

THE
DOORS

THE CORONARY CARE UNIT IN 1970 AND THE FUTURE

By George C. Griffith, M.D.

(In CCU Continuing Education Newsletter, Dr. Griffith reviews the development of the CCU to date and makes some pertinent suggestions about its future:)

"The future of the CCU depends upon the implementation of the newer knowledge in the field of treatment, the continued development and refinement of electronic monitoring, and the extension of the concept of acute coronary care to the pre- and post-phases of the disease.

"In the pre-CCU phase, there should be a rescue unit, manned by a well-trained fireman or policeman, which could be summoned by the patient, the family, or the physician. There should be no delay in the issuance of this summons--the national average of 301 minutes' delay in summoning assistance is due primarily to lack of information as to who to call, and to real consideration for the physician's time.

"The rescue vehicle should be staffed by qualified personnel, and it should carry an ECG monitor, a two-way telemetry set, a defibrillator, and a bag containing an airway, plus at least two drugs--atropine and lidocaine. The rescue team would maintain communication with the physician and/or nurse in the nearest CCU. Then, when the patient's heart is stabilized, an ambulance could be called to transport the patient under monitor control to the hospital, through the emergency room to the CCU where care can be taken over by management personnel.

"There should be a nurse-specialist, trained in psychology and sociology, to assist the staff, the patient and the family by helping them to understand the disease, its management and the treatment.

"The future must also bring into operation a post-CCU phase, in which the patient would be moved out of the CCU into a step-down unit. The patient would be monitored in such a unit, and rehabilitation and education of both patient and family would be conducted.

"Continuity of training is imperative if the concept of the CCU is to extend the accomplishments attained during its first nine years."

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A 2nd Conference on the Physician and the Hospital has been scheduled for January of 1971, according to William A. Markey. The Steering Committee which planned the first meeting which was held in April, 1970 at Monte Corona, has chosen the Asilomar Conference Center at Monterey for its second session.

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A revised draft of Proposal 2-080-- "Computerized ECG Analysis for Community Hospital Use" has been approved by the Cardiac Co-Chairman Committee and copies have been mailed to the Cardiac Committee for their consideration.

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Dr. Donald W. Petit, as a member of the CCRMP Program Direction Committee, reports that the latter group have met with a Special State Health Planning Council Committee on RMP appointed by the state level of Comprehensive Health Planning. A joint letter of recommendation to CCRMP and the A and B agencies (state and local levels) of Comprehensive Health Planning for establishment of structured relationship between the two programs is in process, states Paul D. Ward, Executive Director CCRMP. Members of the Special State Health Planning Council Committee are: John Affeldt, MD, Wallace B. Chipman, John Derry, Saleem A. Farag, Ph.D., MPH, Thomas S. Enloe, M.D. and Msgr. Timothy O'Brien.

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Physicians interested in the Pacemaker Registry Project and representatives of the geographic areas served by the program (RMP Areas IV, V, VI and VIII) were invited to a meeting convened June 30 by Dr. Michael Bilitch, Director of the Pacemaker Project. Discussion centered on how the Project could best be of assistance. Dr. Bilitch and Miss Betty Cassidy (Pacemaker Registrar) recently visited Medic Alert headquarters in Turlock and the Calif. Funeral Directors Assn. in Fresno to firm up plans for involvement by those organizations.

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On July 6, Mrs. Terry K. Broomfield joined Area V staff as a Cancer Program Representative. Mrs. Broomfield's assignment for the next few months is to plan and activate a comprehensive cancer program which will coordinate ongoing projects of the Area V Cancer Committee with various activities of the American Cancer Society, expand ongoing cancer projects and identify areas in which new projects need to be involved.

Mrs. Broomfield, who is on temporary "loan" from the American Cancer Society has been connected with that organization for many years and has extensive experience in many aspects of the field of cancer. A native of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Broomfield received a B.A. in Political Science from Penn State and a Masters in Industrial Psychology from Temple University. She is a resident of Huntington Beach, California.

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CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF AREA V SOCIAL WORKERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Barbara Solomon DSW, Associate Prof. at USC School of Social Work, has been appointed Acting Chairman of S.W.A.C. replacing Mrs. Bernice C. Harper who is on leave of absence for a year. Dr. Solomon is especially interested in working with the Committee to increase opportunities for field work and/or research in medical social work and geriatrics.

S.W.A.C. has appointed an ad hoc subcommittee, composed of Mrs. Louise Hall ACSW, Victor C. Ledesma, and Mrs. Georgianna Brown ACSW, to review and report on the special study "Demonstration of Integrated Health Care for Senior Citizens," which was approved by Area V Advisory Group for possible joint funding by RMP and L. A. County.

Dr. Al Katz, who has suggested a "Reconnaissance Study of Social Services in Acute Care Facilities" has been invited to meet with S.W.A.C. to discuss the possibilities of such a study and its funding requirements.

Allen Spett ACSW reports that the Health Transportation Subcommittee is making good progress. Representatives from Rancho, Childrens and UCLA hospitals have joined the group and plans are being made to gather additional "soft data" to help determine future focus and direction.

