

# Evaluation of Audiovisual Teaching Materials in Family Practice: A Report of Review Activities, 1977-1978

John P. Geyman, MD  
Seattle, Washington

Audiovisual teaching materials have found increasing use in medical education in recent years, and a large number of excellent materials have been produced. The plethora of existing audiovisual teaching programs has made it difficult for educators and potential users to be aware of what is available and to select programs relevant to specific learning needs. The Audiovisual Review Committee has functioned over the last five years as a subcommittee of the Education Committee of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. This paper describes the experience of this group over the last two years and presents a complete listing of audiovisual teaching materials which have been reviewed and appraised during that period.

The last ten years have seen a rapid increase in the use of various kinds of audiovisual teaching materials in medical education at all levels.<sup>1-6</sup> Educators have recognized that individuals have different learning styles involving various patterns of sensory perception and involvement. It has also been demonstrated that audiovisual teaching programs are effective under circumstances which match the individual learning styles of learners.<sup>7</sup>

Audiovisual teaching materials have been used by many family practice teaching programs at undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate levels. Some programs have developed libraries or teaching banks for audiovisual teaching materials.<sup>8</sup> These materials have been used for self-learning and as supplemental resources to other teaching efforts, such as small group instruction, teaching conferences, and didactic teaching. Audiovisual aids have been incorporated by some programs into learning modules in specific areas.<sup>9</sup>

Recent years have also seen a sharp increase in the number of producers of audiovisual teaching

materials and a plethora of available materials. Many thousands of audiovisual programs have been developed by medical schools, medical organizations, pharmaceutical companies, and others, and there are now nearly 1,000 health science audiovisual distributors.<sup>10</sup> This activity has led to two major problems for medical educators and potential users of audiovisual teaching materials: (1) how does one become *aware* of what is available? and (2) how can one *select* audiovisual materials for specific content areas and learning needs?

In order to address these problems in family practice, the Audiovisual Review Committee was established in 1974 as a subcommittee of the Education Committee of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. The work of the group was previously reported for the years 1974-1976.<sup>11</sup> This paper will describe the further evolution of this group and present a collated list of all audiovisual teaching materials which were reviewed and appraised during 1977-1978.

## The Review Process

The Audiovisual Review Committee meets twice each year for one half-day for the purpose of

From the Department of Family Medicine, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Washington. Requests for reprints should be addressed to Dr. John P. Geyman, Department of Family Medicine RF-30, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA 98915.

**Table 1. Audiovisual Review Committee**

Members	Location	Responsibility for Prescreening
Richard M. Baker, MD	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Preventive Medicine
Thomas C. Brown, PhD	University of California, Davis	Human Sexuality
Thornton Bryan, MD	University of Tennessee, Memphis	Internal Medicine, Orthopedics
Laurel G. Case, MD	University of Oregon, Portland	Infectious Disease, General Surgery
Joseph V. Fisher, MD	Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston	Alcoholism, Drug Abuse
John P. Geyman, MD	University of Washington, Seattle	Otolaryngology
James L. Grobe, MD	136 East Desert Park Lane, Phoenix, Arizona	Gastroenterology, Nephrology
Warren A. Heffron, MD	University of New Mexico, Albuquerque	Sports Medicine, Cardiology
Brian K. Hennen, MD	Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia	Pediatrics, Ophthalmology
Thomas L. Leaman, MD	Pennsylvania State University, Hershey	Psychiatry/Behavioral Science
John A. Lincoln, MD	University of Washington, Seattle	Obstetrics/Gynecology, Emergency Medicine
Donald C. Ransom, PhD	Community Hospital of Sonoma County, Santa Rosa, California	Behavioral Sciences
Philip L. Roseberry, MD	York Hospital, York, Pennsylvania	Allergy, Behavioral Sciences
Rafael C. Sanchez, MD	Louisiana State University, New Orleans	Adolescent Medicine, Urology
Robert Smith, MD	University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati	Geriatrics, Rehabilitation
William L. Steward, MD	Southern Illinois University, Springfield	Dermatology, Minor Surgery
Jack Verby, MD	University of Minnesota, Minneapolis	Endocrinology, Pulmonary Disease, Proctology
Raymond O. West, MD	Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California	Preventive Medicine, Legal Medicine

