

**FYI.**

For Your Information

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Consumer Commission Conferences

The Consumer Commission on the Accreditation of Health Services, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, presented the second and third in a series of four conferences on September 16 and October 21. The September conference focused on the Impact of Medical Technology on Sickness and Death. Gilbert Hollander, Chairman of the HSA Board, moderated the morning session. HSA Board members and staff participated in afternoon workshops and panels which included two simulations of actual project review meetings. Oscar Rosenfeld, Chairman of the HSA Plan Development/Implementation Committee, chaired the review of a proposed CT Scanner, while Sara Frierson, member of Manhattan District Board "G," chaired the review on an Out-of-Hospital Child-Bearing Center.

The Economics of Medical Technology was the theme of the October conference. Morning sessions included presentations on The Social Cost of Medical Technology; Developing New Technologies and The Economic Implications of Health Planning. Workshop presentations later in the day again included two simulations of actual HSA project reviews in which HSA Board and staff members participated. David W. Smith, J.D., HSA Board member, chaired the review on the Burn Unit proposal, while Arnold Haber, HSA staff, chaired the review on the Cytogenetic Laboratory.

The fourth and last conference, entitled "The Future of Medical Technology," was held on Saturday, November 18th. The morning session, moderated by John L.S. Holloman,

M.D., former President of the Health and Hospitals Corporation, covered the areas of Preventive Health Strategies in a Technological Age, Future Consumer Action for Health, and the Case for Public Ownership of Technology.

HSA staff participated in afternoon workshops. Deborah Nagin, health planner, moderated the panel on Making the Workplace Safe, with William H. White, Assistant Director in charge of Brooklyn, participating in the discussion, Allan Goldstein, HSA Medical Director, served as a member of the panel on Regionalization.

All of the conferences were well attended and participants were enthusiastic on the quality of the presentations and the information received. ■