

YOU CAN WRITE FOR:

Items listed are believed to be free except where price is indicated.

- **Stress.** A 96 page illustrated booklet for layman, the seventh in a series of "Blue Prints for Health." Available free from local Blue Cross Plans across the country.

- **Malpractice in Focus.** An AMA Source Document prepared by the editors of **Prism**. One to 10 copies, \$1.00 each; eleven to 49, 75¢ each; and orders of 50 or more, 50¢ each. Send order with payment to Order Dept. OP-440 AMA, 535 N. Dearborn St. Chicago, IL 60610.

- **Physician-Hospital Relations, 1974.** The officially approved report of AMA's Council on Medical Service and its Committee on Private Practice prepared in guidance for resolving intrahospital conflicts among physicians, medical staff and hospital administration. One to 10 copies, \$4.00 each. Discounts available on quantity orders. Order from Order Handling Department, P-425 AMA, 535 North Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610.

- **Information Kit on Publications on the World Food Situation.** Free information kit describing over 200 publications on food and nutrition produced by the United Nations System and description on two new periodicals: **Agrindex**, a monthly bibliography of worldwide literature on food and agriculture, and **Food and Nutrition**, a quarterly concerned with world food and nutrition problems. Available from UNIPUB, Box 433, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10066.

- **Newsletter — The National Health Law Program.** Free publication containing information concerning comprehensive health planning, citizens' involvement in health care and patients' rights. To have your name placed on the mailing list, write to: Ms. Ruth Galanter, Editor, Health Law Newsletter, National Health Law Program, 10995 Le Conte Avenue, Suite 640, Los Angeles, CA. 90024.

- **Prepaid Group Practice and the Delivery of Health Care by Henry R. Shinefeld, M.D. and John G. Smillie, M.D. A reprint from Advances in Pediatrics.** Write Dr. Smillie, The Permanente Medical Group, 1924 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94612.

- **Occupational Health Problems of Pregnant Women.** A 121 page report with recommendations for the Secretary of HEW prepared by Vilma Hunt, Associate Professor of Environmental Health at Penn State University discussing demographic, legal, and medical aspects of the relationships between pregnancy and work with recommendations for each of the possibly responsible federal offices. For free copy, write to Ms. Clara G. Schiffer, Room 5139 HEW-North, 330 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20201.

- **Legal issues involved in Using Women as Experimental Research Subjects.** A 15 page memo prepared for an August 1975 conference on "Women and Their Health." For free copy, write to Joanne Stern, National Economic Development Law Project, 2312 Warring St., Berkeley, CA 94704.

- **Allocation of Resources for Ambulatory Care — A Staffing Model for Outpatient Clinics.** A reprint of an article that appeared in the September/October issue of **Public Health Reports**. For copy, write to the author, Bruce D. Mansdorf, Booz, Allen & Hamilton, Inc., 245 Park Ave., New York, NY 10017.

NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Annual Meeting of The American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Statler Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C., February 17-20, 1976, in conjunction with the National Association of Medical Examiners, the Society of Pharmacological and Environmental Pathologists, the Forensic Sciences Foundation, the American Boards of Forensic Toxicology and Forensic Odontology, the Board of Governors of the new American Society of Crime Laboratories Directors and the Committee on Alcohol and Drugs of the National Safety Council. For information, write to American Academy of Forensic Sciences, 11400 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Eighth Medical Institute for Attorneys, Injuries to the Nervous System (Diagnosis, Treatment and Rehabilitation), Americana Hotel, Bal Harbour, Florida, February 25-28, 1976, sponsored by the University of Miami Law Center in cooperation with the School of Medicine. For information write to Eighth Medical Institute for Attorneys, University of Miami Law Center, P.O. Box 248087, Coral Gables, FL 33124.

3rd Annual Advances in Patient Care Conference, cosponsored by the American Society of Internal Medicine, Medical Computer Services Association, and others, Kaulai, Hawaii, February 23 - March 1, 1976. For information, write to Spring Zoog, MCSA, Suite 315, 1107 N.E. 45th St., Seattle, WA 98105.

Annual Meeting of the Society of Toxicology, Marriott Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, March 14-18, 1976. For information, write to Dr. Gale C. Boxill, Society of Toxicology, Wyeth Laboratories, Inc., Box 861, Paoli, PA 19301.

