optometry
UAC 206, University Station
The University of Alabama in Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama 35294 (205-934-3639)



New audio-visual aids now available for loan from the Multi-Media Health Library (MMHL) include: complete series of filmstrips (with records) on "Urinary Care," "Scientific Clinical Nursing," "Diagnostic Test II," and "Human Sexuality and Nursing Practice;" a slide presentation on "Chronic Renal Failure;" a new Life/form "Breast Palpation" model and a new "Vu-Trach" model; as well as new 16mm films too numerous to mention by title.

The MMHL has proven to be an invaluable educational resource for the state as 88.5% of its loans during the last quarter were made to hospitals, nursing homes, schools, clinics, and military institutions outside of the Birmingham area. To make your reservation, call 205-934-3050, or write to:

Multi-Media Health Library
The University of Alabama
in Birmingham
Box 444, University Station
Birmingham, Alabama 35294

Did You Get Yours?

New directories for the Dial Access Tape Library for Physicians and Nurses of Alabama have been published by the Office of Health Extension, Public Service and Research and were mailed in February to health professionals throughout the state.

This continuing education service, consisting of several hundred audio cassettes on various medical and nursing topics of current interest, is part of the MIST program and may be listened to at your convenience through the MIST toll-free WATS line or by local calls placed directly to the Lister Hill Library for the Health Sciences.

If you did not receive a new directory, please contact the MIST office (205-934-4910) for the Physicians' Directory, or the School of Nursing Division of Continuing Education (205-934-5357) for the Nurses' Directory.

PLEASE SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO:
Margaret B. Dollar
111 MJH, University Station
University of Alabama in Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama 35294

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
Please send *Community Circle* to my colleague:
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