**Table 2. Appraisals of Audiovisual Materials 1977-1978**

	No.	%
Highly Recommended	27	36
Recommended	33	44
Some Value	9	12
Limited Value	6	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>

reviewing audiovisual programs. These usually have been prescreened by individual committee members and proposed for review by the group. The Audiovisual Review Committee functions in subgroups for the review of three types of media: 16 mm films, videotapes, and tape-slide programs. Each program is appraised for various learning levels within family practice by relevance of content, effectiveness of format, and technical qual-

ity, as previously described.<sup>11</sup> After each meeting the evaluations of the reviewers are collated for publication in *The Journal of Family Practice*. All reviewers serve on a voluntary basis, and funding of the group's activities (equipment and space rental) is provided by *The Journal*.

Increased emphasis has been placed during the past two years on prescreening of audiovisual materials in advance of Committee review. In order to facilitate this process and to assure breadth of coverage, areas of responsibility for prescreening have been assigned to committee members as noted in Table 1.

**Results**

Over the two-year period 1977-1978, a total of 75 audiovisual materials have been reviewed and appraised, including eleven 16 mm films, 31 videotapes, 32 tape-slide programs, and one teaching

model (four have since been withdrawn from circulation). Table 2 shows the overall appraisals for these programs.

The source, cost, title of program, recommended audience, and overall appraisal of these audiovisual programs are shown in Table 3. Specific comments for each audiovisual program are available in the references listed for *The Journal*.

The most common causes for low rating of audiovisual programs for family practice audiences include the following:

- Content not relevant to family practice,

- Lack of specificity and definitive coverage of subject,
- Lack of clearly stated objectives,
- Ineffective use of media (examples of this problem include lecture format on videotape and slides/microfiche used primarily for written material),
- Poor technical quality.

**Discussion**

Despite the potential availability of a large number of existing audiovisual teaching materials,

**Table 3. Summary of Audiovisual Materials Reviewed 1977-1978**

<b>MEDIA</b>		<b>AUDIENCE</b>	
ST	Slide-tape	FP	Family physician
FM	15 mm film	FR	Family practice resident
VT	Videotape	FA	Family nurse practitioner/Medex/physician's assistant
ML	Models	MS	Medical student

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Office Gynecology: Diagnosis and Treatment of Noninfectious Problems</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(2):401, 1978
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Hyperlipidemia</b>	ST	FP FR MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(2):402, 1978

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
			AUDIENCE		
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 \$105 purchase (whole series only, includes both slides and microfiche)	<b>Blood Component Therapy: Part 1: Red Blood Cells vs Whole Blood</b>	ST	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(2):402, 1978
	<b>Blood Component Therapy: Part 2: Volume Expanders</b>	ST	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(2):402, 1978
	<b>Blood Component Therapy: Part 3: Components for Hemostasis</b>	ST	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(2):402, 1978
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Chest Tube Placement</b>	VT	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(4):902, 1978
Burroughs Wellcome Company 3030 Cornwallis Road Research Triangle Park NC 27709 Free on loan	<b>Sex and the Heart Patient</b>	FM	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(4):902, 1978
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Diagnosis of Anemia: Part 2</b>	ST	FP FR MS	Of Some Value	J Fam Pract 6(4):902, 1978

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
		VT	FP FR FA MS		
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Approach to the Burn Patient</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 6 (4):901, 1978
Institute for Dermatologic Communication and Education 2785 Jackson St San Francisco, CA 94115 Purchase: \$85	<b>Tumors of Skin: Benign or Malignant: Part 2: Non-Epidermoid Tumors</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(4):903, 1978
Institute for Continuing Physician Education 4530 West 77th St Minneapolis, MN 55435 Rental: \$900 (for series of programs) Purchase: \$2,400 (for entire series)	<b>Emergency Treatment of Seizures</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 6(4):903, 1978
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Information Gathering Within Two Interviewing Styles</b>	VT	FA MS	Limited Value	J Fam Pract 6(4):903, 1978
Institute for Continuing Physician Education 4530 West 77th St Minneapolis, MN 55435 Rental: \$900 (for series of programs) Purchase: \$2,400 (for entire series)	<b>Emergency Management: The First 30 Minutes</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(1):222, 1978

