1979 Stroke Conference
To Meet Feb. in Phoenix

The 4th International Joint Stroke Conference has scheduled its 1979 meeting for the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona on February 8-10. The deadline for submission of abstracts is Sept. 1, 1978.

The Conference, which has evolved into one of the more important scientific sessions devoted to advances in stroke research, is sponsored by the American Heart Association Stroke Council, the Cerebrovascular Surgery Section of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Canadian Stroke Society of the Canadian Heart Foundation and the Society for Vascular Surgery.

At the third session, held in New Orleans, some 400 physicians and research workers attended as part of the effort to bring attention to advances in stroke study, treatment and prevention.

Robert G. Siekert, M.D. of Rochester, Minn, will again be Chairman of the Sessions. Inquiries may be made to Postgraduate Programs, American Heart Association, 7320 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231.

Clerkships in CBVD Study;
Students Asked to Apply

The American Heart Association Stroke Council will again offer clerkships and a stipend for 3 months study in institutions where there is clinical training in stroke. The aim is to encourage student interest in cerebrovascular disease.

Application forms, due back by Sept. 5, may be obtained from Scientific Affairs, 7320 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231.

Students must devote a consecutive 3-month period to their projects. Upon completion of the work, the student will be entitled to a 2-year complimentary subscription to STROKE, a Journal of Cerebral Circulation, an official publication of AHA.

AHA 1977 Annual Report
Cites HBP and CPR Work

New emphasis on high blood pressure detection and cardiopulmonary resuscitation in 1977 is reflected in the Annual Report of the American Heart Association now available. The report also notes that AHA and its 55 affiliates invested more than $20 million in research in 1977.

Over 2½ million persons were tested for blood pressure as the AHA made detection and treatment of this disease a major emphasis in public education. More than 1½ million persons were trained in CPR, a heart association program. It is estimated that 12 million persons have taken such courses since they were offered and another 51 million are believed to want such training.

Other advances in research, prevention and treatment in myocardial infarction, stroke, and rheumatic heart disease, are also noted in the report. Statistics indicate that since 1940 there has been a 12% decline in deaths from heart disease, an 80% decline in deaths from rheumatic fever, an 82% decline in deaths from hypertensive disease and a 47% decline in deaths from stroke.

CV Epidemiology Seminar
Offered Aug. 20–Sept. 1

The Fourth U.S. Seminar on the Epidemiology and Prevention of Cardiovascular Diseases will be held Aug. 20–Sept. 1 at Lake Tahoe, California. It is sponsored by the American Heart Association Council on Epidemiology and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Approximately 7 faculty and 25 fellows will take part in the seminar designed to provide an intensive introduction to epidemiology for professionals planning research or academic careers in this field. Candidates must be at the postdoctoral level with some residency training or its equivalent.

Inquiries may be directed to Darwin R. Labarthe, M.D., Ph.D., Seminar Director, School of Public Health, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Box 20186, Houston, TX 77025.

Research Fund Requests
Deadlines July, October

Applications for American Heart Association research support for fiscal 1979-80 have been invited by AHA's Research Division.

The final date for submitting Established Investigatorship and British-American Research Fellowship applications is July 1, 1978 (for activation the following July or soon thereafter). Grant-in-Aid applications are due October 1, 1978 (for activation the following July or soon thereafter).

Established Investigatorships are 5-year awards to scientists usually under 40 years of age who have advanced to independent research. British-American Research Fellowships are one-year training awards to U.S. citizens, under 35, who seek additional research training in a British institution.

Grants-in-Aid support research related to the cardiovascular area. Requests are considered from all basic disciplines as well as from those working in epidemiological and clinical investigations.

Applications may be obtained from the Research Division, AHA, 7320 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231.
Thrombosis Group to Meet With Scientific Sessions

The Third National Conference on Thrombosis and Hemostasis, sponsored by the American Heart Association Council on Thrombosis, will meet Nov. 13-15 in Dallas, TX in conjunction with the 51st Annual Scientific Sessions of AHA.

