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The **Postgraduate Medical Journal** is published monthly on behalf of the Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine by the Scientific & Medical Division, Macmillan Press Ltd.

Postgraduate Medical Journal publishes original papers on subjects of current clinical importance. Each issue contains commissioned review and leading articles but unsolicited submissions are also welcome. Each issue also includes 'Letters to the Editor', book reviews and an international postgraduate diary. Many issues contain papers or abstracts of symposia devoted to a single subject, and the full proceedings of meetings are published as supplements to the *Journal*. The *Journal*, as the organ of the Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine, is dedicated to advancing the understanding and practice of postgraduate medical education and training.

The **Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine** was founded after the First World War and was a pioneer in the United Kingdom in the development of programmes of postgraduate study in all branches of medicine (see *Postgrad Med J* 61, 1). It always has been, and remains, independent of University, Health Service and Government. Currently the Fellowship works closely with the National Association of Clinical Tutors in furthering mutual aims. Amongst other activities, the Fellowship provides research grants and support for young investigators especially those working temporarily in the UK.

Further details of the Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine can be obtained from The Executive Secretary, The Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine, 6 St Andrew's Place, London NW1 4LB.

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Conference Report

The Standing Committee on Postgraduate Medical Education (SCOPME) Conference on 'Priorities in Postgraduate and Continuing Medical and Dental Education' **London, April 8, 1992**

The conference was opened by Dame Barbara Clayton, Chairman of SCOPME, who reviewed the activities of SCOPME and invited the audience to contribute towards formulating its future direction. The participants were mainly clinical tutors, postgraduate deans, general practitioner advisors and representatives of Colleges, doctors in training, Department of Health (DOH) and postgraduate centre administrators.

It was generally agreed that as the current formal postgraduate teaching was too examination-driven and study leave too expensive for its quality, the effectiveness of the present system was doubtful. Future developments should include 'training contracts' for trainees and trainers with their units, identification of non-training departments within a unit, and a strong commitment by the DOH to medical and dental education, for example, as demonstrated in the case of medical audit, in terms of time, money and policy.

It was identified that it is essential that attitudes towards education, training and service must change: colleges should produce curricula; trainers need to be trained and given due recognition; training methods should be more learner-centred (such as the Wessex scheme), should incorporate a system of evaluation and feed-back and, more importantly, should establish a

life-long ethos of learning and curiosity. Doctors in training are impatient for change.

Clinical tutors and postgraduate centre administrators are the core to postgraduate and continuing education; they will need to integrate local education programmes, monitor and evaluate standards of medical education, set up databases of all trainees, provide career counselling, and facilitate a climate for change. Clinical tutors are also identified as the key to improving the standards of general professional training (GPT) to meet the specific needs of senior house officers, including those of general practice vocational training schemes. Therefore, clinical tutors will need support and resources from postgraduate deans and managers to fulfil their tasks.

A facet of continuing professional development is continuing medical education (CME). The major way of checking the effectiveness of CME is through medical audit and, at the same time, any improvements in the standard of practice required by medical audit should lead to learning through CME. Some system of reaccreditation may be highly desirable in the future.

SCOPME should be able to identify the problems, and be able to provide solutions by influencing the DOH and by integrating the disparate views of the colleges and other bodies associated with postgraduate training and continuing medical education.

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Books Received

Annual Review of Immunology, Vol 10, Ed William E. Paul, C. Garrison Fathman and Henry Metzger. Pps 910, illustrated. Annual Reviews inc, 1992. Hardback, \$50.00.

Annual Review of Public Health, Ed G.S. Omenn. Pp x + 552, not illustrated. Annual Reviews Inc., California, 1992. Hardback, (USA) \$49.00, (Elsewhere) \$54.00.

Basic Respiratory Physiology, N.C. Staub. Pp. ix + 242, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, Tokyo, Melbourne, Edinburgh, New York, London, 1991. Paperback, £16.95.