Medical-Legal Seminars, Hilton Inn, Vail Colorado. **Medical Malpractice**, March 15 - March 19, 1976, and **Hospital Law and Products Liability**, March 22 - March 26, 1976, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Institute of Legal Medicine. For information, write to Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., J.D., Director, Pittsburgh Institute of Legal Medicine, 1417 Frick Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

Annual Symposium on Medical and Surgical Problems in Compensation Medicine, Americana Hotel, New York City, March 24-25, 1976. For information, write to American Academy of Compensation Medicine, Box 336, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10016.

Annual Meeting the American Society for Pharmacy Law, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 5 and 6, 1976. For information, write to American Society for Pharmacy Law, P. O. Box 113, Wallingford, PA 19086.

Twelfth International Medical-Legal Seminar, Sydney, Canberra, and Melbourne, Australia, Auckland, New Zealand, Papeete and Honolulu, April 24 - May 12, 1976, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Institute of Legal Medicine in conjunction with a number of medical-legal institutes and associations in Australia and New Zealand. For information, write to Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., J.D., Director, Pittsburgh Institute of Legal Medicine, 1417 Frick Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

Annual Meeting the American College of Legal Medicine, Castle Harbor Hotel, Bermuda, May 12-15, 1976. For information, write to Betty Hanna, Executive Secretary, American College of Legal Medicine, 1340 N. Astor St., Suite 1201, Chicago, IL 60610.

The Third Conference on Cutaneous Toxicity, Washington, D.C., May 17-18, 1976 sponsored by the American Medical Association and the Society of Toxicology. For information, write to Department of Drugs, AMA, 535 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610.

Fourth World Congress on Medical Law, Manila, the Philippines, July 16-19, 1976. For information, write to Prof. Dr. R. Dierkens, Secr. Gen., Apotheekstraat 5 B-9000, Gent, Belgium.

Guide to Published "Standards of Care"

(continued from page 1)

and residents, medical student participation in patient-care, nurses and other hospital personnel; safety and engineering regulations covering maintenance and inspection of hospital physical equipment; procedures for reporting accidents and untoward incidents; procedures to be followed in preparing patients for x-ray and other diagnostic testings and for surgery; rules and regulations concerning the prescription, dispensing, control, and records of drugs; and many other facets of the care of the hospital patient.

A convenient check-list of hospital publications potentially defining standards of professional care includes:

- The hospital by-laws and constitution
- Medical staff by-laws, constitution, regulations, etc.
- Hospital trustee, medical staff and professional committee rules, regulations and reports
- Departmental rules, regulations, guidelines, bulletins, memoranda, etc.
- Procedure books, instruction sheets, etc.
- Job description outlines
- Patient information sheets, booklets, pamphlets, such as "Patients' Rights," "Introduction to the Hospital," etc.

Publications of Medical Societies and Professional Organizations

State and national medical societies and other professional associations or groups frequently author and publish material for distribution to members and others covering various aspects of professional conduct, codes of professional ethics, statements of "official" policy, guidelines and standards of care in particular areas of medical and surgical treatment or define recommended or required standards of conduct for their membership in general and for admission to various categories of membership.

The number of such societies and professional groups is large and ever-growing. Bibliographic tools to locate a professional organization which may have published material pertinent to a particular "standard of medical care" include:

—JAMA Reference Directories — a bimonthly listing in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* of the names, addresses and officers of each state medical society, the State Boards of Medical Examiners and the U.S. Medical Specialty Boards.

—*Health Organizations of the United States, Canada and International*, published by the McGrath Publishing Company, 821 Fifteenth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20005

—*American Hospital Association Guide to the Health Care Field* — an annual

publication of the American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611

—*Encyclopedia of Associations* — an annual publication of Gale Research Company, Book Tower, Detroit, MI 48826, covering all types of associations, including those pertinent to health-care delivery areas.

—*National Trade & Professional Associations of the United States and Canada*, published by Columbia Books, Inc., Room 601, 734 Fifteenth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20005

—*The Guide to Biomedical Standards* — an annual publication of the Quest Publishing Company, P.O. Box 4141, Diamond Bar, CA 91765

—*The Directory of Visual Aids for Hospital Safety Programs* — an annual publication of the Quest Publishing Company, P.O. Box 4141, Diamond Bar, CA 91765

—*Biomedical Safety & Standards Newsletter* — a monthly publication of the Quest Publishing Company, P.O. Box 4141, Diamond Bar, CA 91765

The following are representative professional organizations which have published various standards of care, safety, etc., applicable to health-care delivery. Interested readers can write directly to the appropriate organization for catalogs and price lists of available publications.

