

Doubling Of Ohio Medical School Facilities Urged

Consultant For Governor's Commission To Survey Sites; Toledo Listed For Visit

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COLUMBUS, June 27—Ohio should double its medical school facilities in the next 10 to 15 years, a consultant for Governor DiSalle's interim commission on education beyond the high school declared yesterday in a preliminary report.

Dr. John W. Patterson, dean of Vanderbilt University's medical college, Nashville, Tenn., has been working since February on a survey of the state's medical school needs and recommendations for future expansion.

The present rate of 300 medical school graduates a year in the state should be expanded to 550 or 600 by either 1970 or 1975, he declared.

This means there will have to be new medical schools as well as expansion of existing facilities at Ohio State University, University of Cincinnati and Western Reserve University.

To Visit Toledo

Dr. Patterson plans to visit Toledo in late July or August to survey the possibilities for a new medical school there.

Other possible sites, he said, include Ohio University, Miami University, Kent State University, Bowling Green State University, and Akron, as well as any private colleges the commission may later suggest.

John C. Baker, Ohio U president and chairman of the interim commission, advised him to forget about Ohio U. "You can pay us a courtesy visit but I'm not sure that southeastern Ohio meets any of the qualifications you describe as desirable in a medical school site," Mr. Baker said.

State Senator Ross Pepple (R., Lima) also voiced skepticism about locating a new medical school at Miami, Kent State, Bowling Green, or Ohio U. He doubted that they are close enough to large hospital populations described as one desirable attribute.

Dayton Interested

"If you are going to consider places like Ohio U, you might as well consider Lima," the senator declared. "We have some large hospital facilities."

Dr. W. T. Wickham, president of Heidelberg College, Tiffin, said interest in a medical school had been expressed by residents of Dayton and Youngstown and those areas also should be surveyed.

The major points Dr. Patterson will take into account are:

- ▶ Local interest and prospects of continuing support from the community.
- ▶ Available finances for both the initial capital improvements and the continuing operating budget.
- ▶ An academic atmosphere, particularly at the graduate level. The presence of research facilities and outstanding university faculty members in such related fields as chemistry, physics, and sociology are desirable.
- ▶ Availability of patients

for the educational program at the medical school. This would mean patients who are not already under the control of private physicians.

Ohio should be producing from 400 to 450 new doctors a year compared to the present rate of 300, Dr. Patterson declared. "The state is not contributing its fair share of doctors from the financial standpoint."

Ohio's Average Lowest

The U.S. average is 21.3 freshman medical students per \$1 billion of personal income, he said. The average for the Western Conference states is 19.5 and Ohio has the lowest (15.1) among the Big Ten states. Wisconsin is the highest in that group with 23.1.

"If the states with preferred economic situations fail to carry their proper share of the financial cost of producing new doctors, this places even more of a burden on the poorer states," he said. Thus the ratio for Arkansas is 39 freshmen per billion dollars of personal income and for Tennessee it is 62, Dr. Patterson reported.

Discussing expansion of existing medical schools, he said Ohio State hopes to increase its freshman class from 150 to 200 at a capital cost of \$12 million plus a 25 per cent increase in operating funds; Cincinnati recently expanded its class from 80 to 100 but could make no further increase without some outside support such as state aid, and Western Reserve is contemplating an increase but can't do it without dependence on state funds. He noted that Western Reserve appears to be relying on prospects of federal aid as well as private resources.

Others who have been working on the Ohio survey with Dr. Patterson are Dr. John Truslow, dean of the University of Texas medical college at Galveston, and Gordon Scott, medical dean at Wayne State University, Detroit.