Collins Dictionary of Medicine, R.M. Youngson. Pp. x + 662, not illustrated. Harper Collins, Glasgow, 1992. Paperback, £8.99.

Diagnostic Radiology an Anglo American Textbook of Imaging, Ed Ronald Grainger and David Allison. Pp 2760, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, 1991. Hardback, £295.00 (2 December 1991).

Diagnostic Ultrastructure of non Neoplastic Diseases, Ed John M. Papadimitrou, Douglas W. Henderson and Domonic V. Spagnolo. Pp. 728. 1992. Hardback £200.00. June.

Essential Obstetrics and Gynaecology, E.M. Symonds. Pp 301, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, London, Edinburgh, New York, Melbourne, Tokyo, 1992. Paperback £19.95.

Fetal and Infant Origins of Adult Disease, Ed D.J.P. Barker. Pp. xv + 343, not illustrated. BMJ publication, 1992. Hardback UK £24.95, Overseas £30.00.

Interpretation of Diagnostic Tests – A Synopsis of Laboratory Medicine, J. Wallach. Pp. xv + 933, not illustrated. Little, Brown & Co., London, Boston, Toronto, 1992. Paperback £15.95.

Knee Ligament Rehabilitation, Ed R.P. Engle. Pp. xvi + 228, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, London, Melbourne, Tokyo, New York, Edinburgh, 1991. Hardback £27.50.

Manual of Ocular Diagnosis and Therapy, Ed D. Pavan-Langston. Pp. 494, illustrated. Little, Brown & Co., London, Toronto, Boston, 1991. Paperback, £16.95.

Molecular Biology of Atherosclerosis, M.J. Halpern. Pp. 662, illustrated. John Libbey, 1992. Hardback, £45.00 (May).

Moving to Audit – An education package for hospital doctors & GPs, Produced by Dr C.W.B. Arnold, Prof. J. Bain, Dr R.A. Brown *et al.* Pp. viii + 128, illustrated. The Postgraduate Office, Ninewells Hospital & Medical School, Dundee, 1992. Paperback.

Neuroanatomy Basic and Clinical, M.J.T. Fitzgerald. Pp. 252, illustrated. Balliere Tindall, 1992. Paperback £16.95.

Neurology and Neurosurgery Illustrated, Ed Lindsay, Bone & Callander. Pp. 565, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, London, Melbourne, New York, Tokyo, Edinburgh, 1991. Paperback £24.95.

Oxford Textbook of Pathology (Vol 1), Ed James McGee, Peter G. Isaacson and Nicholas Wright. Pp. 792, illustrated. Oxford University Press, 1992. Paperback £45.00 (26 March 1992).

Oxford Textbook of Pathology (Vol 2A & 2B), Ed James McGee, Peter Isaacson and Nicholas Wright. Pp 792, illustrated. Oxford University Press, 1992. Paperback £75.00 (26 March 1992).

Pathology of the Kidney Volumes 1, 2 and 3, R.H. Heptinsall. Pp. 712, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, 1991. Hardback £210.00 (2 December 1991).

Pediatric Kidney Disease 2E, Chester Edelmann, Jr. Pp. 1500, illustrated. Little, Brown, 1992. Hardback £195.00 (11 May 1992).

Plants in Cardiology, A. Hollman. Pp. vii + 40, illustrated. BMJ publication, 1992. Paperback £5.95.

Renal and Electrolyte Disorders, Ed R.W. Schrier. Pp. xi + 846, illustrated. Little, Brown & Co., London, Boston, Toronto, 1992. Hardback £32.50.

Respiratory Monitoring, Ed M.J. Tobin. Pp. 258, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, London, Edinburgh, New York, Melbourne, Tokyo, 1991. Hardback £22.50.

The Stomach, Ed Sven Gustavsson, Devinder Kumarand, David Y. Graham. Pp. 444, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, 1991. Hardback £75.00 (11 November 1991).

Tumors and Tumorlike Lesions of Soft Tissue, Ed Vito Nifno, E.B. Chung and Andrea Cavazzana. Pp. 292, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, 1991. Hardback £60.00 (4 November 1991).