American Dental Association
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

American Heart Association
7320 Greenville Avenue
Dallas, TX 75231

American Hospital Association
840 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611

American Medical Association
535 North Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60610

American National Standards Institute
1430 Broadway
New York, New York 10018

American Nurses' Association
2420 Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108

American Society for Artificial Internal Organs
3600 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

American Society for Testing and Materials
1916 Race Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation
1500 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 417
Arlington, VA 22209

Factory Mutual System
Factory Mutual Public Relations and Publications

1151 Boston-Providence Turnpike
Norwood, MA 02062

Intersociety Commission for Heart Disease Resources

44 East 23rd Street, Suite 316
New York, New York 10010

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers

345 E. 47th Street
New York, New York 10017

Instrument Society of America
400 Stanwix Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals
645 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards

771 E. Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085

National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements
P.O. Box 30175

Washington, D.C. 20014

National Electrical Manufacturers Association
155 East 44th Street

New York, New York 10017

National Fire Protection Association
470 Atlantic Avenue

Boston, MA 02210

National Sanitation Foundation
N.S.F. Building,

Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Underwriters' Laboratories
1285 Walt Whitman Road

Melville, N.Y. 11746

Manufacturers' Publications

Manufacturers of drugs and medical therapeutic and diagnostic devices and products customarily print and distribute a wide variety of promotional, educational and instructional literature. Designed primarily for physicians, such material contains specific recommendations and advice on the part of the manufacturer (and, therefore, often self-serving and self-protecting) as to accepted indications and recognized contraindications for the use of the drug or product, approved methods of usage, pertinent warnings against misuse, potential side effects, procedures for patient monitoring, reported risks and hazards, and known adverse interactions with other drugs or products, etc. Writings from these sources therefore, may well be accepted by a court, arbitration panel or a malpractice screening panel as a "standard" against which the conduct of a defendant health-care provider can be judged.

Sources for descriptive and warning literature published by manufacturers include: the releases from the manufacturer's sales and advertising department, the material the manufacturer provides its "detail" staff who call upon physicians and hospitals, the advertisements placed in professional periodicals, the "package inserts" and other labelling required by the FDA, and the many instructional and descriptive brochures, pamphlets, "warning letters" and other written material commonly mailed to physicians and hospitals.

A most useful source book of manufacturer's recommendations in the area of prescription drugs is the annual publication of Medical Economics, Inc. (Oradell, NJ 07649) entitled *Physician's Desk Reference*. More familiarly known as *PDR*, this

compendium of over 2,500 commonly used prescription drugs has been published annually since 1947 and is distributed without charge to almost every practicing physician and hospital in the U.S., as well as sold to many nonmedical personnel. Each annual issue of *PDR* and the quarterly cumulative supplements for a given year provide detailed information concerning listed drugs and the manufacturer's recommendations, usually in the same language and wording as the package insert approved by the Federal Food and Drug Administration as the official labelling of the product. *PDR* also provides a convenient source of the names and addresses of most U.S. pharmaceutical manufacturing companies with names of the person or departments to whom inquiries for further information should be addressed.

Legislative Enactments

Many federal, state, county and municipal statutes cover health-care delivery. Often, they specify rules, regulations and codes of conduct that must be adhered to by law with deviation therefrom preventing the obtaining of certain benefits otherwise available or constituting a criminal offense. One such example, frequently quoted in hospital malpractice actions, is Public Law 89-97 (Title 20, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter III, part 405) which outlines the minimal standards that must be adhered to by hospitals desirous of participating in the Medicare Program and in receipt of payments for hospitalized Medicare patients.

Federal guidelines for medical care delivery for Professional Standards Review Organizations' consideration have been prepared in preliminary form in an 815 page volume by the American Medical Association detailing screening criteria for admission, treatment and evaluation of care for Medicare and Medicaid hospitalized patients. (The deadline for the final version is June 30, 1976.)

Strict guidelines defining the number of required services and benefits that must be provided under federal law for Health Maintenance Organizations have also been promulgated under the 1973 HMO Act.

