



Synapse

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Mary Ann Donnell
ALHELA President

At the recent Southeastern Association of Hospitals meeting in New Orleans several of us had an opportunity to visit with Carol Jenkins, Executive Director of the new Southeastern/Atlantic Regional Medical Library. The role of the regional library in the medical library system is changing; it is no longer the liaison only between resource libraries; the hierarchical system of NLM to Regional to Resource to Grassroots is flattening. The Regional is more needed and more interested in working with and promoting other aspects of information networking. Carol sees the need to foster consortia development through interstate and intrastate networking. See the Synapse interview with Carol elsewhere in this issue.

Also in New Orleans...

The CE class, Microcomputers: a Resource for Medical Libraries by Robert Walton, was exceptional. It will be given in Houston at MLA, but we had the advantage of a smaller class and cheaper rates. Walton's book, Microcomputers: a Planning and Implementation Guide for Librarians and Information Professionals (Oryx Press, Phoenix, Arizona), will come out this summer. Prepublication price \$15.00; after July 1, \$18.50.

Also in electronics...

Rick Forsman sent me an article recently that I would recommend to anyone considering a union list for a multitype library system - Moules, M. L., "Producing a local union list of serials with word processing equipment," The Serials Librarian, Winter 1982, 7(2):27-34. I will send a copy to anyone requesting it. The potential is well outlined and definitely worth considering for our union list which would relate to hospital needs and holdings. Please contact me with any comments re: the ALHeLA union list.

Speaking of contacts...

Willette Vaughn, or some member of her committee, will be contacting you for current info for the Directory which is scheduled for production late this summer with distribution at the Fall Conference in October.

SYNAPSE is the official publication of the Alabama Health Libraries Association (ALHeLA).

Fall Conference plans...

Please read Nancy Clemons' article about all the features and activities, educational and socials planned for that meeting October 19-22.

Bibliographies and SDI's...

Perhaps Joyce Sims' bibliographies have helped you too; in case you don't have access to FAH Review, which I shelve under Review of Federated Association of Hospitals, I have incomplete holdings but would be willing to share freely with AHeLA members. See the one in this issue on DRG's.

More on survival...

In the last issue I called your attention to Can Hospitals Survive? by J. C. Goldsmith. Now I find he will be the keynote speaker for the Alabama Hospital Association meeting in June. Encourage your administrator to read the book or one of Goldsmith's articles mentioned in the Administration SDI in this issue. This popular man will also be speaking in Pensacola, Florida at the Holiday Inn August 10-13 as part of the UAB Alumni program for the College of Health Care Administration.

Keep news coming...

Executive Committee meetings always get my mind churning, but then anytime I meet with my peers in this state I regret we only have one big meeting a year. There is such a wealth of ideas and projects to share. The newsletter remains the least expensive way so far to do this. Pat Rodgers says she is not a writer but will edit as long as everyone will contribute articles and/or ideas. Now that's an offer we can't pass up. Deadline for the next issue will be August 12, 1983.

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE OF HOSPITAL LIBRARIANS

April 18-20, 1983

by Hugh Thomas
Eye Foundation Hospital, Birmingham

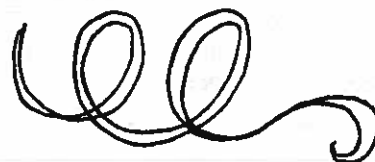
The 1983 meeting of the SCHL was held in New Orleans in conjunction with the SOUTHEASTERN HOSPITAL CONFERENCE. The meeting opened on Monday at 3 P.M. with a paper written by Lynda Garr, entitled "Hard Nut Challenges in Hospital Library Management" and included an open discussion among those attending as to problems they are facing or have faced.

Tuesday was continuing education day with two courses offered: One, presented by Robert Walton, automation consultant of the Texas State University Library, covered those areas a Librarian should consider in the selection and use of a microcomputer for the library. The other course, presented by Gail Yokote, was designed to help those experienced with online computer searching to better optimize time spent on the terminal. Participants of both C.E. courses were quite pleased with the presentations.