The forum, held on alternate years, has called for abstracts which, like those for the Scientific Sessions, are due May 19 at the Heart Association National Headquarters (7320 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231). Application forms may be obtained from AHA.

AHA Withholds Support For Coin HBP Machines

The American Heart Association has expressed skepticism about the value of coin-operated blood pressure machines in a statement from the Association's Steering Committee for Medical and Community Program.

The Association, in withholding support of such machines, said that "no evaluations of these devices under field conditions have been completed. The reliability and durability of coin-operated machines are in doubt. Providing a blood pressure reading to a person without counseling about its meaning and prearranged referral system is of little value and may, in some instances, be undesirable."

AHA to Prepare Database For Arrhythmia Detectors

The American Heart Association Committee on Electrocardiography has been awarded a contract by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to develop a database for the evaluation of automatic ventricular arrhythmia detectors.

The database will consist of 160 digital tapes containing electrocardiograms with representative ventricular arrhythmias. Each tape will contain a 3-hour record of which the last half-hour is annotated on a beat-by-beat basis.

Annotation will be done by a Selection Committee consisting of G. Charles Oliver, M.D., principal investigator, Robert Arzbachere, Ph.D., J. Thomas Bigger, Jr., M.D., Nancy Flowers, M.D., and Susan Knoebel, M.D. Washington University in St. Louis will serve as a coordinating center.

NINCDS Notes . . .

- An International Conference on Reye’s Syndrome will be held June 22-23 at the Hotel Nova Scotian in Halifax. The Conference was called after an increase in Reye’s syndrome in children following the 1974 and 1977 outbreaks of influenza type B. The meeting is sponsored by Dalhousie University, Isak Walton Killam Hospital for Children, Halifax, and NINCDS.

- The objective of the NINCDS Teacher-Investigator Award has been changed to emphasize clinical research areas. Awards will be for 3 years with possible extension to 5. Clinical and basic scientists may apply for Individual National Research Service Awards for postdoctoral research training.

- Seven panels of scientists are developing a national research plan for neurological and communicative disorders. In addition, two task forces — on basic neural science research and on epidemiology — will provide specialized information. Comments and suggestions are invited by Dr. George C. Murray, Director, Office of Program Planning and Evaluation, NINCDS.

- “Neurology Manpower,” one of a series of 5 reports surveying manpower resources, is now available from NINCDS. It assesses needs in patient care, research, and education.

- Identical and non-identical twins, one or both of whom have Parkinson’s disease, are being sought for participation in a study on the etiology of the disease. Information should go to Drs. R. Duvoisin, R. Eldridge or D. B. Calne at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, New York City, or NINCDS.

- The M.G.F. Fuortes Memorial Trust Fund has been established at NINCDS to support students attending the International School of Biophysics in Erice, Italy. Dr. Fuortes, former Chief of the Laboratory of Neurophysiology, NINCDS, died in 1977.

- The FDA Neurologic Drugs Advisory Committee has recommended that ACTH be approved for use in acute exacerbations of MS. The Committee found no evidence that action of ACTH differs from that of other corticosteroids in MS treatment. Currently, hospitalization for ACTH administration for MS is not reimbursable by Medicare, Medicaid or insurance carriers. Another corticosteroid, dexamethasone, used for control of cerebral edema, will be reviewed by FDA at the request of the two companies producing the drug.

- Applications for institutional grants for research training in central nervous system regeneration or plasticity in response to injury are being invited by the Stroke and Trauma program of NINCDS. Grant applications are also invited for training in research on cerebrovascular disorders, head and spinal cord injury or coma.

AHA Briefs . . .

- The Annual Resident Award for the best paper done in training was presented to Dr. Robert F. Spetzler, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery at Case Western Reserve University, at the annual meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. His subject was “ Alterations in Blood Flow Through an Experimental Cerebral Arteriovenous Fistula.”

