

CHANGE OF EDITORSHIP AND EDITORIAL ADDRESS
FOR *LEPROSY REVIEW*, 1988

The present Editor retires at the end of September 1988 and the Editorship of this Journal will be taken over by Professor J L Turk.

From 1 August 1988 onwards, all original manuscripts and other material for publication should be sent to Professor J L Turk, Editor, *Leprosy Review*, LEPRA, Fairfax House, Causton Road, Colchester CO1 1PU, England and *not* to Oxford. The telephone number of the Colchester office is 0206 (the UK code for Colchester) 562286.

TEACHING MATERIALS AND SERVICES

Essential Drugs Monitor; WHO

The *Essential Drugs Monitor* is a newsletter produced and distributed by the WHO Action Programme on Essential Drugs and Vaccines and by the Division of Public Information and Education for Health. Since the Action Programme was launched in 1981, more than 100 countries have either drawn up essential drugs lists or started projects in support of primary health care, providing reliable essential drugs and vaccines which: meet people's common health needs; have significant therapeutic value; are acceptably safe; and offer satisfactory value for money.

All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, *Essential Drugs Monitor*, World Health Organization, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

Number 5, 1987 includes a note on the front page of a generous grant from the Dutch: 'The Netherlands Special Development Cooperation Programme has made a grant of more than US \$10 million to the Action Programme. Out of this amount, about 95% will be used over the next 3 years to reinforce national essential drug policies in Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Sudan and Yemen Arab Republic. The rest will be used for parts of WHO's Revised Drug Strategy (see *Monitor 3-1987*).'

Page 2 describes the Uganda Essential Drugs Manual: 'First Edition, Ministry of Health, Republic of Uganda, 1986. For health workers dispensing from the Ministry's Essential Drugs Kit (23 drugs for PHC). Introduces the ED concept, the kit and programme management. Other chapters cover receiving and storing drugs, healing without drugs, problem-solving, and treatment and prevention. In English. Copiously illustrated. Available from: Ministry of Health, Kampala, Uganda.'

Also on page 2 the following is described: *Price Indicator on International Low-Price Sources for Essential Drugs*, Third Edition, Medico International, 1987. Pocket guide subtitled 'Rational Drug Therapy in Facts and Comparisons', giving dollar prices for 9 different sources for essential drugs on WHO's Model List. This edition includes an increased range of generic suppliers. Lists of drugs given in English only, but introduction and notes in French and Spanish also. Available from: Medico International, Hanauer Landstrasse 147-149, D-6000 Frankfurt am Main, Federal Republic of Germany, or from the Action Programme.

On page 6 there is an important note for those in leprosy and tuberculosis who may have doubts about the quality and stated quantity of rifampicin in capsules from 'low-price' sources: 'Certification Scheme on the Quality of Pharmaceutical Products Moving in International Commerce, WHO, 1985. In English, French and Spanish. Contains the WHO recommendations on ensuring the quality of drugs in international commerce.'

Finally, there is encouraging news from Thailand: Thailand is on target, or nearly so, in 5 major areas of its National Drug Policy. A WHO essential drugs review team, visiting in 1986, was impressed by what had been achieved in 5 years through coordinated efforts by government departments, especially the Food and Drug Administration.

Availability of drugs. By 1986, half of all villages (24,000 out of 50,000) in Thailand had Drug and Medical Products Funds (drug cooperatives) providing primary health care drugs.

Essential Drugs Monitor is probably essential reading for those responsible for leprosy (and tuberculosis) control. Are we paying enough attention to the absolutely regular supply of all the drugs needed for the treatment of leprosy in adult and child dosage? *Editor*.

Journal of Compliance Health Care, USA

The Journal provides a central source of knowledge for confronting the pervasive problems caused by noncompliance, as it affects patients' quality of life, the cost and effectiveness of health care, and the morale and the malpractice concerns of service providers.

Contributions are encouraged from the fields of medicine, nursing, psychology, public health, dentistry, rehabilitation, nutrition, pharmacology, social work, medical sociology and anthropology, law, and management and administration.

Topics to be covered include: disease and regimen factors, identification of patient and provider variables, and facilitating and blocking variables in attaining compliance; the clinical roles of health care providers in preventing, monitoring, and reducing patient noncompliance, health planning, fiscal analyses, and other administrative and policy decisions as these affect compliance responses. The Journal will also feature book reviews, information on forthcoming workshops and conventions, position openings, job and training situations wanted, letters to the editor, and resources and requests for materials, information, and research.

We have just received the inaugural issue: Volume 1, Number 1, Spring 1986, and take this opportunity to wish this new journal every success. The contents list includes an article on an intervention to improve compliance to year-long isoniazid (INAH) therapy for tuberculosis and we look forward to the possibility that future issues of this journal will address the matter of compliance to dapson, clofazimine and rifampicin in leprosy. Editorial office: Dr Raymond A Ulmer, Editor in Chief, The Journal of Compliance and Health Care, The Noncompliance Institute of Los Angeles, 1888 Century Park East, Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 900067, USA.