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		AUDIENCE	APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
Health Science Motion Pictures SB-56, University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$125 Rental: \$20	<b>Idiopathic Pruritus Ani</b>	FM	FP FR FA MS		Limited Value	J Fam Pract 7(1):223, 1978
American Medical Association Merrill Laboratories 535 N Dearborn St Chicago, IL 60610 Rental: \$10	<b>The Next Witness</b>	FM	FP FR MS		Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(1):223, 1978
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Swan-Ganz Catheterization</b>	VT	FP FR		Of Some Value	J Fam Pract 7(1):223, 1978
Eaton Laboratories Medical Film Library 17 Eaton Ave Norwich, NY 13815 Free on loan	<b>Urinary Tract Infections</b>	ST	FA MS		Of Some Value	J Fam Pract 7(3):621, 1978
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Evaluation of the Sexually Assaulted Patient</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS		Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(3):622, 1978
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Headache: Part 2</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS		Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(3):622, 1978

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
			AUDIENCE		
Eaton Laboratories Medical Film Library 17 Eaton Ave Norwich, NY 13815 Rental: \$10	<b>Pediatric Urology</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(3):622, 1978
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Diagnosis and Treatment of External Eye Problems</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(3):623, 1978
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Arterial Puncture</b>	VT	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(3):623, 1978
Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic 34th & Civic Center Blvd Philadelphia, PA 19104 Rental: \$70	<b>Coming Home from the Hospital</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(3):623, 1978
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Office Gyne- cology: Part 2: Infections</b>	ST	FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(5):1071, 1978

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
		ST	VT		
Institute for Dermatologic Communication and Education 2785 Jackson St San Francisco, CA 94115 Purchase: \$85	<b>Tumors of Skin: Benign or Malignant: Part 1: Epidermal Tumors</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(5):1072, 1978
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$75	<b>Territorial Weaponry in Assertiveness Training</b>	VT	FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(5):1072, 1978
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Subclavian Catheterization</b>	VT	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 7(5):1072, 1978
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Respiratory Failure: Diagnosis and Treatment</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(1):212, 1979
Population Dynamics 3829 Aurora Ave N Seattle, WA 98103 Purchase: \$150 Rental: \$15	<b>Vasectomy Technique</b>	FM	FP FR	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(1):211, 1979
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle WA 98195 Purchase: \$75	<b>Marital Difficulty: Simulated Review</b>	VT	FA MS	Limited Value	J Fam Pract 8(1):212, 1979



SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
			AUDIENCE		
Institute for Dermatologic Communication and Education 2785 Jackson St San Francisco, CA 94115 Purchase: \$85	<b>Psoriasis</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(2):426, 1979
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Gastric Lavage</b>	VT	FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(2):425, 1979
Institute for Dermatologic Communication and Education 2785 Jackson St San Francisco, CA 94115 Purchase: \$85	<b>Atopic Dermatitis</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(1):212, 1979
Population Dynamics 3829 Aurora Ave N Seattle, WA 98103 Purchase: \$150 Rental: \$15	<b>The Missed Period</b>	FM	FP FR	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(2):427, 1979
Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50	<b>Approach to the Critically Injured Patient</b>	VT	FR FA MS	Of Some Value	J Fam Pract 8(2):427, 1979
Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic 34th & Civic Center Blvd Philadelphia, PA 19104 Rental: \$70	<b>Between You and Me</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(2):426, 1979

