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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
HEALTH RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852

BUREAU OF HEALTH RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

November 11, 1974

TO RMP COORDINATORS OF 29 RMPs WITH FUNDED PILOT ARTHRITIS PROGRAMS
(SEE LIST BELOW), AND REGIONAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS (FOR INFORMATION).

SUBJECT: 1. Request for Summaries of Pilot Arthritis Programs.
2. Pilot Arthritis Program Followup Conference.

1. Request for Program Summaries:

It is requested that a summary of each pilot arthritis program be forwarded to the Division of Regional Medical Programs (DRMP) on the letterhead of the sponsoring Regional Medical Program (RMP). The summary should be addressed to Mr. Matthew Spear at DRMP, and submitted on or about December 13, 1974.

The purpose of these summaries is to provide information about the respective programs to the RMP's and their Project Directors, HEW Regional Offices, and concerned professional organizations and individuals. DRMP will reproduce the summaries as submitted without any editing, and distribute a full set to each of these addressees.

Each RMP's summary should be brief, but encompass the following. Sufficient details should be given to permit knowledgeable inquiries about the program which will be of particular interest to professional investigators and administrators. The summary should indicate the purpose or objective of the program, the nature and locale of the activities, and provide the names and addresses of project directors. Methodologies of studies should be outlined, as well as the source and employment of training and education curricula. The involvement of community resources and groups should be briefly described, as well as note-worthy community resource coordination processes.

As a guide, we suggest that the description of a single program component be no longer than a single page. We consider a "component" to be a segment of the approved pilot arthritis program for which a Form 16 was provided in the original application. However, a different formatting is quite appropriate if conciseness and intelligibility are improved.

2. Pilot Arthritis Program Followup Conference:

An August 28, 1974 letter from Dr. Herbert B. Pahl requested program coordination and followup suggestions from RMP's, HEW Regional Offices, and other interested agencies and associations. To date, we have received responses from 21 of the 29 RMP's with funded pilot arthritis programs. Fourteen (14) of the RMP respondents, in addition to the other suggestions, proposed that a conference be convened.

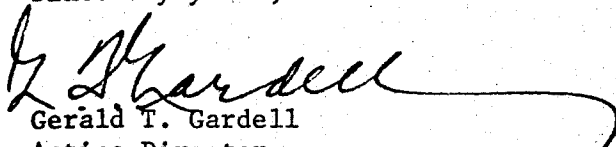
We are proceeding to plan and organize a two, to two-and-one-half (2, to 2½) day arthritis conference which will probably be convened in January at a mid-continent location. While we are keenly aware of the need for an early conference, it appears unlikely that the conference could reasonably be scheduled earlier, and the tentative date will permit us to take advantage of previous Regional and other arthritis meetings.

We will provide additional information as soon as possible. At the present time we have contacted a number of individuals representing various arthritis program interests to develop the conference agenda and schedule. With respect to this activity, we would appreciate your suggestions beyond those which you may have provided in response to Dr. Pahl's August 28 letter to assist us in focusing the conference on matters of prime interest and concern to the existing pilot arthritis program, and arthritis in general. Your suggestions should be telephoned to Mr. Spear (301/443-1916).

RMP's with funded pilot arthritis programs

Alabama	Michigan
Albany	Mississippi
Arizona	New Mexico
Arkansas	North Carolina
California	North Dakota
Central New York	Ohio Valley
Colorado-Wyoming	Oklahoma
Georgia	Puerto Rico
Greater Delaware Valley	Tennessee Mid-South
Hawaii	Texas
Intermountain	Tri-State
Iowa	Virginia
Kansas	Washington/Alaska
Metropolitan D.C.	Western Pennsylvania
	Wisconsin

Sincerely yours,


Gerald T. Gardell
Acting Director
Division of Regional Medical Programs

Pilot Arthritis Program

Expenditure of RMP grant funds for arthritis program coordination and evaluation activities

The obligation and expenditure of RMP grant funds for pilot arthritis program coordination and evaluation activities is appropriate. These administrative functions are a part of the traditional program management of the RMP's with respect to Council-approved programs. Followup activities including arthritis program surveillance, reporting, coordination, and evaluation were recommended by the National Advisory Council at its June 1974 meeting. RMP expenditures of earmarked pilot arthritis grant funds, as well as control RMP program coordination and evaluation funds are appropriate when they reflect accepted program followup, and do not result in direct arthritis program enlargement beyond the limit established in the Council's arthritis program funding approvals.