

February 16, 1966

MEMO TO: Drs. DeMaria, Glenn, Hine, Hall, Sidbury, Stone, Wallace,
Jacobansky, Jennings

Please mark these dates on your calendar for future meetings
of the Ad Hoc Committee to Explore Training of Physicians' Assistants
at Duke:

Wednesday, March 2, 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 16, 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 30, 5:00 p.m. - *Belante*

We will meet each time in Room 1548 Clinical Research Building,
and no other notices will be sent to you about these meetings.

Minutes of February 16, 1966 meeting:

Dr. Stead presented the general background of the need for competent help to the physician and the nurse and why the need has arisen. In our present system, the physician finds himself having to make a tremendous investment in time and effort for re-training his help. This tremendous cost can no longer be afforded and, in order to practice medicine and care for patients, we must find competent help.

He would hope to have trained a corps of physician-assistants responsible for everything having to do with patient care except for that portion which only the physician can do. He asked the committee to consider these points:

1. how much of his plan for this personnel-training is practical and how much is possible?
2. what sort of certification as to his competence can we give the trainee? The certification must have the backing of Duke medical school and Duke Hospital.
3. the fact must be borne in mind that, when the trainee leaves Duke and goes out to work with a physician in practice, he may well need to return to Duke in order to learn a skill which his physician needs him to have and which has not been included in his original training.

Dr. Anlyan addressed the committee, welcoming the enthusiasm about the program on the part of Dr. Stead and on the part of people around the country. The fact that this program has now gained attention on the national scene means that we must proceed toward reaching certain decisions about it. He asked the committee to present to him their decision on these questions:

1. what educational and social background should the trainee have?
2. in what areas can he be trained?
3. in what areas could he function?
4. what should be the content of the training program?
5. how long should he train?
6. how much field experience should the trainee have?
7. what about the legal responsibility and liability?

Dr. Hine agreed that the need for such a person was acute. He sees as the prominent danger of the training program that of making the choice of whom to train.

Dr. Glenn considers the program an excellent idea. He feels that one of the first things to be decided is how much responsibility can be given to the trainee in the physical management of a patient. He believes, too, that the liability problem is most pertinent and needs careful attention.

Dr. DeMaria expressed the view that selection of the trainee is most important, and that the high-quality end product we want depends on this selection. He feels that administration must accept the fact that an employee must be paid on the basis of his performance.

Dr. Hall feels that the training of these folk must be in depth. Dr. Wallace considers the important considerations to be: what kind of person do you want to train, and what are you going to teach him.

At our next meeting, Mr. Mau will review the programs now in progress and relate his methods in choosing the present trainees. At least some of the trainees will be present for a portion of the meeting for questions.


Eugene A. Stead, Jr. M.D.

Duke University Medical Center

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
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February 1, 1966

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Dr. Andrew Wallace
Dr. William DeMaria
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Dr. Kenneth D. Hall
✓ Dean Ann M. Jacobansky
Mr. Ralph E. Jennings
RV Mrs. Virginia Stone
Dr. Frederick Hine
Mr. James C. Mau
Duke University Medical Center

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

We would appreciate it very much if you could serve as an ad hoc committee to explore the possible types of models of physicians' assistants who may be trained in this Medical Center. In particular, it would be important to consider the types of jobs that can be performed by such individuals under the direction of physicians, their educational background requirements, the scope and responsibilities of their activities, etc.

We have asked Doctor Stead to serve as chairman for the group. Charlie Frenzel and I would very much like to meet with you at the initial committee meeting to outline the charges to this committee in a little greater detail. We are also asking Jim Mau to serve as a recording secretary for the group. I earnestly hope that you can accept this important committee assignment.

With every good wish,

Sincerely yours,

Bill

William G. Anlyan, M.D.

WGA:af
cc: Dr. Barnes Woodhall
Mr. Charles H. Frenzel