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
		VT	FP		
<p>Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50</p>	<b>Peritoneal Lavage</b>	VT	FP FR MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(2):427, 1979
<p>American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers</p>	<b>Chest X-Ray Interpretation</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(3):642, 1979
<p>American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers</p>	<b>Interpretation of Blood Gases</b>	ST	FP FR MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(3):641, 1979
<p>Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50 Preview: \$5</p>	<b>Internal Jugular Catheterization</b>	VT	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(3):642, 1979
<p>New Mexico Humanities Council # 267 Geology Bldg University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131 Free to nonprofit group—postage charged</p>	<b>Right to Die</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(3):642, 1979

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
		FM	FP		
Population Dynamics 3829 Aurora Ave N Seattle, WA 98103 Purchase: \$150 Rental: \$15	<b>Mini-Laparotomy</b>	FM	FP FR	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(4):878, 1979
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Transient Ischemic Attacks</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(4):877, 1979
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Shock</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Of Some Value	J Fam Pract 8(4):878, 1979
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Hodgkin's Disease</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(4):878, 1979

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
		VT	FP FR		
<p>Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50 Preview: \$5</p>	<b>Radial Artery Cannulation</b>	VT	FP FR	Of Some Value	J Fam Pract 8(5):1079, 1979
<p>Don Cordell Los Angeles County USC Medical Center 1934 Hospital Place Los Angeles, CA 90033 \$100 includes labor and postage. Purchaser supplies four 1-hour videotapes</p>	<b>Programmed Instruction in Medical Interviewing</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(5):1078, 1979
<p>Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50 Preview: \$5</p>	<b>Culdocentesis</b>	VT	FP FR MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(5):1079, 1979
<p>Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50 Preview: \$5</p>	<b>Compartmental Syndrome</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(5):1080, 1979
<p>Learning Resources Center SB-56 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195 Purchase: \$50 Preview: \$5</p>	<b>Twist Drill Technique</b>	VT	FP FR	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(5):1080, 1979

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		AUDIENCE	APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>A Brief Course in Dermatology: Parts 1 and 2</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS		Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract 8(5):1080, 1979
Vitalograph Medical Instrumentation 8347 Quivira Road Lenexa, KS 62215 Purchase: \$420	<b>Endotracheal Intubation</b>	ML	FP FR FA MS		Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Drug Interactions</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS		Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
Network for Continuing Medical Education 15 Columbus Circle New York, NY 10023 Purchase: \$50 Rental: \$20	<b>Challenge of Adolescent Medicine</b>	VT	FP FR FA MS		Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
Institute for Continuing Physician Education 4530 West 77th St Minneapolis, MN 55435 Purchase: \$220	<b>Emergency Management: First 30 Minutes: Dislocations</b>	VT	FR FR MS		Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
		VT	FP		
<p>Network for Continuing Medical Education 15 Columbus Circle New York, NY 10023 Purchase: \$50 Rental: \$20</p>	<p><b>Common Skin Disorders in the First Year of Life</b></p>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
<p>MEDCOM 2 Hammarskjold Plaza New York, NY 10017 Purchase: \$60</p>	<p><b>The Anxiety Syndrome: A Global Perspective</b></p>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Limited Value	J Fam Pract—In Press
<p>Eaton Laboratories Medical Film Library 17 Eaton Avenue Norwich, NY 13815 Free on loan</p>	<p><b>The Art of Prostatectomy</b></p>	VT	FP FR	Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
<p>American Academy of Dermatologists PO Box 552 Evanston, IL 60204 Purchase: \$85</p>	<p><b>Occupational Dermatoses</b></p>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
<p>American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers</p>	<p><b>Thyroid Diseases</b></p>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
<p>Institute for Continuing Physician Education 4530 West 77th St Minneapolis, MN 55435 Purchase: \$220</p>	<p><b>Emergency Management: First 30 Minutes: Knee and Ankle Injuries</b></p>	VT	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		AUDIENCE	APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
Western Federation for Human Services 157 Yesler Way Room 208 Seattle, WA 98104 Purchase: \$140 Videocassette \$75 Slide-Tape \$45 Manuals \$20 Preview: \$3	<b>The Legal System</b>	ST VT	FR FA MS		Of Some Value	J Fam Pract—In Press
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Evaluation and Treat- ment of Shoulder Dis- orders</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS		Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
Institute for Continuing Physician Education 4530 West 77th St Minneapolis, MN 55435 Purchase: \$220	<b>Emergency Management: First 30 Minutes: Acute Vaginal Bleeding</b>	VT	FP FR MS		Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
Mason Media, Inc Box C Mason, MI 48854 Purchase: \$2852.85 (film) \$1913.45 (videotape, specify format)	<b>Interpersonal Process Re- call</b>	FM VT	FP FR FA MS		Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons 430 N Michigan Ave Chicago, IL 60611 Rental: \$10	<b>Three Most Common Ski Injuries</b>	FM	FP FR		Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press

