News from the Society

LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE is a "new" publication of the American Society of Law & Medicine; that is, it is a consolidation of two earlier Society publications — MEDICOLEGAL NEWS and NURSING LAW & ETHICS. And, with this first issue of LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE, our readership will note a new format and style, as well as an increase in our editorial staff under the direction of Miles J. Zaremski as Editor-in-Chief.

LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE was created for several reasons, one of which is based upon conclusions from two separate surveys. The readership of NURSING LAW & ETHICS, although generally enthusiastic about its content, was concerned about its cost relative to the value that was received from each issue. LAW. MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE will contain much of the nursing law and ethics material previously included in each issue of NURSING LAW & ETHICS. In addition, the nursing profession will be exposed to many interesting and timely articles involving interrelationships between law and health care. At the same time, physicians and attorneys will be exposed to issues facing the nursing profession. LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE hopes to make a significant contribution to a better understanding of law and ethics in the health care professions as well as to improve interprofessional understanding and cooperation. To this end, LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE will present topical subjects and controversial issues. Subject areas to be treated in this issue and in upcoming issues include:

The Physician's Duty to Disclose
Injury and Illness
State Nursing Associations and
Collective Bargaining
Should Physicians Have the
Right to Approve Insurance
Settlements for Their Alleged
Malpractice
Medical and Legal Developments
in Paternity Testing
Medical Ethics, Nursing Ethics, and
Health Care Ethics
Refusing Antipsychotic Drugs

Iatrogenesis and Medical Error Using Approved Drugs for Unapproved Uses

These changes are significant as we head into a new decade. The interface of issues facing the legal, medical, nursing, and health care professions are critical and will become more significant and prominent in the coming years. LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE reflects this "prognosis," and, together with the Society's other publication, the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF LAW & MEDICINE (now published in conjunction with Boston University School of Law) is prepared to meet these challenges and provide the means for meaningful dialogue between lawyers, doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals.

LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE will be published six times yearly, and will include the major strengths of both MEDICOLEGAL NEWS and NURSING LAW & ETHICS. LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE will be received as a benefit of membership by all members of the Society. All current subscribers to NURSING LAW & ETHICS and MEDICOLEGAL NEWS will automatically receive LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE for the duration of their existing subscription. New subscribers are welcomed.

Finally, the editorial staff welcomes all challenges and changes that are seen on the horizon. We trust that our readership will find LAW, MEDICINE & HEALTH CARE informative, challenging and provocative.

Miles J. Zaremski, J.D. Editor-in-Chief

A. Edward Doudera, J.D. Managing Editor and Executive Director, American Society of Law & Medicine

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