

## The Upjohn Training the Trainers Workshop

The June issue of the SA Family Practice was devoted to vocational training for the general practitioner. The KwaZulu programme was featured prominently.

Those responsible for training the incumbents in the programme met recently at the 4th Training the Trainer Workshop held in Durban. Those present included the trainers from general practice, from the peripheral KwaZulu hospitals, as well as representatives from KwaZulu, viz Drs D Hackland and A Mitchell. The Superintendent of Edendale Hospital, Dr P Evans, was also present.

At this workshop we attempted to address three important issues regarding vocational training as applicable to this particular programme. These were:

1. What have we achieved?
2. Where do we want to go?
3. How do we get there?

The discussion which followed was interesting and illuminating as it highlighted many problems relating to this programme. In particular recruitment was discussed at length, and disappointment was expressed that few people were prepared to embark upon a programme of this nature.

It was noted that one of the major problems was the fact that there was no fulltime person as Head of the



*Trainees in conference.*



Department of Family Practice at Edendale Hospital, and attempts are being made to rectify this.

The second phase of the programme where 18 months are spent at a rural KwaZulu Hospital, received considerable attention. It was agreed that amenities in these centres are somewhat lacking, and attempts will be made to improve facilities. Further, the supervision by the trainer of the trainee during this phase will be improved.

Further discussion at this workshop was related to possible expansion of the programme, and involvement of the Appelsbosch/Montebello Hospitals. It was felt strongly that vocational training in its entirety should be undertaken in the community itself, and that hospitals such as Appelsbosch/Montebello could serve ideally as the base hospitals for such training. Secondment to hospitals such as Edendale for additional skills training would then take place throughout the training period.

This workshop contributed greatly to enthuse those involved with the programme to continue with dedication, and to formulate ideas for the future.

I wish to convey my thanks to Upjohn for their sponsorship of this workshop and for contributing to academic family practice.

**Garth Brink**



*Mr B O'Neil Kerr (Upjohn) and Dr Garth Brink.*







## Vocational Training Programme

### SA Academy of Family Practice/Primary Care

The Academy is committed to establish vocational training for Family Practice/Primary Care and to make adequate and appropriate health care available to all in South Africa. The first Vocational Training Programme was started in 1985 in co-operation with the KwaZulu Department of Health.

The programme is so structured that doctors receive training in a three year rotational programme that will equip them to become proficient at both public and private sector family medicine/primary care. At present the three year period is divided into 18 months at Edendale Hospital, Pietermaritzburg and 18 months at a peripheral KwaZulu hospital.

Medical Officer posts will become available in the Department of Family Practice/Primary Care at Edendale Hospital as from 1 January 1989 and anyone interested in joining this training programme is requested to apply as soon as possible to:

*Chief Medical Superintendent  
Edendale Hospital  
Private Bag X9020  
Pietermaritzburg 3200  
Telephone: (0331) 81721*

**OR**

*The Regional Director  
Vocational Training  
SA Academy of Family Practice/Primary Care  
30 Saville Avenue  
Glenashley 4051  
Telephone: (031) 523771*