Postgraduate Diary

Institute of Cancer Research

Regular programme of seminars and teaching sessions throughout the year.

Information: The Dean, Institute of Cancer Research, Haddow Laboratories, 15 Cotswold Road, Belmont, Surrey SM2 5NG, UK.

National Heart and Lung Institute

Courses leading to award of University Diplomas in Cardiology and Thoracic Medicine. Short Courses, meetings and symposia are held throughout the year.

Postgraduate Office, National Heart and Lung Institute, Dovehouse Street, London SW3 6LY. Tel: 071-351 8172.

Institute of Child Health

Short courses booklet available.

For further details please apply to: Anne Crowley, Short Courses Office (Room 6), Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1EH. Tel: 071-829 8692 (direct).

Institute of Dental Surgery

Courses for M.Sc. in various aspects of dentistry, Diploma in Dental Public Health, basic medical sciences, etc.

Information: The Dean, Institute of Dental Surgery, Eastman Dental Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8LD, UK.

Hunterian Institute

Long and short courses in basic medical sciences for primary FRCS (including revision courses in Anatomy/Physiology/Pathology), Primary FDS, FFA part 2 held through the year.

Courses in Clinical Surgery for final FRCS held in Spring and Autumn. Anastomosis Workshop; AO course of fracture treatment.

Details and applications: The Hunterian Institute, Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN. Tel: 071-405 3474.

Institute of Laryngology and Otology

Pre-FRCS and DLO exam courses. Advanced courses on: Temporal bone surgery – November and June. Anaesthesia for ENT – October. Rhinology and Surgery of the Nasal Cavity and Paranasal Sinuses – October. Nasal Plastic and Facial Soft Tissue Surgery – February. Pathology of the Ear, Nose and Throat – June.

Applications and enquiries: Cheryl Overington, Secretary to the Dean, Institute of Laryngology and Otology, 330/332 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EE.

Institute of Neurology

Sandoz Foundation advanced lectures on clinical and experimental neurology. Each Wednesday evening throughout academic year.

Details: Institute Registrar, National Hospital, Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG, UK.

Institute of Ophthalmology

Regular courses in ophthalmology held throughout the year.

17/25 Cayton Street, London EC1 9AT, UK.

Institute of Orthopaedics

Professional Unit Pre-Operative Conferences – Mondays 11.00 a.m. at Middlesex Hospital and Thursdays 9.30 a.m. at Stanmore.

Professorial Unit Residents' Seminars/Conferences – Thursdays 8.00 a.m. at Stanmore.

Details: Miss A.M. Lucas, Postgraduate Secretary, Institute of Orthopaedics, The Middlesex Hospital, London W1. Tel: 071-380 9418.

Institute of Psychiatry

Programme of courses and lectures.

3rd International Conference on Women and Mental Health – Women and Community Care – a multidisciplinary approach 26/27 November 1992

Details: Mrs Leo Wilding, Conference Office, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, London SE5 8AG. Tel: 071-703 5411 ext 3170.

Institute of Urology

Short courses on aspects of urology and nephrology – throughout the year.

One year Diploma courses in urology and nephrology commencing September each year.

Advanced stone management course – held twice yearly. *Applications and enquiries: The Dean, Institute of Urology, 172–176 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JE, UK.*

Royal Postgraduate Medical School

Regular courses on advanced topics.

School Office, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith Hospital, Du Cane Road, London W12 0HS, UK.

RPMS Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Course in Obstetric Anaesthesia and Analgesia; 17–19 November 1992

Jointly with the Terence Higgins Trust: Support for families of women and children with HIV: 14 October 1992

Details and applications: Symposium Secretary, RPMS Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Queen Charlotte's Hospital and Chelsea Hospital, Goldhawk Road, London W6 0XG.

Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine

MRCP Part II. 5-day course for clinical examination. Monday 5 October to Friday 9 October 1992.

Monday 8 February to Friday 12 February 1993.

