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NOTE.—DO NOT USE THIS ROUTE SLIP TO
SHOW FORMAL CLEARANCES OR APPROVALS

DATE

1/24

TO:

AGENCY BLDG. ROOM

~~Mr. Craydett~~

- APPROVAL REVIEW PER CONVERSATION
 SIGNATURE NOTE AND SEE ME AS REQUESTED
 COMMENT NOTE AND RETURN NECESSARY ACTION
 FOR YOUR INFORMATION
 PREPARE REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF _____

REMARKS:

Copy of proposed transmittal
of arthritis program summaries

(Fold here for return)

To

From

PHONE

BUILDING

ROOM

Matt

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

TO COORDINATORS OF REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS, REGIONAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS,
AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH ARTHRITIS

SUBJECT: Summaries of arthritis programs funded in 1974 by Regional Medical
Programs.

This transmits a copy of the summaries of pilot arthritis programs, funded last year through a special one-year appropriation earmark of \$4.5 millions, for your information and use. These reports were prepared in November by arthritis program and project directors at our request. They present the status of the funded programs during or immediately following startup activities, and contain information which may be useful to many individuals working in the area of arthritis diseases.

The development and distribution of these summaries responds in part to recommendations of the National Advisory Council on Regional Medical Programs when it recommended, in conjunction with pilot arthritis program grant approvals in June 1974, that the program be provided overall coordination. The Council also urged that mechanisms be developed for program reporting, information exchange, and evaluation. We have been unable to respond fully to these Council recommendations in the face of staff reductions, the imminent phase-out of the Division of Regional Medical Programs (DRMP), and the expected termination of the Regional Medical Programs (RMP's) ^{This year} ~~by December~~ 31, 1975.

In order to develop a more adequate response to the Council's recommendations, a conference of arthritis program leaders was convened at Kansas City, Missouri, on January 19 - 20, 1975. The conference was sponsored by the 29 RMP's operating

approved arthritis programs, the Arthritis Foundation, and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Hosts of the conference were the Kansas RMP, and the Kansas City Division, Arthritis Foundation. The program summaries provided background for the deliberations of the more than 100 conferees, along with information developed by them during the conference. The conference outcome was a body of resolutions calling for actions by program participants and associates on aspects of the arthritis program, including ways to record and assess the program, project reporting and evaluation, activity coordination, and opportunities for obtaining continuity support.

We presently anticipate that the conference report, which will fully reflect discussions and resolutions, can be developed and transmitted to you within two months.