HYPERTENSION STUDY PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Hypertension Study program consists of a collection of compatible routines designed to acquire and interpret information related to the decision procedures used in a specific strategy of treatment of hypertension.

Acquisition of information by the program occurs through the medium of a CRT which displays a sequence of queries posed by a questionnaire driver. Answers to the questions are processed by the program logic which accordingly decides what further questions are to be asked. Information which is acquired is stored in disc files, accessible to all modules of the program.

Different phases of the questionnaire are administered by separate program modules. Certain phases are intended to be answered by para-medical personnel (e.g., the phase calling for input of laboratory findings), while other phases may be answered directly by the patient. The latter phases are programmed to permit the simplest data input and to provide easy correction (under the assumption that the questionnaire will often be taken by persons unskilled in the use of data-processing procedures).

Program modules related to data input deal with:

- Preliminary medical history
- Physical findings
- Laboratory findings
- Medication history
- Response to treatment regimen

Program modules related to recommended therapy propose:

- A medication regimen
- Indicated laboratory tests
- Immediacy requirements of physician-consultation
- Revisit date