Wednesday morning began with the SCHL business meeting which was followed by Carol Jenkins, the Executive Director for the new Medical Library Program for Region II, with an overview of the proposed activities and services of RML II, which will include: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

The Conference was adjourned at 11 A.M. Special thanks go to EBSCO and their representative, Nancy Rogers, for the Social Hour Monday evening, and to MAJORS SCIENTIFIC BOOKS for providing the registration packets the participants received.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



ALABAMA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION - MEETING
June 15-17, 1983. Huntsville, Alabama.

ALHELA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - MEETING
June 24, 1983. Montgomery, Alabama.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL MEETING
June 24-30, 1983. Los Angeles.

September issue of Synapse
August 12 is deadline for contributions.

SOUTHERN CHAPTER - MLA - 33RD ANNUAL MEETING

ALHELA - ANNUAL MEETING/WITH SOUTHERN CHAPTER-MLA
October 19-22, 1983. Birmingham, Alabama.

INTERVIEW WITH CAROL JENKINS

Carol Jenkins graduated from the School of Library Science of the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. Her professional career began as Director of the University of Oregon Dental School in Portland, Oregon. In 1978 she became one of the first three recipients of NLM's Health Science Library Management Internships, interning at the University of Cincinnati with Nancy Lorenzi. Following her year of internship Jenkins returned to Oregon as Special Project Librarian and Head of Circulation at the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center Library and in 1980 accepted the position of Associate Director at the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library of the University of Virginia where she was until appointed as Executive Director of the newly configured Southeastern/Atlantic Regional Medical Library. Synapse had an opportunity to talk with Carol at the April meeting of the Southeastern Hospital Association in New Orleans.

SYNAPSE: What does the Executive Director of a new Regional Medical Library (RML) do first?

JENKINS: My first responsibility has been meeting with the many groups in this geographical region to explain the new NLM reconfiguration and what it will mean to the 500 health science libraries in the ten state plus the District of Columbia area.

SYNAPSE: What is the new configuration and the implication for health science libraries?

JENKINS: First, it means Region 2 is one of the largest geographically of the new areas formed from combining the old Mid-Atlantic Region IV with the Southeastern Region VI. This area includes 29 resource libraries, 1400 hospitals, 300,000 health professionals, and 410 NLM online search centers. Second, the new regional system will be encouraging interstate and intrastate cooperation at all levels.

SYNAPSE: What role can the RML play in encouraging cooperation?

JENKINS: A new document delivery system will be initiated in the next few months which will allow librarians a wider selection for filling interlibrary loans, without the necessity of routing through a resource library where charges may be incurred for referrals.

SYNAPSE: But how will these librarians know where to go?

JENKINS: By late summer the new Union List of Serials for this region will be ready for distribution.

SYNAPSE: What format will the ULS be and how much will it cost?

JENKINS: The cost for this microfiche format will be \$20.00. We are also evaluating microfiche readers to make recommendations for libraries needing one to use with the new ULS. We will present our report in the July issue of our newsletter Sea Currents.

SYNAPSE: What role will the RML play in library education?

JENKINS: We will be looking at education courses which do not duplicate MLA's efforts. We offer classes dealing with interlibrary loan preparation, networking with the new document delivery system, union list preparation, basic skills in hospital librarianship, and online searching. But I want to stress that the philosophy of courses at the regional level will be to develop programs in conjunction with the various states, consortia, and networks to fit needs at the grassroots level rather than superimpose prepackaged programs.

SYNAPSE: How do you propose to keep in touch or meet these needs?

JENKINS: We are publishing the bimonthly newsletter Sea Currents and will be glad to add anyone not already receiving it to our mailing list. I would also like to encourage calls to us with questions and/or needs at (800) 638-6093.

SYNAPSE: When will you be talking to Alabama Health science librarians?

JENKINS: I have been invited to be at the MLA Southern Chapter/AIHeLA meeting in Birmingham, October 19-20. I look forward to meeting as many as possible there, but encourage calls to the RML office before then if any have questions which we can answer.

ADMINISTRATIVE SDI

Jeff Charles Goldsmith is the man of the hour and will be appearing in the southeastern region this summer. For your administrator the following, in addition to Goldsmith's book, may be of interest:

Goldsmith, J. C. "Strategies for surviving the capital shortages." Trustee, 1982 March, 35(3): 21-25.