Ramon Santos, is convening a special subcommittee to pursue aspects of health problems in ELA. Victor C. Ledesma, Mrs. Tessie Cleveland, Miss Loris Phillips, Mrs. Patricia Dear, Miss Kathleen Obier and Allen Spett have volunteered to study the problem and make recommendations to S.W.A.C.

Target date for completing changes in medical social services at the Medical Center is July, 1970, according to a report by Mrs. Brown. Each of the four hospitals in the Center complex is to have its own Medical Director, Administrator, Pharmacy, Personnel Dept., etc. with overall coordination from the Center administration. Decentralization of the Bureau of Social Services has already begun, not only at the Medical Center but also at the other hospitals in the County system. At each hospital, the social service director will relate directly to the Administrator of each hospital with consultation and overall coordination coming from the Bureau. The transfer of all functions to the respective Business Offices is proceeding differently at each hospital and Medical social workers expect that this will facilitate the provision of social service to patients.

Congratulations are in order to Mrs. Tessie Cleveland on her appointment (effective July 7, 1970) as Director, Social Service Department of the Martin Luther King Jr. Hospital.

Dr. Solomon has agreed to coordinate S.W.A.C. action on announced reductions in training funds for new and continuing students in graduate schools of social work. In light of the critical shortage of social worker personnel, especially from the black and brown minority communities of L.A., the situation is viewed with concern by S.W.A.C.

AREA V REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS

CALENDAR

July 1970

Monday, July 20

CCRMP

Allied Health

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Hilton Inn - San Francisco

AREA V

ECG Review Committee

11:30 a.m. RMP Conference Rm.

Tuesday, July 21

AREA V

Library Services

6:30 p.m. RMP Conference Rm.

Wednesday, July 22

AREA V

Staff Meeting

9:30 a.m. RMP Conference Rm.

CCRMP

Data & Evaluation

2 - 5 p.m. - Marco Polo Room
LA Airport-Marina Hotel

Thursday, July 23

AREA V

Extended Care Committee
Cont. Education - Nurses

12 noon
RMP Conference Room

CCRMP

Stroke Coordinating

2 - 5 p.m. - Parlor D, Hilton Inn, S. F. Airport

Monday, July 27

CCRMP

Cancer Committee

5 - 9 p.m. - Marco Polo Rm.
Airport-Marina Hotel, L.A.

Wednesday, July 29

AREA V

Staff Meeting

9:30 a.m. RMP Conference Rm.

CCRMP

Stroke Committee

2 - 5 p.m. - Marco Polo Rm.
Airport-Marina Hotel, L. A.

AREA ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS FOR 1970

September 8

November 10

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN'S MEETINGS - AUGUST, SEPTEMBER

August 14

September 11

NOTICE

During the summer months, the Calendar will cover two-week periods and V-Minute News will be published once every two weeks.

Dr. George C. Griffith has been invited to become an Executive Member of the L. A. County Heart Association and in that group will represent Area V RMP. He will also represent Area V RMP on the special Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation subcommittee, to be chaired by Dr. John T. Burroughs. Other members of the CPR Committee are Dr. Archie Gordon and Dr. Richard L. Coskey. The committee will spearhead a program for county-wide training of instructors in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Dr. Robert Randle has been asked to coordinate the activities of L. A. County Heart Association with the Cardiac Committees of Areas IV and V RMP.

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Dorothy E. Anderson is back from Washington where, at the special request of Veronica L. Conley, Ph.D. Head of Allied Health Section, Continuing Education & Training Branch of DRMP Service, she represented California RMP at the final meeting of the Conference Planning Committee for the 2nd RMP Allied Health Committee. The Committee's specific charge was to develop "Recommendations for Action" to be forwarded to the National Advisory Committee for its approval and (hopefully) its support at its July 14-15 meeting. Proceedings of the Conference are expected to be published in September.

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Following the decision of the RMP-East Los Angeles Steering Committee to dissolve, Dr. Donald Petit was invited to meet with members of the East Los Angeles Health Task Force to discuss Area V's possible future involvement in the health problems of the community. The Task Force agreed to outline in a formal written request to Dr. Petit the various projects with which they would like RMP assistance, and to define the role they see as most helpful for Area V to play. With the phasing out of Area V's current ELA project, Mr. Luis A. Pingarron, who has been on assignment with Area V staff as Community Consultant, will be departing for other areas of activity.

Frank F. Aguilera reports that on June 13, he and Ramon Santos, Arthur Raya (recently appointed Special Assistant on Health Needs of Spanish Surnamed Americans of HEW) and Jo Duarte of the East Los Angeles Health Task Force were invited to meet with Dr. Juan Ramos of the National Institute of Mental Health to discuss the ELA Health Report and how NIMH might be of assistance to the community in helping to bring about some changes in the area of mental health. No specific conclusions were reached but the meeting is considered helpful in that it served to orient Dr. Ramos and increase his awareness of community mental health needs in ELA and opened a channel of communication.

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V minute news

Published by
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS
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