

NINETY YEARS AGO, APRIL 1920

Frederic J. Farrell, MD, in "Clinical Neuropathology and its Value in General Practice," remarked: "The personality of an individual is often times an obstruction to his general welfare."

Arthur H. Ruggles, MD, in "The Need of Mental Hygiene in Rhode Island," described the role of the Rhode Island Society for Mental Hygiene in promoting mental health and raising the standards of care for patients.

One Editorial, "Post-Graduate Work in Local Hospitals," remarked that in other states, spurred by the American Medical Association, hospital staffs had introduced post-graduate "courses for professionals," but "Such a movement has made very little or no headway here in Rhode Island for very obvious reasons, chief among them being the fact that none of our hospitals are teaching hospitals or connected to medical schools."

A second Editorial, "A Children's Hospital," noted that while professionals recognized the need for one, "It has remained for the laity to recognize the urgent need of such an institution."

FIFTY YEARS AGO, APRIL 1960

Lester L. Vargas, MD, Frank Merlino, MD, William P. Corvese, MD, Frank B. Cutts, MD, Elihas Saklad, MD, Clarence H. Soderberg, MD, Constantine Georas, MD, Joseph S. Karras, MD, Kenneth B. Namian, MD, and Daniel Moore Jr, MD, in "Extracorporeal Circulation in a Community General Hospital," described the preliminary report of a study, started at Rhode Island Hospital, June 1958, on the "...early experimental and clinical experience using a pump-oxygenator for open-heart surgery." Of 19 animals subjected to "survival experiments," 5 died during the procedure.

Lt. Ralph L. Nachman, MC (USNR), in "Diet and the Abdominal Crisis in Essential Hyperlipemia," noted that 90 cases were reported in the literature. He described the case of a 25 year-old man, treated with steroids and a low fat diet.

Armand D. Versaci, MD, in "Surgical Treatment of Malignancies of the Eyelids," said: "Adequate treatment implies complete eradication of the tumor and preservation of the lid function" – sometimes difficult to achieve.

O.D. Cinquegrana, MD, in "Licensure of Physical Therapists," argued in favor of the legislation.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, APRIL 1985

In a Guest Editorial, "Health Care in Rhode Island," Governor Edward D. DiPrete pointed to a "staggering" \$1.88 billion spent annually in the state, or \$1500 per capita. To stem these costs, in 1968 Rhode Island enacted certificate-of-need legislation (the first in the nation), implemented global hospital budgeting (with "maxicaps" which limit increases in hospital budgets, negotiated annually by hospital and major insurers), and welcomed the first federally certified HMO in the nation.

Robert J. Canny, Executive Director, Hospice Care of RI, contributed "Hospice Care Benefits under the Medicare Program." He noted that Hospice Care of RI was the first certified Medicare program in New England.

Michael L. Friedland, MD, Harry Ward, MD, Edward G. Wittels, MD, Zalmen A. Arlin, MD, in "A Monocytic Leukemoid Reaction: A Manifestation of Preleukemia," noted: "...the sequence is a manifestation of the iatrogenic potential of cancer therapies." The case concerned "a 55 year-old woman with disseminated adenocarcinoma of the breast...She presented for her scheduled visit with painful lesions of herpes zoster."



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