

cedures and equipment, and recent developments in nursing. Nurses from any hospital in the region will be able to call at any time to have a tape played to them.

4. *Development of medical and health related single concept film program in community hospitals: direct cost, \$33,250*

This education feasibility project involves ten community hospitals in its first phase. Fifteen films on procedures and techniques used in treating heart, cancer, and stroke, will be developed. Projectors and the films will be installed in the hospitals for use by physicians and other health personnel at their convenience as a continuing education device. After four to six months the materials will be relocated in ten additional hospitals.

Mr. ROGERS. When do you expect to have your first evaluation of a regional medical program?

Dr. MARSTON. We have evaluations each time a region applies for a supplement, and we require an annual progress report.

In one of the regions, as the funding was beginning to get up to a sizable level, we decided that in addition to these normal reviews that we should mount a special site visit and evaluate the region's status from the standpoint of the program. We now are doing this all of the time, picking out times of program movement, particularly the shift from planning to an operational grant and upon receipt of a supplemental request for an enlarged activity. We go back and review the entire history of the grant.

Mr. ROGERS. What is the oldest region?

Dr. MARSTON. The first four operational programs were funded at approximately the same time, Intermountain, Kansas, Missouri, and Albany, N.Y.

Mr. ROGERS. Could you let us have your evaluation of how effective these have been, for the record.

(The following information was received by the committee:)

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE STATEMENT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS

The effectiveness of Regional Medical Programs is determined in the following ways:

Evaluation of the effectiveness of each Regional Medical Program is a continuous process which involves review by the Federal Government, its non-Federal advisors, and the grantee itself. These review activities are specifically intended to determine the extent to which the region has implemented the process of regionalization which includes seven essential elements: involvement, identification of needs and opportunities, assessment of resources, definition of objectives, setting of priorities, implementation of program activities, and self-evaluation.

This process of regionalization is the means by which the region moves toward its ultimate objective—the assurance of easily accessible improved patient care for heart disease, cancer, stroke, and related diseases.

A systematic and comprehensive review of the scientific and administrative aspects of each Regional Medical Program has been designed in order to determine the extent to which each Regional Medical Program implements this process of regionalization for the purpose of achieving its goal of improved patient care.

This review process includes surveillance at the regional and Federal level, and is conducted by both non-Federal and Federal experts. By law each operational activity must be approved by the Regional Advisory Group prior to its submission to the Federal Government for review and approval. Frequently the regions themselves have elaborated on this requirement by establishing local, in addition to regional, advisory bodies and/or scientific review bodies which also carefully examine proposed activities.