

NOTES

• The British Postgraduate Medical Federation would like all house officers who have been asked to complete a questionnaire about their training and workload to return them as soon as possible. As a follow up to the survey in 1988 the federation is surveying by postal questionnaire house officers in the Thames regions; Northern, East Anglian, and Mersey regions; and a sample of house officers in Wessex.

• Professor Conrad M Harris would like general practitioners who keep a register of sufferers of gout to let him know. He will send all respondents questions on the number, age, sex, and treatment of the patients. One aspect of his study on gout will be to see the extent to which prescribing data about allopurinol may serve as a guide to the prevalence of the condition in a practice population. Professor C M Harris, Prescribing Research Unit, Academic Unit of General Practice, University of Leeds, 26 Clarendon Road, Leeds LS2 9NZ (tel 0532 336770).

• The Parkinson Disease Society, the Motor Neurone Disease Association, Huntington Disease Association, and Action Research for Multiple Sclerosis are investigating ways to improve their services to reach black and ethnic minority communities. Neurologists are concerned that they often see patients for the initial diagnosis and not again. In collaboration with East Birmingham Social Services Department and the Department of Neurology at Queen Elizabeth Hospital the organisations have been engaged on an outreach project, which is partly funded by the Department of Health. Two linkworkers have been appointed. The aims of the project are to ensure that the services provided are appropriate and accessible to people from ethnic minority groups and to estimate the prevalence of the conditions by age, gender, and ethnic origin in Birmingham. The project would like to hear from anyone with similar interests or who may be involved in comparable projects—The Linkworkers Project, c/o Birmingham Social Services, 296 Washwood Health Road, Birmingham 8 2UL (tel 021 327 2449).

COMING EVENTS

Royal Society of Medicine: Section of Rheumatology and Rehabilitation, Samuel Hyde lecture, Professor Kenneth Brandt, "Osteoarthritis 1993, implications for general practice," Wednesday 10 February, London. Details from Miss Louisa Raine, The Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE.

Computers in General Practice: Seminar, "Making the best use of computer systems," Thursday 11 February, Rotherham. Details from Richard Hurford, 46 Watt Lane, Sheffield S10 5RB (tel 0742 301594).

Royal Statistical Society: Conference, "New developments in health surveys," 18 March, London. Details from Mrs Denise Tanner, Room 507, OPCS, St Catherine's House, 10 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP.

American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics: Conference, "Ethics committees and the elderly: hospitals and nursing homes," 19 to 20 March, Baltimore. Details from Ethics Committees Conference

Registrar, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics, 765 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 1634, Boston, MA 02215, USA.

Medical Interview Teaching Association: Course for senior hospital clinical staff, "Teaching of clinical communication skills," 22 to 26 March, London. Details from Angela Hall, CRC Communication and Counselling Research Centre, London Hospital Medical College, Turner Street, London E1 2AD (tel 071 247 7503).

Marriage and Partnership Research: Conference, "The partner-parent trap: partnership and parenthood in conflict," Thursday 25 March, London. Details from Pamela Barron, One Plus One, Marriage and Partnership Research, Central Middlesex Hospital, Acton Lane, London NW10 7NS (tel 081 965 2367).

Medical Association of South Africa: 57th MASA congress, "Medical excellence in Africa," 18 to 21 April, Bophuthatswana. Details from The MASA Congress Convenor, PO Box 20272, Alkantrant, 0005 Republic of South Africa.

European Science Foundation: Details of conferences in 1993 are available from Dr Josip Henekovic, European Science Foundation, 1 quai Lezay-Marnesia, F-67080 Strasbourg Cedex, France.

BMA MEETINGS

Members proposing to attend meetings marked are asked to notify in advance the honorary secretary concerned.*

Division meetings

Burnley, Pendle, and Rossendale: At Fencegate Restaurant, Friday 19 February, 7 30 pm, annual dinner dance.*

Dunbartonshire: At Glengoyne Distillery followed by dinner at Beech Tree Inn, Friday 5 March, 7 30 pm.*

East Surrey: At Postgraduate Medical Centre, Maple House, East Surrey Hospital, Tuesday 16 February, 7 30 pm, buffet supper followed by speaker, Dr Andrew Stanway, "Watching our own unconscious while dealing with our patients' sexuality."*

East Yorkshire: At Postgraduate Centre, Hull Royal Infirmary, Wednesday 10 February, 8 30 pm, a professional evening, "Postgraduate medical education: past, present, and future."*

Gloucestershire: At Hatherley Manor Hotel, Gloucester, Thursday 11 February, 7 15 pm, speaker, Ms Rennie Fritchie, "The delights and dilemmas of leadership in the NHS," followed by dinner.*

Halifax: At Postgraduate Medical Centre, Halifax General Hospital, Thursday 25 February, 7 30 pm, lecture, Dr Eric Ghadiali, "The psychology of chronic pain," followed by buffet supper.*

Leicestershire and Rutland: At Postgraduate Medical Centre, Leicester Royal Infirmary, Wednesday 3 March, 7 30 pm, annual lecture, Professor M A Greep, "The investigation of serial murder."*

Lewisham: At Lewisham Postgraduate Medical Centre, Wednesday 17 February, 7 pm, supper followed by speaker, Dr Simon George, "Parasuicide."*

Lothian: At BMA Scottish Office, 3 Hill Place, Edinburgh, Wednesday 24 February, 7 00 pm, Community Care Act: information evening.*

North Devon: At Ilfracombe Medical Centre, Tuesday 23 February, 7 30 pm, clinical meeting, "Presentation of clinical cases."*

Nottingham: At Seminar Room 6, Postgraduate Medical Centre, City Hospital, Nottingham, Tuesday 23 February, 6 30 pm, finger buffet followed by talk by Mr Richard Marcus, "To trust or not to trust."*

Powys: At the Surgery, Builth Wells, Tuesday 16 February, 7 30 pm, annual general meeting.

Regional meetings

Oxford Region Junior Doctors Committee: At the Postgraduate Centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Tuesday 16 February, 7 00 pm, meeting.

Scottish Junior Doctors Committee: At Room 4, City Halls, Candleriggs, Glasgow, Saturday 6 March, 1 30 pm.

West Midlands Regional Committee for Public Health Medicine and Community Health: At Birmingham Medical Institute, Tuesday 9 February, 6 00 pm, meeting.

International Medical Seminar

Drug dependence and alcoholism: a multi-disciplinary international seminar

14-25th June 1993, London

This seminar will provide a comprehensive and integrated review of basic science issues and forefront ideas on treatment and prevention. It will give practitioners in this field an opportunity to update their knowledge and enhance their professional skills, and it will discuss research approaches. The seminar is designed within a multi-disciplinary framework.

The Director of Studies will be Professor Griffith Edwards, CBE (Professor of Addiction Behaviour, NAC, University of London), and the Assistant Director is Dr John Strang (Getty Research Fellow, NAC).

This seminar will be suitable for health workers from all professional backgrounds, health service administrators, and research workers.

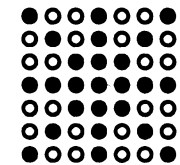
There are vacancies for 35 participants.

Seminar fee: £950, accommodation charge: £540; total fee: £1490.

The seminar will take place at an hotel in south east London.

Resident participants will be accommodated in single rooms with private bathroom or shower.

Further information and application forms are available from local British Council offices or from Courses Department, The British Council, 10 Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BN, UK (telephone: +44(0)71 389 4264/4252/4162; fax: +44(0)71 389 4154).

 The British Council

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