Goldsmith, J. C. "Hospital marketing program must involve physicians, advocate says." FAH Review, 1982 March-April, 15(2): 51-55.

Goldsmith, J. C. "Healthcare survival. Competition: how will it affect hospitals?" Hospital Financial Management, 1981 November, 35(11): 16-8, 24-6, 28.

Goldsmith, J. C. "The health care market: can hospitals survive?" chapter 1 in Issues in Health Care Management edited by Steven Spirn: Rockville, Maryland; Aspen, 1982. (Reprinted from Harvard Business Review, Sept.-Oct. 1980.

FALL CONFERENCE PLANS

Self-Reflections 83
Southern Chapter/MLA
AlHeLA - JCHLA
OCTOBER 19-22, 1983
Birmingham Hilton

Start making your plans now to attend the Southern Chapter/MLA meeting at the Birmingham Hilton October 19-22, 1983. This year's meeting which will be co-sponsored by AlHeLA and JCHLA (Jefferson County Hospital Librarians' Association) has been expanded to four days to make time for all of the special events.

Details of sessions will be revealed as October draws closer, but here is a "sneak-preview" of the program:

Wednesday, October 19

1. CE 563-81 Monograph Selection, Acquisition, and Management
2. NLM Update
3. VA Librarians' Meeting
4. P.M. - Exhibit Opening/Cash Bar/Reception

Thursday, October 20

1. Projecting a Professional Image - Marilyn Benveniste (Public Speaking Consultant - Atlanta, Georgia)
2. Reflections on Physical Facilities
Panel: Irene Graham (University of Mississippi), Sam Hitt (UNC-Chapel Hill), Joyce Sims (St. Vincent's Hospital-Birmingham), Ina Sims (Baptist Medical Center-Montclair-Birmingham)
3. Mirror, Mirror on the Wall - What do others see?
Mary Clay Reinhardt-Rosemary's & Image, Inc., Birmingham
4. Business Meeting SC/MLA
5. P.M. - Social

Friday, October 21

1. Breakfast Meeting AlHeLA
2. New Focus on Professional Development
New RML Plans - Presentation by Region 2 Representatives
MLA CE Restructuring
3. Double Visions - Intimate Insights
Moderator: Nancy Lorenzi, Ph.D., Immediate Past-President, MLA
The Hodges and The Donnells / Mark and Judith / Bob and Mary Ann
Husband-wife teams discuss hospital-academic dichotomy
4. Hospital and Lister Hill Library Tours
5. Poster Sessions
6. P.M. - Banquet

Saturday, October 22

1. CE 653-79 Writing for Publication
2. CE 451-80 Online Search Optimization
3. MEDLINE for non-searchers (RML course)

Marilyn Benveniste, our keynote speaker, will get the first program session off to a lively start. She has a consulting service in Atlanta and regularly presents workshops on persuasive speaking, time management, image improvement, and personnel management.

If you have had difficulty finding travel funds for continuing education courses in distant locations, this meeting should provide several opportunities for credits without expensive plane fares.

You will probably recognize many of the speakers names, including several AIHeLA members. We're proud of our local talent.

Look carefully at the program and you will see several new items this year. For the first time, exhibitors have been invited to show off their wares. The poster sessions will offer librarians the opportunity to display their special services or solutions to problems. Try to think of something you have done recently, and please let the Program Committee know if you would like to do a poster session on your library. Several Alabama libraries have very creative services and ideas. Let's let the rest of the South know it!



SDI NOTES

by Joyce Sims
St. Vincent's Hospital
Birmingham, Alabama

DRG's (Diagnosis Related Groups) are featured in this issue's bibliography.

Vanhooren, G. "Hospital reimbursements back to the drawing board."
Dimension in Health Service, 58(5): May 1981, p. 38-40.

"DRG concept generates mixed reaction in hospital industry as
research continues." FAH Review, 13(3): May-June 1980, p. 15-27.

Brombert, M. D. "DRGs: the new regulatory strategy ." (editorial),
FAH Review, 13(3): May-June 1980, p. 7 (whole issue on DRG).

