

Meeting Registry

approach has considerable appeal for chronic clinical situations. Theoretically, the by-consensus approach may seem impractical and may seem to impinge on the autonomy of the various disciplines. However, in actual practice, consensus is often easier to reach, and each discipline usually has considerable autonomy in carrying out its tasks. In thinking about legal and ethical responsibilities, there are obvious differences in these responsibilities, depending upon the way in which the team arrives at its key decisions.

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Nursing: Unions and Reimbursement

Dear Editors:

I am writing this in response to Karen O'Rourke's letter, published in the October 1981 issue, which states that nurses need to grow up and join a trade union. To do this is a giant step backwards. It is fairly obvious to everyone that nurses everywhere are very dissatisfied with being on payrolls of hospitals. The movement away from hospital payrolls to various health personnel employment agencies is widely evident. This is a positive step and a constructive solution but more must be achieved. Nurses need direct reimbursement for actual services provided. This is just becoming a reality, and nurses are now beginning to receive third party reimbursement. This method of payment is not without its faults, but so long as health care does not become "nationalized," nursing could be a lucrative profession.

Similar to Ms. O'Rourke, I also have concerns about conflicts of interest within the ANA, but to urge nurses to join trade unions such as the AFL-CIO is urging them to take giant leaps backward.

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Other Organizations

Medical-Legal Seminar, in Aspen, Colorado (March 15-19, 1982). Contact: Cyril H. Wecht, M.D., J.D., Pittsburgh Institute of Legal Medicine, 1519 Frick Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

Forensic Toxicology, in San Antonio, Texas (March 22-26, 1982). Contact: Medical School Continuing Education, University of Texas Health Science Center, 7703 Floyd Curl Dr., San Antonio, TX 78284.

Nurse Recruitment—Strategies for Success, in San Antonio, Texas (March 29-31, 1982). Contact: Aspen Systems, 1600 Research Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850.

Research on New Therapies: New Challenges, Practical Problems, at Harvard School of Public Health, Cambridge, Massachusetts (March 30-31, 1982). Contact: Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research, 15 Court Square, # 340, Boston, MA 02108.

National Council on the Aging Annual Meeting, in Washington, D.C. (March 31-April 4, 1982). Contact: NCG, 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024.

Managing Small Institutions, in Boston, Massachusetts (April 18-24, 1982). Contact: Executive Programs in Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health, 677 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115.

Institutional Review Boards and Their Institutions, at University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, Texas (April 22-23, 1982). Contact: Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research, 15 Court Square, # 340, Boston, MA 02108.

American Society for Pharmacy Law, in Las Vegas, Nevada (April 24-29, 1982). Contact: American Society for Pharmacy Law, U.S. Pharmacopieal Convention, 12601 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD 20852.

ASLM Conferences

Impaired Health Care Professionals: A Challenge to the Professions, co-sponsored by, among others, the Michigan Hospital Association, the Michigan State Medical Society, and the Michigan Nurses Association, at the Detroit Plaza Hotel, in Detroit, Michigan (March 5, 1982).

Health Care Labor Law, at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel in Houston, Texas (March 15, 1982) and, in cooperation with the Hospital Association of New York State, at the Vista International in New York City, New York (April 30, 1982).

Human Life Symposium: An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Concept of Person, co-sponsored by the Institute for the Interprofessional Study of Health Law, at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel in Houston, Texas (March 11-13, 1982).

Legal and Ethical Aspects of Health Care for Children, co-sponsored by, among others, the Association of Pediatric Oncology Nurses, the California Association of Catholic Hospitals, the California Hospital Association, the California Medical Association, the California Perinatal Association, the California Society of Healthcare Attorneys, and the California Society for Nursing Service Administrators, at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, California (April 1-2, 1982).

Medical Determinations in Workers' Compensation, at the Franklin Plaza in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (October 11-12, 1982) and in Seattle, Washington (November 1982).

Licensing and Credentialing of Health Care Providers, at the Capitol Hill Hyatt Regency in Washington, D.C. (October 4-5, 1982).

For more information or to register, please write or call: Conference Registrar, American Society of Law & Medicine, 765 Commonwealth Avenue, 16th floor, Boston, MA 02215—(617) 262-4990.