MODIFIED RHEUMATIC FEVER
DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

Reprints of Jones Criteria (Modified) for Guidance in the Diagnosis of Rheumatic Fever are being made available to the medical profession. The revised criteria were published in the September, 1955 issue of the Association's monthly bulletin for physicians, Modern Concepts of Cardiovascular Disease.

The modified criteria are based on the diagnostic standards first published by the late T. Duckett Jones, M.D. in 1944, and generally accepted throughout the United States and in many other nations.

Avoiding Overdiagnosis

In an introductory report, the Committee on Standards and Criteria for Programs of Care of the Association's Council on Rheumatic Fever and Congenital Heart Disease emphasizes that because "the tragedy which may lie in the wake of the false diagnosis of rheumatic fever may be even greater than the possible harm of missed recognition," the "criteria are necessary to minimize both over-diagnosis and under-diagnosis." The committee also places stress on the fact that the criteria are not designed to "substitute for the wisdom and judgement of the clinician."

Division of Criteria

The diagnostic guide lists and describes five "major" criteria and six "minor" criteria. The division into 'major' and 'minor' categories is based upon the relative occurrence of these factors in rheumatic fever and in other disease syndromes. "These major and minor categories have no significance beyond their diagnostic import either as to prognosis, amount of 'rheumatic activity,' or severity of acute illness," the statement points out.

Requests for reprints of the full diagnostic guide should be addressed to the Association, 44 East 23 Street, New York 10, N. Y.

ESTABLISH FUND IN MEMORY OF T. DUCKETT JONES

Establishment of a T. Duckett Jones Memorial Fund devoted to research has been announced by a group of former friends and associates of the outstanding rheumatic fever research investigator and clinician who died last November. At the time of his death, Dr. Jones was Vice President and Medical Director of the Helen Hay Whitney Foundation of New York. He had served for several years as Vice President of the American Heart Association and was one of the leading figures in the Association's Council on Rheumatic Fever and Congenital Heart Disease. A posthumous Gold Heart award was bestowed on Dr. Jones at the Association's Annual Meeting last month.

Rheumatic fever research, the subject of so much of Dr. Jones' devoted effort, is to be given priority although not exclusive claim to the fund's resources. Among the projects already suggested are fellowships for promising young investigators, short-term support for investigators holding permanent positions to permit completion of studies or projects and the establishment of a T. Duckett Jones professorship. The committee would welcome additional suggestions.

Tax exempt contributions may be sent to the T. Duckett Jones Memorial Fund, 525 East 68 Street, New York 21, N. Y.

LASKER AND BLAKESLEE AWARDS PRESENTED

The 1955 Albert Lasker Award and Howard W. Blakeslee Awards of the Association were scheduled for presentation at the Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions in New Orleans in October.

The Lasker Award for distinguished achievement in the field of cardiovascular diseases was presented to Carl J. Wiggers, M.D., Professor Emeritus and former Director of the Department of Physiology at the School of Medicine.
of Western Reserve University, now Honorary Professor of Physiology at the Frank E. Bunts Educational Institute, Cleveland, and Editor of Circulation Research, the Association's journal of fundamental studies. The "dean of cardiovascular physiologists" and former President of the American Physiological Society was previously honored by the Association's Gold Heart Award in 1952 and by the dedication of a special issue of Circulation in 1951. The Lasker Award consists of a statuette of the Winged Victory of Samothrace and $1,000.

The Blakeslee Awards are made annually for outstanding reporting in the cardiovascular field. Four awards of $500 each were made this year to the following:

Mrs. Frances Burns, medical writer of the Boston Daily Globe, for a series of 13 articles on advances in cardiovascular research, treatment and prevention.

Miss Jane Stafford, medical writer of Washington, D. C., for year-round coverage of important cardiovascular developments syndicated to newspapers and magazines by Science Service.