Vignola, Margo. "Reform of hospital payment system presents a
dilemma." FAH Review, 15(4): July/Aug. 1982, p. 44-5.

Burik, D. et al. "Diagnosis-related groups: tool for management."
Hospital Health Service Administration, 26(1): Winter 1981, p. 25-40.

Simpson, L. A. "How to appeal Medicare reimbursement." Hospital
Financial Management, 34(1): Jan. 1980, p. 68-72.

Butler, P. W. et al. "Ten issues to consider when evaluating case-
mix reimbursement." Hospital Fin. Management, 34(6): June 1980,
p. 34-42.

Kohlman, H. A. "Hospital perspective: viewing the future of medicare."
Hospital Fin. Management, 36(1): Jan. 1982, p. 31-2.

Bentley, J. D. et al. "Case mix reimbursement: measures, application
and experiments." Hospital Fin. Mgt., 34(3): March 1980, p. 24-35.

Barnard, C. et al. "More work needed. DRGs--a progress report
from the provider view point." Hosp. Fin. Mgt., 36(1): Jan. 1982,
p. 48-50, 52, 54-8.

Grimaldi, B. L. et al. "DRGs--a poor prognosis." Hosp. Fin. Mgt.
34(10): Oct. 1980, p. 12.

"Disgnosis related groups may present threat to quality of care."
Hospital Peer Review, 7(11): Nov. 1982, p. 142-2.

"Analysis of DRG experience reveals potential and problems."
Hospital Peer Review, 7(10): Oct. 1982, p. 122-23.

"Officials spot inequities in DRG cost control program." Hospital Peer Review, 6(2): Feb. 1981, p. 13-15.

Dwyer, P. "DRGs: regulatory, deregulatory device." Hospital Progress, 62(3): March 1981, p. 26, 28, 30.

Goran, M. J. "DRGs: imperfect but useful reimbursement tool." Hospital Progress, 62(3): March 1981, p. 6, 8.

Powers, A. M. "DRGs: optional in Maryland GIR System." Hospital Progress, 62(1): Jan. 1981, p. 47-8.

Fredorowicz, J. et al. "Automated DRG Systems: unanswered questions." Hospital Progress, 62(1): Jan. 1981, p. 54-5, 71.

Fox, R. T. "DRGs: a management control tool in hospitals and multi-institutional systems." Hospital Progress, 62(1): Jan. 1981, p. 52-3.

Grimaldi, P. L. "DRG reimbursement in New Jersey: some initial results." Hospital Progress, 62(1): Jan. 1981, p. 41-6.

Thompson, J. D. "DRGs broaden hospital's accountability." Hospital Progress, 62(6): June 1981, p. 46-9, 62.

Henry, L. "Hospital concern shown with new pay methods based on case mix, diagnosis related groups." Hospitals, 54(14): 16 July 1980, p. 22, 24.

"Financial management of rates, reimbursement and regulation." Hospitals, 54(7): 1 April 1980, p. 69-72.

Restuccia, J. D. et al. "Estimating hospital costs by diagnosis group." Inquiry, 17(2): Summer 1980, p. 155-64.

Barnard, C. et al. "DRG-based reimbursement: the use of concurrent and retrospective clinical data." Med. Care, 19(11): Nov. 1981, p. 1071-8.

Cameron, J. M. "DRGs: an assessment of the assessment." (letter) Med. Care, 19(2), Feb. 1981, p. 243-8.

"All New Jersey hospitals switch to diagnosis related reimbursements." Med. World News, 23(3): 1 Feb. 1982, p. 30, 37-8.

LaViolette, S. "DRG study challenges medicare differential." Modern Health Care, 10(2), Feb. 1980, p. 18-20.

LaViolette, S. "DRG modifications, cost data needed." Modern Health Care, 10(5): May 1980, p. 34.

Belding, D. J. "Drug reimbursements being rushed." Modern Health Care, 9(7): July 1979, p. 74.

Wallace, Cynthia, "DRGs--only rule too late to block most medicare waivers to states." Modern Health Care, 12(11): Nov. 1982, p. 16-17.

LaViolette, S. "Hospitals split between praise, distrust of DRGs." Modern Health Care, 10(7): July 1980, p. 100-1.

