Kommentaar

Geneeskundige Raad Verskiesings

Die uitslag van die verkiesing van lede van die Geneeskundige Raad is reeds 'n geruime tyd bekend en dit is in alle opregtheid dat aan al die lede ons gelukwense oorgedra word met die eer wat hulle te beurt geval het.

Dit is nodig dat ons as lede van die mediese professie begrip sal hê vir die moeilike taak wat aan hierdie Statutêre liggaam opgedra is en wat in die verlede met groot omsigtigheid uitgevoer is. Veral met die ekstra beswaring om ook die gelde vir mediese dienste te bepaal, maak die funksie van hierdie liggaam nog moeiliker. Daar is geen twyfel oor dat laasgenoemde funksie die Geneeskundige Raad blootstel aan kritiek van beide die publiek sowel as van die medici nie.

Dit is nou eenmaal so dat dit altyd makliker is om te kritiseer en daarom sal kritiek sekerlik nie wegbly nie. Laat dit egter vir ons almal 'n les wees dat gedurende die polimiek van 'n jaar gelede, die Geneeskundige Raad "koelkop" gebly het deur vas te staan by sy standpunt en bevindinge. Indien dit dan sou gebeur dat die skaal by 'n volgende geleentheid nie ten gunste van ons swaai nie, sal dit ons betaam om so 'n ongunstige besluit met waardigheid te ontvang. Laat dit nooit van ons gesê word dat ons ons skuldig maak aan opsweping en 'n masse-histerie onder ons lede bewerkstellig nie.

Ons glo dat die Geneeskundige Raad die gesondheidsdienste aan ons Land se mense as prioriteit sal bly handhaaf en daarom sal ook toegesien word dat die verskaffers van die dienste 'n regmatige plek in die samelewing sal beklee. Ek is oortuig daarvan dat ons steeds verseker kan wees dat ons vertoë onbevooroordeeld aangehoor sal word, want **so** hoort dit!

Baie geluk aan Prof. Geldenhuys met sy benoeming as President van die Raad en sterkte en wysheid word aan u en u span toegewens!

Willie Pietersen

Comment

Call for innovative training

In an attempt to improve the postgraduated training of the family physician the Academy will have to make the most of the tried and trusted methods but also not hestitate to be inovative. The creation of a cell system throughout the Republic will be a project that should combine both of these criteria.

We have always known that teaching is more effective in the small group. We also know that unless meetings are held by people with similar interests the lectures and other forms of instruction are inclined to become to general and eventually vague.

What is thus needed is that people with the same requirements for good medical practice should set up small cells to which the Academy can relate. These units can differ in number but must have a convener to coordinate efforts and to spell out the objectives directly to the central body.

Regular meetings can be organised and the venue need not be a problem because catering for large groups is not envisaged.

Methods to teach in these small groups are being examined by the Academy at the moment and video programs are being shown throughout the country. Feed back is essential because we have no unyielding approach to keeping the GP up to date.

It is essential that you begin to set up cells and inform us of their existence so that direct contact can be made.

George Davie

Practice Briefs

Psychiatric tariff notice

The following notification concerning the tarriff for examination of psychiatric patients by general practitioners and the certification of patients, has been received from the Medical Association of SA by the secretary of the National General Practitioners Group:

Your attention is directed to the following extract from a letter from the Director General, Department of Health, Pensions and Welfare addressed to the Secretary General, viz:

"Dat goedkeuring nou verkry is om alle gelde vir 'n huisarts wat 'n psigiatriese pasiënt moet sertifiseer vanaf 1 April 1980 te verhoog na R15,00 wanneer die pasiënt in die spreekkamer ondersoek word en R20,00 wanneer 'n ondersoek tydens 'n huisbesoek gedoen word."

M. Prax. Med. kursus

Die Departement Huisartskunde, Universiteit van Pretoria, M.Prax.Med. kursus word deeltyds aangebied oor drie jaar vir praktiserende huisartse of kollegas wat belang stel in ander vorme van primêre mediese diens.

Voornemende kandidate moet minstens een jaar geregistreer wees by die S.A.G.T.-Raad en twee jaar in besit wees van die graad MBChB of gelykstaande kwalifikasie.

Die eerste weekkursus van 1981 sal plaasvind van 26 tot 31 Januarie.

Kollegas wat belangstel word versoek om voor 15 Oktober 1980 indien moontlik, navrae te rig aan:

Die Hoof
Departement Huisartskunde
Posbus 667
PRETORIA
0001
Tel: 21-3211 x 430 or 463

Homeopathy reference questioned

Dear Sir,

I refer to your article on page 5, S.A. Family Practice vol. 1 No. 7.

Since when are we, as medical practitioners, accepting results of tests done by the Glasgow Homeopathic Hospital. From your last paragraph of this article, are we to now assume that purchases from pharmaceutical, health food shops and homeopaths have the blessing of the South African Academy of Family Practice? If this is so, the next move will be to have these preparations covered by Medical Aid. The logical move after this is to have all Faith Healers, Chiropractors and Hoemopaths also covered by Medical Aid.

Yours etc,
Dr S. Mitchley
East London

GP feature for MASA 1981 congress

Special sessions exclusive to general practice and the family practitioner will be a feature of the multi-disciplinary Biennial Congress of the Medical Association of SA (MASA) to be held in Pretoria from July 6 to 11, 1981.

Theme of the congress will be medicine in South Africa in the 1980s, and more than 20 disciplines will be contributing to this theme.

Delegates, which in number are expected to exceed 1000, will include visitors from Europe and the United States.

Pretoria University will be the venue at which special symposia will also be held on 'The Heart in the 80s', civil and combat injuries, viruses, geriatrics and sports medicine.

For further information circle **No 201**