

**S**PECIAL emphasis is being given in this issue to training for Family Practice

The cover depicts a group discussion. World-wide, the small group as a teaching/learning means is increasingly appreciated as important for Family Practice. Attitudes and relationship skills are better learnt here than by means of lectures. The latter can be very effective in transmitting factual knowledge, but the influence of the peer group in discussion is probably the best means of learning attitudes appropriate to a sound doctor-patient relationship. Such a process by no means forces each group member into conformity. In well-functioning groups, it allows each one to look at himself and to experience the feelings and reactions he or she elicits from others. It is more a matter of learning to develop

one's own style and potential as you are assisted by your peers and teachers in positive discussion.

The topic in **Forum** is Vocational Training for Family Practice. It is hoped that the discussion to follow will assist in realising the aim of the Academy to firmly establish Vocational Training.

Considerable progress has been made so far. The Academy has also appointed Dr John Smith as Coordinating Director for Vocational Training. In future issues, we will publicise the Scheme he is organising to begin in 1985. We congratulate him on the appointment, and wish him well with the work. More can be read about him and his ideas for the future further on in this issue.

## JOURNAL POLICY

*SA Family Practice* is published monthly by the SA Academy of Family Practice/Primary Care. It offers a voice to local Family Practice, placing original contributions from the research and experience of Family Practitioners/Primary Health Care workers as a priority.

The Journal also serves as the mouthpiece of the Academy. As such, meetings are reported on, along with other news. Special topics are discussed in Forum, and the future events are publicised.

The Journal does not function as a systematic update or continuing education publication, but places articles that are presented for publication after having been refereed.

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## TYDSKRIF-BELEID

*SA Huisartspraktyk* word maandeliks deur die SA Akademie van Huisartspraktyk/Primêresorg gepubliseer. Dit bied aan plaaslike Huisartse/Primêresorgartse die geleentheid om 'n oorspronklike bydrae vanuit hul eie navorsing en ervaring te publiseer.

Die tydskrif dien ook as mondstuk van die Akademie. Algemene nuus, verslae oor vergaderings gehou en bespreking van brandpunte in Forum verskyn, asook kennisgewings van beplande vergaderings.

*SA Huisartspraktyk* poog nie om 'n tydskrif vir sistematiese voortgesette onderrig te wees nie, maar plaas artikels soos hulle aangebied word, na toepaslike keuring.

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