

WESTERN NEW YORK REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM

Both of the programs in the Western New York region have a direct effect upon hospitals, health professionals, and patients in the rural areas. Particular emphasis will be placed upon involving community hospitals and on training nurses from community hospitals in rural areas. The projects are listed as follows:

Operational Projects

1. *Two-Way Communications Network: Direct Cost, \$170,519*

A two-way communication network will link hospitals of Western New York and Erie County, Pennsylvania to the Continuing Education Departments of the State University of New York at Buffalo and the Roswell Park Memorial Institute. The network will serve several purposes, such as continuing education for physicians and the health-related professions, public education, administrative communication, consultation with experts, and contacts among banks. It will assist both the physician and community hospital in either the rural or urban environment in having at their fingertips the latest advances in the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and cancer. Particular emphasis will be placed upon involving rural hospitals in this program thereby improving both their didactic and restorative function.

2. *Coronary Care Program: Direct Cost, \$127,544*

This project will test a training technique for providing qualified nurses who will be required to staff developing coronary care units in the Region. Approximately 80 nurses will be selected from all parts of the Region for a combined academic and clinical course. It is planned that the nurses receiving this training will return to both rural and urban hospitals for the purpose of providing a diagnostic and didactic function. While the program will be housed at the medical center, the community hospitals of this region will be the benefactors of the project. Since there are few nurses trained to work in coronary care units, particularly in the rural environment, special attention will be paid to attracting nurses who will return to the community hospital.

WISCONSIN REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM

Four of the Wisconsin projects have relevance to the improvement of health care in a rural setting, through the provision of education and information. Physicians and allied health personnel in community hospitals will benefit from the following projects:

Operational Projects

1. *A pilot demonstration program for pulmonary thromboembolism: direct cost, \$84,600*

In this project a center is being established at Marshfield Hospital in Marshfield, Wisconsin, for demonstration diagnostic techniques and the available therapy for pulmonary thromboembolism. The project has a continuing education component which will reach physicians from many hospitals in the Region. This will involve a 24-hour consultation service, the preparation of a movie on the topic, and special training sessions for groups of physicians.

The project will demonstrate a comprehensive program which will encompass diagnostic, preventive, therapeutic, and rehabilitation procedures for patients, postgraduation education, a rapid transportation system for patients from Northern sections of the state, and cooperation between the clinic and other hospitals and medical schools in the State.

2. *Telephone dial access tape recording library in the areas of heart disease, cancer, stroke, and related diseases: direct cost, \$18,950*

This feasibility study will be carried out by the University of Wisconsin which will record and store short, 4-6 minute, tapes on various aspects of treating patients with the three diseases. Any physician anywhere in the Region can dial the library at any time and request a tape relevant to a problem in which he is interested.

3. *Nursing telephone dial access tape recording library in the areas of heart disease, cancer, stroke and related diseases: direct cost, \$18,800*

This feasibility study, similar to the one above, will establish a central tape library with information recorded on nursing care in emergencies, new pro-