

## Infrastructure developed on the National Hypertension Project:

### A. Technical:

- MD's trained, qualified and certified in blood pressure measurement.
- Experienced Central Office Physicians for training, certification, planning, and implementation of educational programs.
- Trained staff for epidemiological surveys.
- Experienced Central Office Physicians for implementing quality control procedures and supervision of data.
- Office editing.
- Established system for quality control.

### B. Administrative:

The National Hypertension Project has developed the following staff capabilities under the aegis of this program:

- Implementing issues of human subjects consent form and Institutional Review Board
- Approach the public in carrying out preparatory visits for sample preparation and updating.
- Periodic reporting and meeting records for follow up of activities.
- Established system for data entry and descriptive statistical work up.
- Executive management of field operations.

## II. OFFICES AND LABORATORIES L:

In its early days the Project offices consisted of two small rooms in the Diagnostic Ultrasound center of Cairo University. The patients' waiting area was used as a conference room for Sunday morning meetings, the Dean of Cairo University School of Medicine allowed us to use the distant end of the third floor corridor at Mania1 University Hospital site for the Project offices and laboratories. He also approved the contribution of the University Hospital in site re-modeling and preparation including walls, false ceiling, partitions, aluminum work, windows, painting, electricity, air-conditioning, floors, etc. Preparation and furniture of the National Hypertension Project offices and laboratories took eight months (April to December 1991). Now the available facilities include a large conference and library room, a computer room, file storage room, offices for the Principal investigator, secretaries, and accounting, biochemical laboratory, echocardiograph laboratory, ECG and ambulatory blood pressure recording laboratory, reception and waiting are.

### III. Equipment:

The diagnostic Ultrasound Center of Cairo University provided the Project with the early basic secretarial equipment, including Xerox copying machine, small personal computer and typewriters. A fax machine (a pre requisite to start communication links with USA) was purchased, together with a new copying machine. A small used van was hired from the Ministry of Public Health, repaired and used for field visits. Equipment, purchased through the Project grant from the American side, was ordered in April 1991, and began reaching the Project in September 1991. This included educational material ( blood pressure measurement training programs, video tapes, audio cassettes, front and rear screen slide projectors), computers ( 3 NEC 4S6 PC and 1 NEC laptop, with accessories ) , physicians scales, stethoscopes and sphygmomanometers, Suntech Accutracker II 24 hour automatic blood pressure monitoring system, Lablyte Flameless Photometer, Minolta Spectrophotometer (CM2002), chemistry analyzer and accessories, slide collection and publications and the 1991 Ford E-350 Super wagon and 1991 V-Haul trailer, items ordered but not received until December 1992, are SAS computer program, Image vue peripheral work station system, sodium and potassium electrodes.

Through a separate grant from the Ministry of Scientific Research the Project was able to fund the purchase of a portable echocardiography unit, and a portable electrocardiographic machine. These were used during the field surveys before the arrival of the echocardiography main unit.

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