William Peters, Pelham Manor, N. Y., for his article, "A New Heart for Pamela," published in the September, 1954, issue of Cosmopolitan Magazine. The article describes an operation employing the cross-circulation technique developed by C. Walton Lillehei, M.D., and his associates at the University of Minnesota.

The Columbia Broadcasting System for the film "Gate 27," telecast as part of the series known as The Search. The film describes research at the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene of the University of Minnesota on the relationship of diet, vocation and other factors to cardiovascular disease.

DR. SCHUYLER JOINS ASSOCIATION AS ASSISTANT MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Leonard H. Schuyler, M.D., New York has been appointed as an Assistant Medical Director of the Association. He will aid in the administration of the research support and professional education programs.

Dr. Schuyler, a graduate of the Duke University Medical School, formerly was a research fellow in medicine at the Vascular Research Laboratory of the New York Hospital-Cornell University Medical School.

Miss Winifred Devlin, R.N., has been appointed as Consultant Nurse in Cardiovascular Diseases for the newly-established Cardiovascular Nursing Advisory Service, a joint project of the Association and the National League for Nursing.

Miss Devlin, former Industrial Nurse Consultant in the U. S. Public Health Service, will assist Heart Associations throughout the country in establishing closer relations with the nursing profession and in providing special educational services for nurses.

R. H. HALSEY, M.D.

Robert H. Halsey, M.D., one of the leading figures in the organization of both the American and New York Heart Associations, died on September 15 while visiting in the Province of Quebec. Dr. Halsey was 82 years old.

The New York Cardiologist presided at the founding meeting of the American Heart Association which was held in St. Louis in 1922. Previously he had played an active role in the organization of the Association for the Prevention and Relief of Heart Disease, which later became the New York Heart Association. Dr. Halsey was the first secretary of the National Association, and in 1931-32, he served as its president.

Dr. Halsey's unique contributions to the recognition of the importance of cardiovascular diseases as the leading cause of deaths in the U. S. and to the establishment and growth of the Heart organization were recognized in 1950 when he received the American Heart Association's Gold Heart Award.

Dr. Halsey had served for many years as Professor of Medicine at New York Postgraduate Medical School and Hospital and Consultant at the University Hospital of the New York University-Bellevue Medical Center.

ADVANCE CARDIOGRAPHY COURSE SCHEDULED AT MICHAEL REESE

An advanced course in Interpretation of Complex Arrhythmias will be given at the Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago for experienced
electrocardiographers. The course will consist of daily 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM classes from December 5-9. The classes will be conducted by Louis N. Katz, M.D., Richard Langendorf, M.D. and Alfred Pick, M.D.

Further information and a copy of the lecture schedule may be obtained from the Secretary, Cardiovascular Department, Medical Research Institute, Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago 16, Ill.

TULANE OFFERS PROGRAM ON ELECTROLYTE BALANCE

The Division of Graduate Medicine at the Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, will present a five-day program on Fluid and Electrolyte Balance, January 16-21, 1956. The course, under the chairmanship of George E. Bureh, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine, will emphasize clinical applications of the fundamental principles of water and electrolyte metabolism.

Inquiries may be addressed to the Director, Division of Graduate Medicine, 1430 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans 12, La.

1958 WORLD CARDIOLOGY CONGRESS TO HEAR EPIDEMIOLOGIC REPORTS

Epidemiologic reports from all nations will be a feature of the Third World Congress of Cardiology when it is held in Brussels, Belgium, September 14-21, 1958. The International Society of Cardiology has requested each affiliated cardiologic organization, including the American Heart Association, to prepare a report on the main epidemiologic problems in their respective countries.

The International Society has also urged the affiliated groups to submit additional suggestions for specific topics of discussion at the Brussels Congress.

DEVELOP CARDIAC EMERGENCY KIT

A newly developed portable cardiac emergency kit for physicians and hospitals is being distributed by the Essex County (New Jersey) Heart Association.

