Finding Aid to the

THE RECORDS OF AMBULATORY SERVICES,
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR (BERMAN), NEW YORK HOSPITAL

Dates of Records: 1967-1977

42.5 Linear Inches
(9 Boxes)

Finding Aid Prepared By:
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February 1984
Preface

Richard A. Berman gave this collection to the Medical Archives in December of 1977. They are the records created during his tenure here as Associate Director for Ambulatory Services and as an Assistant Dean of Cornell University Medical College, 1974-Oct. 1977. Berman was also Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Health, Cornell University Medical College, and a Senior Program Consultant at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Berman left in October of 1977 when he was appointed Director of the New York State Office of Health Systems Management.

Background

The Ambulatory Services Department of the New York Hospital was established in early 1974 to address certain problems that existed in outpatient care: “a large deficit, lack of management organization and tools; patient care systems that needed improvement; clinics were not a model facility for training students; and the institution lacked the capacity to plan and implement new ambulatory care programs” (Report, Box 3.4) The Division was responsible for correcting these deficiencies while overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Ambulatory Services Division.

To fund the research and planning efforts, a grant was given to Cornell University Medical College from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. With this money, a market survey of the Upper East Side was performed in 1975 to determine where residents were currently receiving their health care and their attitudes toward the New York Hospital. Within the Division, Peter Singer worked on external ambulatory programs and Steve Mills was in charge of the daily operations of Ambulatory Services. In October 1977, Berman left and was replaced by Steve Mills, Associate Director in charge of all aspects of Ambulatory Care Services.

Scope and Content

This collection offers a view of health care systems in flux. The facets of this situation dealt with here are: the health of the community, the financial needs of the hospital, and planning for the future of both, while at the same time adapting to external trends in reducing health care costs and limiting the number of general medical beds in hospitals. The responses to these problems by the New York Hospital are documented in this collection: the National Opinion Research Study survey on the needs of the community, (Box 7); the constant pricing reviews and clinic use and planning reports; the work of the Cornell Medical Group (Box 1, 16 & Box 2, f.1); and the several committees established to deal with the needs of the ambulatory care services.

An important element in New York Hospital's response to the perceived needs of New York City and the Hospital itself was the plan for the erection of the new building, the so-called “North-Tower Building,” on the site of the former Nurses' Residence at 70th-71st. and York Avenue. It is in the planning of this project that the interplay of the health care system's internal and external elements can be clearly seen. The plans called for the new facility to house a new Hospital for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, a new Burn Unit (to replace the temporary unit already in existence), and a new ambulatory care center. This plan was turned down by the Health Services Agency of New York State in December of 1976 for many reasons among which was a disinclination to add more general hospital beds in New York City. (See Box 8 and Richard A. Berman Biographical File in Medical Archives).

This collection is divided into four alphabetical series: Dean Theodore Cooper; Cornell University Medical College; New York Hospital Ambulatory Care (specific division material); and New York Hospital. When the Collection was received, it contained three cartons of blank forms used in the National Opinion Research Center survey. These have been discarded as outdated.

Non-Manuscript Material

Several items have been removed from the Collection for preservation reasons. A blueprint, New Building Study, 1-28-73 SK-1 by Rogers, Butler, and Burgin is in the Map Case. A chart prepared by Lester Gorsline Associates in May 1974 on the "Formal
Task Sequence for a Functional and Space Program for the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center is in the Oversize II manuscript box. From the Welfare Island file, 5 photographs and 2 blueprints have been removed, the former to the Photograph Collection and the latter to the Map Case.

Subjects

Affiliations
Architects
Berman, Richard
Budget
Building
Burn Center
Cornell Medical Group
Development Committee, JAB, 6:10
Environmental Safety
Fundraising
JAB
Joint Operating Committee
Laboratories
Medicine
Nursing
Ob/Gyn
Outpatient Department
Pediatrics
Planning
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Roosevelt Island
Statistics
Systems
Third Century Fund

Container List

Box 1 Series I: Dean Theodore Cooper

Folder  Description
1  Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Services, Information on for Possible Affiliation, 5/1977-7/1977.
4  Budget Calculations, Cornell University Medical College, 1977-1978.
6  Cornell University Medical College, Clinical Fellows, 7/1977.
7  Cornell University Medical College, Curriculum, Proposals for Revisions, February 1975.
9  Ithaca, S. Lawrence, V.P. for Planning, Briefing of Berman, 2-5/1977.
11  Rhodes, Dr. Frank, Itinerary for Visit, 8/1977.

Box 1 Series II: Cornell University Medical College

Folder  Description
12  Biomedical Communications (Peter Ng), Information on Department, 1977.
13  Budgets of Various Departments, 1975.
Cornell Medical Group, Ambulatory Services Chart of Financial Information, 2/12/1974.

Box 2 Series II: Cornell University Medical College
3 Health and Safety Reports, June and September 1977.

Box 2 Series III: New York Hospital, Ambulatory Care
5-6 Ambulatory Care Center, Book I, Correspondence with LGA, Reports, Drafts, Memos Regarding Planning Center, 1974.
7 "Ambulatory Care Center, Book II, Reports and Drafts, Preliminary Functional and Space Programming and Preliminary Space Index, 7-8/1974.

Box 3 Series III: New York Hospital, Ambulatory Care
1 Ambulatory Care Center, Book II, etc.
4-6 "Ambulatory Care Report, 1974-1976," (Draft), 9/1/76.
7 ". Brochure-, Correspondence Regarding Areas Left Out, 8-11/1975

Box 4 Series III: New York Hospital, Ambulatory Care
1-2 Budget, 1975
3 Financial Notes and Memos, 1974-1975.
4 Goals and Objectives of Ambulatory Services and ENT, 1975
5 Memos and Internal Division Material, 1974-1976.
8 Progress and Planning, Reports, Memos, 1974 -2/1976
9-19 Report, Progress and Planning, Mid-Year 1975".

Box 5 Series IV: New York Hospital
1 Accounts Receivable, Review Sheets for Patient Accounts, 1974
3 Affiliations--Information Regarding Lenox Hill, St., Vincent's, Westchester, and Upper East Side, 11-12/1975
4 Ambulatory Care Advisory Committee, Minutes, Agendas, Reports, 1974-75.

Box 6 Series IV: New York Hospital
2 Braham Committee (Primary Care and Ambulatory Medicine), Minutes, Reports, and Memos, 8/1973-9/1976.
3 Burn Center in New Building, Correspondence, Minutes, Report Regarding Fundraising, Construction, 8/1975 -12/1976.
10 Housing and Parking, Reports on 1974.
11 Grand Rounds, Speech Given, undated.
12 ICDA Diagnostic Category List, n.d.

Box 7 Series IV: New York Hospital

2 Interdepartmental Meeting, Agenda, 11/7/1974
4 Joint Administrative Board, Subcommittee Minutes and Summaries Regarding Ambulatory Care, 1/1974-10/1975.

Box 8 Series IV: New York Hospital

2 North Tower Building Project, Correspondence, Minutes, Objectives, Costs, Resumes of Architects, Burn Center, 11/1975 -10/1976.
3 North Tower Building Project, "Interim Report North Tower Building," 1/16/1976, RB & B
4 Nurse Practitioner Program, Information on, and Agreement with New York City Housing Authority, 1975.
5 Nursing School, Memo Regarding Closing of School and Possible Establishment of Master’s Program, 8-9/1977.
11 "Single Class of Care," Reports on Policy, Urology Practice Center and Full-Time Physician for General Internal Medicine, 1975-1/19

Box 9 Series IV: New York Hospital

4-5 Westchester County Medical Center Status Report, 8/16/1976.