Details from: Dr Geraint James, Visiting Professor of Medicine, The Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, Pond Street, Hampstead, London NW3 2QG. Tel: 071 794 0500 ext 3931.

Royal College of Surgeons of England

Hunterian Lecture: Outpatient urological surgery: the impact of Flexible Fiberoptic Instruments. Mr C.G. Fowler, 12 October 1992, 5.30 p.m.

Details of these and all lectures and courses: Secretary, Royal College of Surgeons, 35/43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.

Birmingham Polytechnic

Course on helping children with serious illnesses, leading to Advanced Certificate in Paediatric Physiotherapy.
Information from: Department of Health Sciences, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, Birmingham Polytechnic, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2SU.

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

MSc, diploma and research degree courses in public health and tropical medicine.
Enquiries: The Registrar, LSHTM, Keppel Street, London WC1E 7HT.

Wound Management

The 2nd European Conference on Wound Management will take place on 21–23 October 1992 at the International Conference Centre, Harrogate, UK.
 The conference is aimed at all healthcare professionals concerned with Wound Management.
For more details contact Conference Office, Macmillan Magazines, 4 Little Essex Street, London WC2R 3LF. Tel: 071-836-6633 ext 2220.

Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

The second 'residential meeting' of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (to include the Annual General Meeting) and other European Societies of Tropical Medicine will be held at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, Scotland from Monday 5 to Wednesday 7 July 1993. Accommodation will be on the University campus or alternatively in hotels near the City centre. Full social programme including reception and banquet.
Further details available shortly from the Administrator, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Manson House, 26 Portland Place, London W1N 4EY. Tel: 071-580-2127 Fax: 071-436-1389.

Sixth International Conference on Behcet's Disease

To be held in Paris, France, June 30 to July 1, 1993
Information: B. Wechsler, M.D., Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital, 47/83 Bd de l'Hôpital, 75014 Paris Cedex 13, France.

3rd International Congress on Amino Acids, Peptides and Analogues

Crete, Greece, August 23–27th 1993
Details: Prof. Dr. G. Lubec, University of Vienna, Dept of Paediatrics, Whringer Gurtel 18, A 1090 Vienna Austria.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL TUTORS

The Association assists clinical tutors in their role as leaders in district medical education. Membership is open to University-appointed clinical and GP tutors. The Association arranges courses for the training and continuing professional development of clinical tutors and holds Winter and Summer Meetings for all members.
 6/7 October – Counselling Course, York.
 5 November – "The Pre-registration Year: Education v. Service" – Royal Society of Medicine.
 27 November – Winter Meeting, St Thomas' Hospital.
Information about the NACT and its activities can be obtained from The Secretariat, National Association of Clinical Tutors, 6 St Andrew's Place, London NW1 4LB. Tel: 071 935 5556.

EUROPEAN DOCTORS IN LONDON**European Medical Research Group**

The European Medical Research Group has been formed by the European Association of Internal Medicine with the support of the Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine, to provide a meeting place for professional and social contact among physicians in training, particularly those from continental Europe. Regular meetings are held at the Medical Society of London. An invited lecture is given, preceded by poster presentations and followed by a buffet supper.

Members of the Group are mailed regularly about the meetings. The next meeting will at in late November.

European research fellows and other visiting doctors who would like details of these meetings should write to:

**Dr D.R.J. Singer, c/o The Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine,
 6 St Andrew's Place, London NW1 4LB. Tel: 071 935 5556**

Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine**NACT Training Package**

This is an open learning study pack which aims to improve the teaching skills of clinical tutors and other tutors. Topics covered include junior doctors' educational skills and their provision, the funding and management of resources, managing change, and the operation of postgraduate centres. The development of the package was funded by the Department of Health and produced with the help of the Open University and the Joint Centre for Educational Research and Development in Medicine.

Further information about the NACT Training Package, which costs £50 including postage, can be obtained from the Secretariat, NACT, 6 St Andrew's Place, London NW1 4LB (Tel. 071 935 5556)