

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.