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Information Interface

Himmelfarb Library
George Washington University
Medical Center

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1989 MESH AVAILABLE FROM NTIS

The 1989 edition of the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) list is now available for purchase. The Medical Subject Headings list provides online searchers with subject access to the MEDLINE database. Published in three parts, the list is revised each year by the staff of the National Library of Medicine to reflect changes in health care terminology. All three parts of MeSH are recommended for purchase by searchers. Copies of MeSH may be ordered directly from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by calling (703) 487-4650. Major credit cards are accepted. Mail orders should be directed to the following address: NTIS, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161. Complete ordering information is listed below.

| ORDER NUMBER | PUBLICATION TITLE | PRICE |
|-----------------|---|---------|
| PB89-100010/GBB | Medical Subject Headings, Annotated Alphabetic List, 1989 | \$28.50 |
| PB89-100028/GBB | Medical Subject Headings, Tree Structures, 1989 | \$23.00 |
| PB89-100036/GBB | Permuted MeSH, 1989 | \$23.00 |

HOSPITAL MORTALITY INFORMATION

In 1986, Hospital X admitted 59 Medicare patients for **SEVERE ACUTE HEART DISEASE**. The actual mortality rate/percent was 53. The range of predicted mortality rate/percent is 29-55.

This information is found in: **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Health Care Financing Administration. Medicare Hospital Mortality Information. 1986. U.S. Government Printing Office. Washington, D.C. (RA 407.3.M48 1986 shelved in Reference Section 6)**

Destined to be a source of much controversy, this publication's aim is to answer the question "What is the actual death rate for each hospital compared to what we know of the characteristics of patients admitted?"

This multi-volume publication is arranged alphabetically by state. Each entry includes the overall Medicare patient mortality for 16 diagnostic categories, such as cancer, stroke, GE catastrophes, renal disease, orthopedics; the number of Medicare patients; the actual mortality rate and the range of predicted mortality given the mix of patients.

The publisher stresses that this information should not be used to make qualitative decisions concerning hospitals, but should rather be used to "contribute to assessment of and improvement in the effectiveness of medical services."

Each hospital was given an advance copy of the information and given the opportunity to make comments, which also appear in the publication. One such comment concerned the caution needed when dealing with raw data being offered with no explanation.

Readers should be aware that information covered in this publication is limited to a single component of a hospital's overall performance, "post admission mortality for Medicare beneficiaries."

Possible audiences for the book are: "peer review organizations, hospital administrators, physicians and researchers."

The Information Interface is Published 6 times a year by the Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, George Washington University Medical Center, 2300 Eye Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Editor: Barbara Collins; Assistant Editor: Dana Powell-Givens; Faculty Publications Editor: Anne Linton; Contributions to this issue: Library Staff.

SILVER PLATTER MEDLINE HERE TO STAY!

Since early last spring, the Himmelfarb Library has been participating in the National Library of Medicine's evaluation of the MEDLINE database in compact disc format by testing the SilverPlatter compact disk version of MEDLINE. While the evaluation project ends September 30th, the SilverPlatter compact disk version of MEDLINE will remain permanently in the Library!

Patron response to this self-service station for searching MEDLINE has been so favorable that the Library has begun subscribing to this important research tool. The entire MEDLINE database back to 1985 will continue to be offered with monthly updates to the system. The workstation will remain available whenever the Library is open. To request an informal demonstration of the SilverPlatter compact disc version of MEDLINE or for additional information, contact Anne Linton, Online Coordinator, at ext. 48478.

FREE COMPUTER SEARCHES

Visit the Hospital Reading Room any Tuesday afternoon from 2 - 4 p.m. during the month of October for a free search on the CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature) database. This database indexes periodical literature for nurses, allied health professionals, students, and others interested in health care issues.

At the same time, learn to use NurseSearch, a floppy disk system which contains a subset of the CINAHL files.

Take advantage of this free search for a research project, term paper, or a patient care need. For more information about CINAHL or NurseSearch, contact Barbara Collins, Hospital Liason Librarian, at ext. 41824.

1987 FACULTY PUBLICATIONS COMPILED

Each issue of the Information Interface contains a list of recent publications authored by Medical Center faculty and staff. A list of those books and articles published in 1987 has been cumulated into a single volume entitled Publications of the Faculty of the George Washington University Medical Center.

This volume is available at the Reference Desk of the Library. Interested individuals are welcome to review and photocopy it. References are listed alphabetically by author within each Medical Center department and should be of special interest to individuals preparing grant applications or needing to review Medical Center research interests. For further information, contact Anne Linton, Online Coordinator, at ext. 48478.