One example of a municipal legislative enactment affecting health-care delivery is the little known amendment of 1947 to section 112 of the Sanitary Code of the City of New York which limits the collection and use of donor sperm in artificial insemination in New York City only to physicians licensed to practice in the State of New York and which, further, specifies in detail the physical and other examinations required by law on every prospective sperm donor, the medical disorders which forbid the use of donor sperm, and the records which the physician who performs an artificial insemination must keep.

State medical, dental, nursing, and other "Professional Practice" laws generally define in detail the minimally acceptable standards of education and training required for licensure, outline the scope of professional practice permitted, and recently have begun to include in the requirements for licensure maintenance evidence of accomplishment of continuing professional education.

In addition to those statutes which set forth the generally controlling principles of the law, myriads of regulations are published by the various administrative agencies charged with implementing the law and most often constitute "binding" standards to be rigidly followed.

Impending new Federal regulations or amendments or changes in existing regulations are published in the *Federal Register*, and the source for current "official" regulations is the *Code of Federal Regulations*, both available on subscription basis from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

State, county and municipal statutes, rules and regulations affecting health-care delivery generally can be obtained from the office of the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the State Department of Public Health, local Boards of Health, the office of the Mayor or County Administrator or from other state or local governmental agencies.

Government Agency Publications

In addition to the so-called "official" regulations promulgated by those federal and state governmental agencies that implement existing legislative enactments, many governmental agencies publish a variety of material that, although not "binding" by law, still constitutes a governmentally approved "standard" that may have considerable probative force when introduced into evidence.

The *Monthly Catalog, United States Publications*, (available on yearly subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402) presents monthly a listing of all pamphlets, bulletins, books and other publications currently issued by U.S. governmental departments, agencies and bodies. Listed first under the name of the issuing agency with availability, source and price, the publications are also indexed by subject, and a cumulative annual index provides easy reference to particular subject areas. A similar, but considerably abridged publication, *Selected U.S. Government Publications*, is available without charge on written request from the Superintendent of Documents.

The *American Statistics Index Annual and Retrospective Edition* published by Congressional Information Service, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20014, provides a comprehensive

guide and index to the statistical publications of the U.S. Government, including many pertaining to health-care delivery.

Catalogs and other publication listings, some of which concern health-care delivery, may be obtained from individual government agencies such as the Federal Food and Drug Administration (5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852), the Federal Communications Commission, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in Washington, DC.

The Special Equipment Requirements Division of the Veterans Administration publishes minimal standards for medical and hospital equipment submitted to purchase for their medical clinics, hospitals and other facilities. Further information on specific items may be obtained from the Supply Service, Veterans Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420.

Medical Books

Medical text books, reviews, progress reports, monographs and other treatises comprise another large category of published material that can be referred to as expressions of a "standard of medical or hospital care," potentially admissible as evidence in malpractice actions.

Textbooks on general medicine, surgery and the various specialties often provide source descriptions of generally approved or recognized medical and surgical diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and techniques for their performance. For a listing of standard reference works in this area that can be expected to be accepted in legal proceedings as "authoritative" the reader is referred to the article by Attorney Steven H. Mackauf originally printed in 2 *Medicolegal News* 5-8 (October, 1974), subsequently reprinted in 1 *American Journal of Law & Medicine* 133-146 (March 1975) and updated in 1 *American Journal of Law & Medicine* 320-322 (Fall, 1975).

To locate medical books possibly of courtroom use in defining "standards of care," the most complete listing of medical book publications is that of the "National Library of Medicine Current Catalog," an ongoing monthly publication with annual cumulative index available on purchase from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 and kept for reference in most larger medical libraries.

Almost as complete in scope of medical book publications is *Bowker's Medical Books in Print* (R.R. Bowker Company, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10030) listing currently available medical books by subject matter and author. Another privately published source of books in the health-care delivery area is the series compiled by Medi-Facts Publishing

Company, 2337 Lemoine Avenue, Fort Lee, NJ 07024 of separate annual volumes covering books of interest and use by physicians, dentists, nurses, veterinarians, and pharmacists.

The *Hospital Literature Index* (quarterly publication with annual cumulative index) of the American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611, indexing the periodical literature on hospital medical care development and delivery also contains regular description of new book acquisitions of the American Hospital Association's Library.

Some book titles suggest that the contents are specifically directed to definitions of "standards of care." In example are two recent releases: *Guidelines for Graded Exercise Testing and Exercise Prescription* (Lea & Febiger, 600 S. Washington Square, Philadelphia, PA, 1975) and *Patient Care Standards*, that presents in outline form a recommended series of standards of nursing care procedure and observation (The C.V. Mosby Company, 11836 Westline Industrial Drive, St. Louis, MO 63141, 1975).