The sturdy wood and leather kit includes a brief diagnostic and therapeutic guide for 13 frequently occurring cardiac emergencies and was prepared by Jacob J. Silverman, M.D., Staten Island, N. Y., Arthur Bernstein, M.D., Newark, N. J. and Harold B. Trachtenberg, M.D., New York, N. Y. It also provides clamps and spaces for 34 most commonly needed drugs and equipment for their use.

The kit weighs about eight pounds empty and is 16 inches long, 12 inches deep and six inches wide. Kits may be obtained at a cost of $15 plus shipping charges each from the Essex County Heart Association, 120 Evergreen Place, East Orange, N. J.

INTER-AMERICAN CARDIOLOGY SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fifth Inter-American Congress of Cardiology will be held in Havana, Cuba, in November, 1956.

The Colombian Society of Cardiology is organizing its first national cardiology congress to be held in July, 1956. Tentative plans call for placing emphasis on peripheral vascular problems and hypertension. Information may be obtained from the Sociedad Colombiana de Cardiologia, Carrera 13 No. 48-26, Bogota, Colombia, S. A.

MEETING CALENDAR

Nov. 3: Midwestern Section, American Federation for Clinical Research, Northwestern University Medical Campus, Chicago. Robert J. Glaser, M.D., Barnes Hospital, 600 South Kingshighway, St. Louis 10.

Nov. 6-7: American Society for the Study of Arteriosclerosis, Hotel Sheraton, Chicago. Dr. O. J. Pollak, P.O. Box 228, Dover, Del.

Nov. 14-17: Congress of International Society for Research on Anesthesia, Boca Raton, Fla. R. J. Whitacre, M.D., 13951 Terrace Road Cleveland 12.


Nov. 11-12: Society of Clinical Surgery, New Orleans. Dr. Frank F. Albritten, Jr., University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, Kan.

Nov. 14-18: American School Health Association, Kansas City, Mo. A. O. DeWeese, 515 E. Main St., Kent, O.


Dec. 11-16: Radiological Society of North America, Chicago. D. S. Childs, 713 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, N. Y.

Dec. 13: American Academy of Obstetrics and Gyne-
Am.
ology, Chicago. C. Paul Hodgkinson, 116 S.
Michigan Blvd., Chicago 3.
Jan. 20: Southern Section, American Federation for
Clinical Research, New Orleans. John H. Moyer,
M.D., Baylor University College of Medicine,
1200 M. D. Anderson Blvd., Houston.
Jan. 25: Western Section, American Federation for
Clinical Research, Carmel, Calif. B. H. Scribner,
M.D., Veterans Administration Hospital, Seattle
8, Wash.
Feb. 6–8: American Academy of Allergy, St. Louis,
Francis C. Lowell, 65 E. Newton St., Boston.
Feb. 10–11: American College of Radiology, Chicago.
March 24–25: American Psychosomatic Society,
Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Boston. Abstracts must be
submitted by Dec. 1 to Stanley Cobb, M.D.,
551 Madison Avenue, New York 22.

ABROAD

Nov. 18–26: Venezuelan Congress of Medical
Sciences, Caracas. Dr. A. L. Briceno Rossi, Sec.-
Gen. Comision Organizadora del VI Congreso
Venezolano de Ciencias Medicas, Apartado 4412,
Ofic. del Este, Caracas, Venezuela.
Nov. 19–24: Congress of International College of
Surgeons, Buenos Aires. Max Thorek, M.D., 1516
Lake Shore Drive, Chicago.
Nov. 21: Symposium of the French Association of
Medical Biology, Paris. Dr. D. Durupt, 20 rue de
la Pompe, Paris 16.
Nov. 23–25: First International Congress on Docu-
Secretary of the Congress, 56 Victoria Street,
London S.W. 1.
Jan. 20–27: Pan-American Congress of Gastro-
Enterology, Havana. Dr. Norberto E. Stapler,
1267 J.E. Uriburu, Buenos Aires.