

Editor's Notes

In This Issue

Many of the articles in this issue of *Education for Health* deal with the important relationship between education and practice. In this regard I'm thinking of the articles by Sturmberg *et al.*, Chur-Hansen and Koopowitz, and that of Pearson *et al.* This is an important topic and one that in reading these articles will enhance your knowledge. The Sturmberg article addresses the rural teaching of medical students, and the Pearson article addresses hospital-based interns. Chur-Hansen and Koopowitz deal with the teaching of medical students in their first year about psychosocial and psychiatric concepts.

In another very interesting article by Lycke, the problem-based learning approach of a Norwegian medical school is addressed from the viewpoints of both the psychology of learning and the sociology of learning. In that article we learn about a very appropriate use of qualitative research. The reader will also find very interesting the article by Van Berkel and Wolfhagen about the Dutch approach to maintaining quality in higher education. In this article several definitions of "quality" are given.

What does a collaboration do? That's the question answered in Oman's piece on the Tropical Triangle. How do you take advantage of the community in education of health professionals? That question is answered by Young *et al.* with regard to family practice residents and medical students in an approach called "Chat and Chew".

This issue also includes two Position Papers, one by Guilbert and the other by Cox. Guilbert wonders why we remain confused over the meanings of knowledge, skills, and attitudes, and Cox puts forward the notion that there are tradeoffs for the patient when it comes to the specialization of modern medicine. In the Brief Communications section the reader will learn about the important topics of communications (Arthur *et al.*), bioscience ethics (Van Rooy & Pollard), and about an effort to compare two approaches to early clinical exposure (Abramovitch *et al.*).

In a Letter to the Editor you'll learn briefly about using multimedia in interactive lectures.

And, of course, there are the sections of the journal that are familiar to you.

They are Making a Difference (this time we highlight the contributions of The Network's chairman, Gerard Majoor), Community Voices (which was

initiated in the last issue), Book Reviews, Reports and Announcements, From the Literature (this time introducing a new feature called "In the News" written by one of our associate editors, Jan van Dalen), and the International Diary.

Hope you get as much out of the readings as I have.

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