Simborg, D. W. "DRG creep: a new hospital acquired disease." New England Journal of Medicine, 304(26): 25 June 1981, p. 1602-4.

Schumacher, D. N. "Medical Staff and hospital administration uses of discharge abstract data." QRB, 7(6): June 1981, p. 26.

Bertram, Dennis A. "Hospital case mix groupings and generic algorithms." QRB, 8(1): Jan. 1982, p. 24-30.

Kreitzen, Sharon L. "Severity of illness: the DRGs missing link." QRB, 8(5): May 1982, p. 21-34.

"Public Hospitals examine DRGs payment plan." Hospital Week, 18(45): 12 Nov. 1982.

Wallace, C. "Hospitals bear brunt of Medicare budget cuts." Modern Health Care, 12(9): Sept. 1982, p. 18-19.

"Diagnosis related groups." Topics in Health Care Financing, 8(4), Summer 1982, entire issue.

The world according to DRG." NLM Public Policy Bulletin. March-April 1983, 1-4.

Hospital Literature Index

by Patricia Rodgers

Recently received a memo from the American Hospital Association pointing out two new features of Hospital Literature Index. First, included in the introduction is a list of the new 1983 Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) appearing for the first time in the Index along with a descriptive note for each. Second, beginning with the third quarterly issue AHA hopes to include in the recent acquisitions section materials cataloged by the AHA Library for its collection. They will be arranged by the Medical Subject Heading.

Attached to this memo was an updated bibliography on PPO's (see the following SDI Update column).

SDI Update

PPO's (Preferred Provider Organizations)

Selected References
January 1983

Library of the American Hospital Association
Asa S. Bacon Memorial

This bibliography was selected and compiled by the staff of the library of the American Hospital Association.

Bruckardt, G. Mountain Medical PPO: a case history of marketing a new concept in the Denver area. Review-Federation of American Hospitals. 15:29-32, July-Aug. 1982.

Ellwein, L. Preferred provider organizations: a new form of competitive health plan? Colorado Medicine. 79:107-108, Mar. 1982.

Ellwein, L. K. and Gregg, D. D. Interstudy researchers trace progress of PPOs, provide insight into future growth. Review-Federation of American Hospitals. 15:20, 22, 24-25, July-Aug. 1982.

Enders, R. J. The preferred provider organization -- pro-competitive alternative or antitrust problem? Hospital Forum. 25:42-44, Nov.-Dec. 1982.

Health care industry, business show increasing interest in PPO concept. Review-Federation of American Hospitals. 15:12-13, 16-18, July-Aug. 1982.

Investor-owned hospitals study PPO concept; leaders of industry adopt "wait-and-see" policy. Review-Federation of American Hospitals. 15:40-42, July-Aug. 1982.

Kodner, K. Competition: getting a fix on PPOs. Hospitals. 56:59-60, 62-66, Nov. 16, 1982.

Lefton, D. Competitive market spawning PPOs. American Medical News. 25:7-8, May 7, 1982.

O'Connor, M. L. Preferred provider organizations: a market approach to health care competition. Hospital Forum. 25:16-21, Nov.-Dec. 1982

PPOs will proliferate if QA and UR programs improve. Hospital Peer Review. 7:53-56, May 1982.

Perler, J. M. Utilization review for the PPO. Hospital Forum. 25:23-25, Nov.-Dec. 1982.

Preferred providers: discount health care. Washington Report on Medicine and Health. 36: Suppl 4p, July 12, 1982.

Three networks reflect growing interest in the development of California PPOs. Review-Federation of American Hospitals. 15:36-37, 39, July-Aug. 1982.

EDITORS CORNER

by Patricia Rodgers

As you read in Mary Ann's column I have agreed to edit Synapse as long as you help me. I am not gifted with the ability to write, so I am relying on you to help make up each issue of our newsletter. As you go through your daily routines, think of things you do or things you have on your mind you would like to share with your colleagues. Jot them down (doesn't have to be fancy, because we type it over anyway) and send them to me. If you don't want to write it, call me and between the two of us-your idea and my writing-we'll get it to press.

Thanks in advance for your help!