SOURCE	PROGRAM	MEDIA		APPRAISAL	REFERENCE
			AUDIENCE		
Institute for Continuing Physician Education 4530 West 77th St Minneapolis, MN 55435 Purchase: \$220	<b>Emergency Management: First 30 Minutes: Emergency Room Treatment of the Eye</b>	VT	FP FR MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Nuclear Medicine in General Internal Medicine</b>	ST	FP FR FA MS	Of Some Value	J Fam Pract—In Press
Multimedia Resource Center 1525 Franklin Street San Francisco, CA 94109 Purchase: \$330 Rental: \$50	<b>A Ripple of Time</b>	FM	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
American College of Physicians 4200 Pine St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Self-Learning Series, produced monthly, subscription costs \$225 per year for members, \$250 per year for nonmembers	<b>Atrial Arrhythmia</b>	ST	FR FA MS	Highly Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press
Burroughs Wellcome Company 3030 Cornwallis Road Research Triangle Park NC 27709 Free on loan	<b>Update on the Management of Recurrent Renal Stones</b>	FM	FP FR FA MS	Recommended	J Fam Pract—In Press



medical educators still find it difficult to learn what is available and to determine the quality and relevance of content of individual programs for specific learning needs. Because of this problem, Brantz and McIlvaine have called for the development of a health science audiovisual resource list to bridge the awareness gap between producers and educators. They propose that this resource list include a subject index and an alphabetical title listing, including descriptions, sources, and summaries.<sup>10</sup> The most extensive national effort in this direction to date is the Audio-Visuals On-Line (AVLINE) program developed and conducted by the National Library of Medicine and the Association of American Medical Colleges. AVLINE provides an on-line data base with references to more than 5,000 nationally available audiovisual materials. In addition to bibliographic control and retrieval capability through a national library computer network, AVLINE involves a peer appraisal process for many of its listed materials.<sup>12</sup>

AVLINE provides new opportunities for educators and other potential users of audiovisual materials to become aware of available materials. However, several problems remain concerning the identification and selection of audiovisual teaching materials for family practice: (1) Many useful materials are not listed under AVLINE; (2) There is insufficient information for most of those that are listed to allow informed judgments to be made concerning selection or purchase of individual programs for specific needs; and (3) AVLINE has not geared most of its reviews to the specific needs of family practice. The difficulty of selection among many available audiovisual materials remains problematic within most specialties. Some specialties have directly addressed this problem, as exemplified in dermatology by the development of a library of audiovisual educational resources through the Institute for Dermatologic Communications and Education.<sup>13</sup>

As a cooperative effort involving *The Journal of Family Practice* and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, the Audiovisual Review Committee continues to serve as the only available national mechanism for the review and appraisal of audiovisual teaching programs for family practice. The stability and effectiveness of this group has been established over a five-year period. This kind of approach has several inherent advantages: (1) specialty-specific evaluation of audiovisual mate-

rials relevant to family practice; (2) group evaluation rather than individual review; (3) reduction of both the *awareness* and *selection* problems for prospective users of audiovisual materials; and (4) feedback to producers of audiovisual materials concerning strengths and limitations of their products. The work of the Audiovisual Review Committee can become more effective through the increased involvement of family practice faculty and practicing family physicians throughout North America in nominating excellent audiovisual teaching materials for review by the group. Such nominations should be made directly to the appropriate member of the group on the basis of content of the audiovisual program being nominated for review (Table 1). This kind of participation is both needed and invited.

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