From The Editor’s Desk
By Theodore E. Plucinski, M.D.

As the world around us changes, so does Insurance Medicine.

We are currently in the process of redesigning the publication by taking advantage of the word processing computer system now available to us. This being the first issue of the tenth volume makes it particularly appropriate that changes are being made at this time.

Except possibly for the cover design, we will experiment with the format and contents until we are satisfied with the publication. As always, your opinions, whether they are positive or negative, will be very helpful.

Recently I reviewed some earlier issues of Insurance Medicine. In the first issue, November 1969, I was particularly impressed by the late Dr. Sexton’s perceptive message. As the President of ALIMDA, his appeal to the membership for a successful newsletter is more applicable today than when he said, “If this newsletter is to succeed, we must all take an active part in reporting items of interest as they occur. We cannot expect the Editor to be the sole news gathering agent for such a far flung membership. I strongly urge each of you to accept the responsibility of local correspondent.” “There are several regional associations of Medical Directors that meet during the year and discuss topics of current importance. It would be most helpful if each association would designate one of their members to report to the Editor the pertinent information disclosed at these meetings. Some of you may be working on a project or study that would be of interest to others, or may have some observation that could stimulate comment from your colleagues. All such ideas would be welcomed by your Editor. We should strive to make his job one of difficult selection, rather than a tiresome search for material to include in each edition. By this means, we can assure a successful and interesting paper.”

A very strong appeal from a former leader of not only ALIMDA, but also the insurance industry.

Calendar of Events

April 11, 1979
Society of Insurance Medical Directors of Massachusetts
13th Seminar
Moderator: Ferris J. Siber, M.D.
Panel: “Problems in Electrocardiography”
Guest Speakers: Frank Pitkin, M.D. & Garo Garabedian, M.D.
Place: The Prudential Building, Boston, MA
For Information Contact: Dr. Ferris Siber, New England Mutual
AME CME Credit: 2 hours.

April 22-28, 1979
Board of Life Insurance Medicine
“Continuing Education in Life & Health Ins. Medicine Seminar”
Place: Lake of the Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri
For Information Contact: Dr. Brian McCracken, National Life Ins. Co.
AME CME Credit: 40 hours.

May 9-11, 1979
CLIMOA
The 34th Annual Meeting
Place: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
For Information Contact: Dr. Robert Beamish, Great West Life Assurance Company

June 24-27, 1979
ACLI - Medical Section Annual Meeting
Place: The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV
For Information Contact: Dr. H.C. Bates, Jr., Shenandoah Life Ins. Co.

September 5, 1979
Society of Insurance Medical Directors of Massachusetts
14th Seminar
“Non-Medical Aspects of Risk Appraisal - Part 2”
Place: The Prudential Building, Boston, MA
For Information Contact: Dr. Ferris Siber, New England Mutual
AME CME Credit: 2 hours.

September 23-27, 1979
The 13th International Congress of Life Insurance Medicine
Place: Madrid, Spain
For Information Contact: Ms. Marlies Fry, Cappel Travel Company, New York City, NY
October 8-12, 1979

XXVII International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine
Place: Manila, Philippines
For Information Contact: John David Thomas Company, 681 Market Street, Suite 222, San Francisco, CA

October 22-25, 1979

ALIMDA
The 88th Annual Meeting
Place: Atlanta, GA
For Information Contact: Dr. Donald Haskins, General Reassurance Corporation

November 7, 1979

Society of Insurance Medical Directors of Massachusetts
15th Seminar
"Acute & Chronic Liver Disease - Prognostic Considerations"
Place: The Prudential Building, Boston, MA
For Information Contact: Dr. Ferris Siber, New England Mutual
AME CME Credit: 2 hours.

Don't forget:
May 1979 is the Sixth National Annual Blood Pressure Month.
The theme is "High Blood Pressure - Treat It For Life".
Your company's employee clinic planned participation is essential for this program to be successful.
The early detection and treatment of hypertension is imperative for the improvement in future population morbidity and mortality.

FUTURE MORTALITY SEMINARS
The Mortality and Morbidity Committee, with the approval of the Executive Council, will continue to sponsor Mortality Seminars, of which four have been given since May 1977. In the future, seminars will be held at the rate of two or three per year in large cities which have several insurance company home offices, to make it easier for local medical directors to attend with minimal travel expense. The next seminar will be in New York City early in November, 1979. Medical Directors interested in attending should look for the detailed announcement which will appear in the April-June 1979 issue of Insurance Medicine. The announcement will provide information on the seminar in New York, and the next one to follow, which will be in a different city.

Congratulations
Paul S. Metzger, M.D., F.A.C.P., has been honored by being elected to serve as President of the Columbus (Ohio) Academy of Medicine for 1979. This distinction, plus his previous service to the medical profession as President of the Ohio Society of Internal Medicine, reflects well on all of us by virtue of his long membership and participation in ALIMDA. Dr. Metzger has been Vice President and Chief Medical Director of Nationwide Insurance Companies since 1966 and has earned the respect and admiration of physicians throughout Ohio in his administration of the Medicare Part B program for Nationwide Companies. He is well known in insurance medicine as ALIMDA representative to the Council on Consumer and Professional Relations and as the alternate representative to the Interspecialty Advisory Board of the A.M.A. The staff of Insurance Medicine congratulates Dr. Metzger and wish to express their pride in this further honor bestowed upon one of our members.