

Forthcoming Meetings

21st SCCM Educational and Scientific Symposium. San Antonio Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas, May 25–29 1992. Sponsored by the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Information: Bill Matec, SCCM, 8101 East Kaiser Boulevard, Anaheim, CA 92808-2214. Tel. 714-282-6000.

22nd SCCM Educational and Scientific Symposium. New York Hilton and Towers, New York, NY, June 9–13 1992. Sponsored by the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Information: Bill Matec, SCCM, 8101 East Kaiser Boulevard, Anaheim, CA 92808-2214. Tel. 714-282-6000.

3rd International Conference on Health Law and Ethics. Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 19–23 July 1992. Information: American Society of Law and Medicine, 765 Commonwealth Avenue (16th Floor), Boston, MA 02215. Tel. 617-262-4990.

125th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Medical Association. Radisson Plaza Hotel, St. John's Newfoundland. August 16–19 1992. Information: CMA Meetings Department, P.O. Box 8650, Ottawa ON K1G 0G8, Canada. Tel. 613-731-9331.

International Health Heart Conference: "Bridging the Gap – Science and Policy in Action". May 24–28 1992, Vancouver B.C. Information: Venue West Conference Services Ltd., 645/375 Water Street, Vancouver B.C., V6B 5C6. Tel. 604-6781-2503.

12th International Congress of Hospital Engineering (in concurrence with the Hospital-Health Care International Exhibition). May 25–29 1992, Congress Hall, Bologna, Italy. Information: SENAF, Via Michelino 69, 40172 Bologna, Italy. Tel. 51-503316. Fax: 51-505282.

Bio-Recognition: an International Industrial Biotechnology Conference. Montreal, Quebec. Information: David Smith, Ottawa-Carleton Economic Development Corporation, 111 Lisgar Street, Ottawa, ON K2P 2L7. Tel. 613-236-3500.

6th International Conference on Human-Animal Interactions (hosted by the Human-Animal Bond Association of Canada). July 21–25 1992, Palais des Congrès, Montreal, Canada. Information: Taylor and Associates, 676 Shefford Court, Gloucester, Ontario K1J 6X3, Canada. Tel 613-747-0262.

7th World Congress on Medical Informatics (Medinfo '92). September 6–10 1992. Palexpo Congress Centre. Geneva, Switzerland. Information: Symporg, S.A., 108, route de Frontenex, CH-1208 Geneva, Switzerland. Tel. 22-786-37-44. Fax: 22-786-40-80.

2nd Conference of the International Society for the Prevention of Iatrogenic Complications (ISPIC). Scanticon Congress Centre, Elsinore, Denmark. September 1992. Information: Dr. Ole Winding, Institute of Forensic Medicine, Frederik V's Vej 11, 2100 Copenhagen-Ø, Denmark. Tel. 35-37 32 22 (ext. 438). Fax: (35) 37 16 51.

Health devices: a correction and a postscript

In the review of the Health Devices Sourcebook (ECRI, Philadelphia) by C.W.D. van Gruting, published in Vol. 1, No. 3, p. 231, editorial revision resulted in an error in the sentence reading as follows: "There is currently still a need for national bodies, such as the FDA, to develop their own classifications in this important and potentially confusing field". The author of the review has requested us to point out that he was not advocating the development of national systems of classification for devices in each country. Since no international classifications exist, private organizations which find that an existing national classification of devices does not meet their needs are obliged to develop their own. Mr. van Gruting adds that this explains why ECRI has developed its own system in the U.S.A.: its classification is designated by ECRI as "international" since it is used in many countries and has been translated into languages other than English.