**PLACE YOUR INFORMATION
REQUESTS THROUGH MAILMAN!**

Many Himmelfarb patrons simply stop by the Reference Desk when they need to verify a reference or request an online search. Others telephone 994-2850, drop a note in campus mail, or leave a message on the answering machine after hours. Now you can send the Reference staff a message via MailMan, the Medical Center's electronic mail system, at any time of the night or day!

If you are a current user of the Himmelfarb Automated Library, just select the MM/MailMan option from the opening menu and prepare to send your message as usual. At the prompt "send to:," type REF. This is the address of the Reference Desk's electronic mailbox. Your information request will be automatically transmitted to the Reference Desk. The mailbox is checked daily and all requests are handled promptly.

If you are requesting an online search, we will be happy to forward your search results to you electronically via MailMan. Your search results will be sent in standard ASCII format to your own electronic mailbox for easy access at your convenience. If you are not yet a user of the Himmelfarb Automated Library, contact Laurie Thompson, Assistant Director, at ext. 42853, for an information packet. For information on using MailMan, contact the Reference Desk at ext. 42850 or electronic mailbox REF.

**MICROCOMPUTER CLASSES: DOS AND
WORDPERFECT**

Intro to Microcomputers & MS-DOS
Himmelfarb Library is offering a two-hour introductory class to IBM or IBM-compatible microcomputers. The course, called Introduction to Microcomputers & MS-DOS, covers basic computer terminology and concepts including practice in using essential DOS commands. DOS is an acronym for Disk Operating System, the command language of IBM or IBM-compatible microcomputers. This course is designed for those who have never used a microcomputer as a prerequisite to registering for other Himmelfarb Library microcomputer classes.

Introduction to Microcomputers & MS-DOS classes will be offered on October 10 from 2-4 p.m.; on November 1 from 9-11 a.m.; and on December 1 from 2-4 p.m. in Room B103. You need to register for only one session to complete the class. The course is free for GWUMC students, but faculty and staff must pay a registration fee of \$15.00 to attend. To register for this class or for more information, call the Reference Desk at 994-2850.

Introduction to Wordperfect
Introduction to WordPerfect acquaints participants with the basics of WordPerfect, a popular word-processing program. This course is offered in Room B103 on: October 14 from 2-4 p.m. November 2 from 10-12 a.m. and December 6 from 2-4 p.m. You need to register for only one session to complete the class. This course is free for GWUMC students, but faculty and staff must pay a \$15.00 registration fee to attend. To register, call the Reference Desk at 994-2850.

NEW STAFF

Clifford Urr is the new Microcomputer Librarian. Cliff will be teaching microcomputer classes, as well as overseeing the Microcomputer Lab software and hardware. Look for Cliff in the Microcomputer Lab from 2-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Patricia Martin has been appointed as Acquisitions Assistant in the Collection Development Department. She is a graduate of Clemson University, and is a graduate student in Public Policy with a concentration in Women's Studies.



GWUMC Faculty Publications

Compiled by The Himmelfarb Library

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Wilcox G L; Laws E R Jr: New
Xenograft Model for Assessing
Experimental Therapy of Central
Nervous System Tumors Human
Glioblastoma in the Intrathecal
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Neurosurgery (Baltimore) 1988;
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Mucus in the Detection of Colon
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diagnostic radiology 10:1-6,
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Septic Shock. Joint Meeting of
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and the Society for Pediatric
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May 2-5, 1988; Pediatr Res. 23
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Fiber or Bile Sequestrant
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Meeting, Toronto, Ontario,
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North Am: 114.

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The 46-Kda Nucleoside
Triphosphatase of Rat Liver
Nuclear Scaffold Represents the
Amino-Terminal Portion of
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LIBRARY HOURS

2nd Year INTEGRATED EXAM SCHEDULE

| | | Library | BAVSC |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Friday, | Nov. 18 | 7:30 am - midnight | 7:30 am - 10:00 pm |
| Saturday, | Nov. 19 | 9:00 am - midnight | 10:00 am - 10:00 pm |
| Sunday | Nov. 20 | 9:00 am - midnight | 10:00 am - 10:00 pm |

THANKSGIVING

| | | Library | BAVSC |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wednesday, | Nov. 23 | 7:30 am - 6:00 pm | 7:30 am - 6:00 pm |
| Thursday, | Nov. 24 | -----CLOSED----- | -----CLOSED----- |
| Friday, | Nov. 25 | -----CLOSED----- | -----CLOSED----- |
| Saturday, | Nov. 26 | 10:00 am - 6:00 pm | 10:00 am - 6:00 pm |
| Sunday, | Nov. 27 | 10:00 am - midnight | 10:00 am -10:00 pm |

INFORMATION INTERFACE

Paul Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library
The George Washington University
2300 Eye St., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037