

TABLE 2.—BASIC WORKING DATA

Hospital	Number of records reviewed	Number of drug orders		Average number of drug orders per patient		Average duration of hospital stay, days	Number of admissions/year
		Total	During 1st 10 days	Total	During 1st 10 days		
Chronic.....	78	1,430	644	18	8	307	332
Intermediate.....	149	1,543	570	10	4	42	2,000
Acute 1.....	150	860		6		12	3,000
Acute 2.....	151	1,083		7		8	5,100
Pediatric.....	154	563		4		13	2,800

TABLE 3.—DRUG USAGE BY CATEGORIES

	Number of times ordered in each hospital							Pediatric
	Total	Chronic	Intermediate	Total long term	Acute 1	Acute 2	Total acute	
Analgesics.....	963	175	278	453	196	289	485	25
Hypnotics sedatives.....	783	108	207	315	211	189	400	68
Antibiotics.....	558	189	134	323	51	54	105	130
Laxatives.....	539	96	197	293	112	111	223	23
Anticholinergics.....	259	34	29	63	47	88	135	61
Vitamins.....	204	102	43	145	15	23	38	21
Decongestants-bronchodilators.....	192	38	45	83	20	16	36	73
Tranquilizers.....	131	41	40	81	5	34	39	11
Diuretics.....	130	62	37	99	12	12	24	7
Cardiac stimulants.....	116	45	32	77	14	19	33	6
Antihistamines.....	113	27	48	75	10	14	24	14
Antiemetics.....	107	35	30	65	11	29	40	2
Ointments (including eye ointment).....	83	46	23	69	4	6	10	4
Expectorants.....	93	23	38	61	17	5	22	10
Corticosteroids.....	87	16	37	53	8	14	22	12
Antidiabetics.....	79	23	26	49	14	13	27	3
Antiseptics.....	56	24	17	41	6	4	10	5
Hematinics.....	51	26	12	38	6	1	7	6
Vasopressors.....	37	22	9	31	3	3	6	0

There was a great variation in the number of different drugs used for treating the same problem. Table 4 shows the number of individual drugs used within each drug category. A greater variety of drugs within each category was used in the long-term hospitals. The greatest variety was found in the hospital for patients with chronic diseases; 31 antibiotics, 21 vitamin preparations, 11 tranquilizers, 13 diuretics, 13 cardiac stimulants, 22 ointments, and 22 analgesics were used.

TABLE 4.—NUMBER OF DIFFERENT DRUGS USED WITHIN THE DRUG CATEGORIES

	Type of hospital				
	Chronic	Intermediate	Acute 1	Acute 2	Pediatric
Analgesics.....	22	19	13	21	6
Hypnotics-sedatives.....	11	10	6	10	5
Antibiotics.....	31	26	18	13	17
Laxatives.....	12	11	6	11	7
Anticholinergics.....	8	6	6	7	3
Vitamins.....	21	9	6	9	9
Decongestants-bronchodilators.....	7	6	4	6	13
Tranquilizers.....	11	7	3	8	5
Diuretics.....	13	8	3	5	3
Cardiac stimulants.....	13	6	3	5	3
Antihistamines.....	7	4	3	5	2
Antiemetics.....	4	2	2	3	2
Antacids.....	6	4	2	5	2
Ointments.....	22	14	2	6	4
Expectorants.....	6	5	2	4	3
Corticosteroids.....	7	10	3	8	5
Antidiabetics.....	5	3	4	5	3
Antiseptics.....	10	7	4	3	3
Hematinics.....	5	4	4	1	2
Vasopressors.....	3	3	2	1	0