- Current Concepts for Cerebrovascular Disease for May/June is “Neurological Syndromes after Cardiac Arrest” by John J. Caronna, M.D. and Seth Finklestein, M.D. Modern Concepts of Cardiovascular Disease for May is “Reversibility of Latent Atherosclerosis” by David H. Blankenhorn. Both publications are distributed by Heart Association affiliates.

- Over 300 abstracts have been submitted to the 13th World Congress on Diseases of the Chest for its meeting July 2-7 in Kyoto, Japan. The Congress is sponsored by the International Academy of Chest Physicians and Surgeons, affiliated with the American College of Chest Physicians.

- The Fondation de Physiopathologie Professeur Lucien Dautrebande of Belgium, has invited papers to compete for
its 1979 prize of 700,000 Belgian francs on human or animal clinical physiopathology. Inquiries may be sent to the Foundation at 35 chaussée de Liege, 5200 Huy, Belgium.

- McGill University of Montreal is seeking nominees for the first Louis and Artur Lucian Award for research in circulatory diseases. An outstanding scientific investigator will be named visiting professor at the university 1978/9 with an honorarium of up to $30,000 plus $10,000 laboratory expenses. Selection will be made by an international committee headed by Dr. R.F. Patrick Cronin, until recently dean of medicine.

Meetings Calendar 1978


Aug. 20-Sept. 1: 4th U.S. Seminar on Epidemiology and CVD Prevention. Lake Tahoe, CA. Sponsored by AHA Council on Epidemiology and NHLBI. Darwin R. Labarth, M.D., director. Inquiries: Dr. Labarthe, U. of Texas Health Science Center, Box 20186, Houston, TX 77025.


Sept. 24-29: 8th International Congress of International Society of Neuropathology. Shoreham-Americana Hotel, Washington, DC. Inquiries: H. de Forest Webster, M.D., Bldg. 36, Room 4D-04, NIH, Bethesda, MD 20014.


Jeffery L. Barker, M.D., program chairman. Inquiries: Dr. Barker, Neuropathology Lab., NINCDS, NIH, Bldg. 36, Bethesda, MD 20014.

Nov. 13-16: 51st Annual Scientific Sessions, American Heart Association. Dallas, TX. Inquiries: Scientific Sessions Section, AHA, 7320 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231.


Abroad 1978


July 8-15: 34th Brazilian Congress of Cardiology. Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Inquiries: Rua Fernandes Tourinho, 471 Funcionarios, Belo Horizonte, 30.000 Minas Gerais, Brazil.


July 9-14: 11th International Congress Neuro-Psychopharmacology. Vienna. Inquiries: Interconvention, PO Box A-1095, Vienna, Austria.


Sept. 3-8: 7th International Congress of Transplantation Society. Rome. Inquiries: Prof. R. Cortesi, Sec. Gen., Cattedra di Chirurgia Sperimentale, Universita Politecnico Umberto 1, 00161 Rome, Italy.

Sept. 5-8: 5th International Congress on Electrocardiology. Glasgow. Inquiries: Secretariat, University Dept. of Medical Cardiology, Royal Infirmary, Glasgow G4 OSF, Scotland.


Sept. 13-15: Annual Scientific Meeting, Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. Wentworth Hotel, Sydney, Australia. Inquiries: Prof. J. D. Hunter, P.O. Box 84, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010, Australia.

Sept. 13-15: Third International Symposium on Spontaneously...


Sept. 25-27: International Symposium on Prophylactic Approach to Hypertensive Diseases. Izumo, Japan. Inquiries: Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Kyoto U., Sakyoku, Kyoto, Japan 606.

Sept. 27-30: 9th Salzburger Conference on Cerebral Vascular Disease. Salzburg, Austria. Inquiries: Prof. Dr. H. Lechner, Landeskrankenhaus, Auenbruggerplatz 22, A-8036 Graz, Austria.