In the adverse drug reaction area, the following are potentially useful sources of acceptable methods of drug prescription and recommended patient monitoring:

Techniques of Medication — A Manual on the Administration of Drug Products (Martin et al.)

J.B. Lippincott Company
E. Washington Square
Philadelphia, PA 19105

Hazards of Medication — A Manual of Drug Interactions, Incompatibilities, Contraindications and Adverse Effects (Martin et al.)

J.B. Lippincott Company
E. Washington Square
Philadelphia, PA 19105

The Pharmacologic Basis of Therapeutics (Goodman and Gilman)

The Macmillan Company
866 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Drug Interactions — Clinical Significance of Drug-Drug Interactions and Drug Effects on Laboratory Results (Hansten)

Lea & Febiger
600 S. Washington Square
Philadelphia, PA 19106

AMA Drug Evaluations

Publishing Sciences Group, Inc.
411 Massachusetts Avenue
Acton, MA 01720

Medical Periodicals

The medical periodical literature contains in printed form original articles, review and progress reports, case presentations, editorials, letters to the editor and other information that comprise another large source of medical and hospital "standards of care."

The number of medical and paramedical periodicals and journals published on a regular basis is tremendous and ever expanding so that use of one or more of the

currently available bibliographic biomedical periodical reference tools is essential to locate those publications that may be pertinent to a particular standard of care.

The backbone of any search of world medical periodical literature is found in the comprehensive citations listed in the monthly issues of *Index Medicus* and the annual alphabetized *Cumulated Index Medicus*. These massive compilations have been published since 1960 by the National Library of Medicine. They are available on subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 and contained in almost every sizable medical library. Application of computer techniques currently enables selective retrieving from the vast store of material contained in *Index Medicus* and other bibliographic keys to medical periodical literature. The most expansive and readily available of the computerized services is the "Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval Systems" (MEDLARS) of the National Library of Medicine that provides computer-compiled bibliographies from the biomedical citations listed in *Index Medicus* since January, 1964.

For specialized medical bibliographic searching, the reader should consult the following additional periodical indexing and abstract services:

Hospital Literature Index

American Hospital Association
840 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611

Hospital Abstracts

(Monthly Survey of World Literature)
Department of Health and Social Security
Her Majesty's Stationery Office
London, England

Abstracts of Hospital Management Studies

The Cooperative Information Center for
Hospital Management Studies
The School of Public Health
The University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Nursing Literature Index

Glendale Adventist Medical Center
P.O. Box 871
Glendale, CA 91209

Index to Dental Literature

American Dental Association
211 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

Annual Year Books (21 Separate Subject Headings)

Year Book Medical Publishers
35 East Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 10036

Current Contents

Institute for Scientific Information
325 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Excerpta Medica (World Literature Abstracts under Separate Subject Headings)

Associated Scientific Publishers
P.O. Box 211
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
(American Elsevier Publishing Company
52 Vanderbilt Avenue
New York, NY 10017)

Science Citation Index

Institute for Scientific Information
325 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

In adverse drug reaction cases, the following are helpful sources to locate pertinent medical journal articles:

Drug Interactions — An Annotated Bibliography with Selected Excerpts 1967-1971 (Also, same title for 1970-1971)

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Toxicity Bibliography

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Clin-Alert

Science Editors, Inc.
4169 Westport Road
Louisville, KY 40207

The Medical Letter on Drugs and Therapeutics

56 Harrison Street
New Rochelle, NY 10801

Adverse Reaction Titles

Excerpta Medica Foundation
Associated Scientific Publishers
P.O. Box 211
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
(American Elsevier Publishing Company
52 Vanderbilt Avenue
New York, NY 10017)

For medical journals that frequently publish, in whole or in part, articles defining the use of prescription drugs, particularly adverse reactions, drug interactions and recommended monitoring procedures, the following are suggested source references:

Journal of the American Medical Association
535 North Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60610

New England Journal of Medicine
10 Shattuck Street
Boston, MA 02115

FDA Drug Bulletin
US Department, HEW, Public Health Service
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20852

Drug Therapy

Biomedical Information Corporation
919 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Current Prescribing
Oradell, NJ 07649

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