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# QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HEALTH CARE

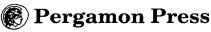
The Official Journal of the International Society for Quality Assurance in Health Care

#### Aims and Scope

The purpose of this journal is to make more widely available the results of quality assessment studies and quality assurance activities. The journal will publish papers in all disciplines related to the quality of health care, including health services research, health care evaluation, technology assessment, health economics, utilization review, cost containment, and nursing care evaluation, as well as aspects of clinical research related to quality of care.

QAHC will be of interest to physicians, nurses, politicians, quality assurance professionals, social workers, therapists, and administrators.

The journal will contain news of ISQA, including announcements of forthcoming courses, symposia, and congresses. As the official organ of the Society, it will serve as a forum for communication on Society activities.



#### Senior Editors

Evert Reerink, *The Netherlands* William F Jessee, *USA* Peter Reizenstein, *Sweden* Hannu Vuori, *Denmark* 

### Subscription Information

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# Join a growing society!

The International Society for Quality Assurance in Health Care is a private, non-profit making, nongovernmental, professional association. It was founded in 1985 to

 promote communication among members of the international QA community on all continents

promote the advancement of research in QA and cost containment

 ascertain the scientific reliability and validity of the results of health care evaluation and quality assessment studies

 encourage the use of standard terminology in QA and cost-containment

- promote a better understanding of the rational, effective, and efficient practice, organization, and administration of high-quality health care
- foster better communication about QA and costcontainment among health care professionals, administrators, economists, politicians and the public
- disseminate material on, and results of, QA and cost-containment activities

#### Why not become a member of ISQA?

Your active participation in this society will help promote effective quality assurance and cost containment activities and improve the quality of health care throughout the world. Details about membership can be obtained from Evert Reerink, ISQA Secretary, CBO, National Organisation of QA in Hospitals, PO Box 20064, 3502 LB Utrecht, The Netherlands, or from Pergamon Press.

Individual Members of ISQA get the journal Quality Assurance in Health Care free as part of their membership subscription.



The International Society For Quality Assurance in Health Care

# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT IN HEALTH CARE

## History and Purpose

In the modern medical world of rapidly diffusing technologies, the International Society of Technology Assessment in Health Care (ISTAHC) was organized to encourage research, education, cooperation and the exchange of information concerning the clinical and social implications of health care technologies, and to foster their optimal utilization. The term *technology* in this context includes the drugs, devices, and medical and surgical procedures utilized in health care as well as the varied organizational and supportive systems within which health care is provided.

Organized in May 1985, the Society's initial meeting was held in Copenhagen with 60 participants from 16 countries. Society membership is now over 400 with worldwide representation providing global perspectives on technological issues.

The Society is primarily concerned with emerging medical technologies as they are developed, produced, disseminated, applied and costed. These include:

safety and efficacy
cost and cost-effectiveness
ethics
quality of care

access to health care
appropriateness of application
legal and regulatory considerations
competing technologies

# Society Activities

To shed light on these important issues which, in turn, will foster and enhance the delivery of quality health care, the Society meets annually and also provides ongoing opportunies such as workshops, conferences and special reports that provide effective international communication and a vibrant exchange of ideas. This intellectual environment is intended to spawn collaborative research on a transnational basis.

# **Publications**

All ISTAHC members receive the official journal of the Society, the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care, published quarterly by Cambridge University Press, now in its 5th volume. Each issue of the journal provides not only essays on important themes, but also lively columns that give a global perspective on a range of technology-related subjects. This scholarly, peer-reviewed journal welcomes contributions from members and non-members alike, about technology and related health care subjects, including reports and reviews. Members will also receive a quarterly Newsletter.

# Membership Application

Membership in the Society is open to everyone who is concerned about the implications of health care technology and shares the Society's goals. Simply fill out this form, make your check out in the amount of US\$60.00 for 1989 dues and journal, payable to Cambridge University Press, and send to the ISTAHC Membership Office listed below.

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# International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care

## **Instructions for Contributors**

The editors welcome submissions of articles which deal with the wide range of topics related to technology assessment in health care – policy, practice, diffusion, economics, ethics, law, and social and cultural perspectives. Authors should send *three* copies of their manuscript and reserve one copy for their use in checking proofs. Articles must be in English. Spelling, capitalization, and punctuation must be consistent within each article and conform with the 13th Edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style* (University of Chicago Press). Articles and correspondence should be sent to: **Stanley J. Reiser**, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, P.O. Box 20708, Houston, Texas 77225, U.S.A.; or **Egon Jonsson**, The Karolinska Institute and the Swedish Council on Technology Assessment in Health Care, P.O. Box 16158, 103 24 Stockholm, *Sweden*.

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1. Jones, A. B., & Smith, J. K. Computer diagnosis and results. New York: Penta Publishers, 1978. Reference (Journal)

1. Jones, A. B., & Smith, J. K. The relationship between health needs, the hospital and the patient. Journal of Chronic Diseases, 1985, 32, 310-12.

### Reference (Article in edited work)

1. Jones, A. B., & Smith, J. K. The diagnostic process. In R. Brown & T. Wilson (eds.), New technology and its medical consequences, vol. 1. New York: Apple Publishers, 1972, 101-34.

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Michael Baum, King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, England John Bunker, Stanford University, U.S.A.

Alternative Means of Assessing Technology

David Eddy, Duke University, U.S.A.

### Assessing the Technology of Dentistry

Lars E. A. Folke, University of Lund, Sweden Paul Goldhaber, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, U.S.A.

### **The Technology of Prevention**

Felix F. Gutzwiller, University of Laussanne, Switzerland Jeffrey Koplan, Centers for Disease Control, U.S.A.

### **Technology and Disability**

Clyde Behney, Office of Technology Assessment, U.S.A. John Hutton, University of York, England

The Use and Abuse of Routine, Low Cost Technology

Johannes Vang, World Health Organization, Denmark

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Jerome Grossman, New England Medical Center Hospitals, U.S.A. Judith Kurland, Department of Health and Hospitals, Boston, U.S.A.

### Assessing the Technology of Physical Therapy

Margareta auf Klinteberg, Gnesta Primary Health Center, Sweden Nancy T. Watts, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, U.S.A.

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Miriam Orleans, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, U.S.A. Elina Hemminki, University of Helsinki, Finland

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## **Genetic Technology and Health Care**

Frederick C. Robbins, Case Western Reserve University, U.S.A.

### The Person-Machine Relationship in Health Care

Yadin David, Texas Children's Hospital, U.S.A.

### The Assessment of Psychiatry

Lawrence R. Tancredi, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, U.S.A.

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