

On Women

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Sunpapers photo—Frank R. Gardina

COMBINED MEETING—Coordinating efforts to present Dr. Estelle R. Ramey in a lecture May 21 are representatives of three hospitals. From left, Mrs. J. Donald Woodruff, Johns Hopkins Women's Board; Mrs. Irwin J. Nudelman, Sinai, and Mrs. Leonard Scherli's, University Hospital. The joint effort is to better educate the community.

3 Hospital Auxiliaries Plan Joint Program

By Joan Wheatley

There's scarcely a person who does not identify himself with a hospital, whether it is through an accident, child birth, surgery or illness of a relative.

For them, the lay persons in the community, the rhetoric of hospitals is incomprehensible. But good programs can make the rhetoric human, can extend interest and the personal touch and make people in the community aware.

That is the aim of three Baltimore hospital auxiliaries which are presenting a joint program May 21.

It is a "first" combined effort for the Women's Board of the Johns Hopkins hospital and the auxiliaries of the University of Maryland and Sinai hospitals.

The groups are banding together to bring a stimulating program by Dr. Estelle A. Ramey, voted one of the 12 most outstanding women in science.

She will speak on "Will The Real American Woman Please Stand Up," at 11 A.M., May 21, at the Turner

Auditorium, Johns Hopkins Hospital. A reception will be held there at 10.30 A.M.

The program is directed to people, rather than women, said the representatives of the sponsors, Mrs. J. Donald Woodruff, of the Woman's Board of Hopkins Hospital; Mrs. Leonard Scherlis, of University Hospital, auxiliary and Mrs. Irwin J. Nudelman, of Sinai auxiliary.

Sinai has two men on its board, and the others have men serving as volunteers.

So the program is for all interested; volunteers, staff and auxiliary members. Dr. Ramey is professor of biophysics at Georgetown University School of Medicine. Mrs. Nudelman described her as "A Grandmother Moses in Gloria Steinem clothes."

At 52, Dr. Ramey is a grandmother who has been married 35 years. She also is president of the Association of Women in Science. Her research interests are in endocrinology and metabolism.

She has an appeal to young-thinking people both in and out of the medical field. The program planners said, "She articulates the 'silent self,' the subjects which others hesitate to speak about."

The sponsors believe the joint program may be a prototype for other hospitals whose members seek informative, topnotch programs and realize they have many interests in common. "Recognition of mutual interests is time, money and effort saving," Mrs. Scherlis pointed out.

Mrs. Woodruff spoke of the health care delivery system in which "Health care becomes a commodity with a price tag, and we become consumers."

Quoting from the Hopkins's Women's Board pamphlet, she said, "Everyone in medicine today will have a bigger job to do tomorrow . . . Those who are uninformed in the midst of change will take no part in it . . . Information, essential to understanding, is the precious resource of all who work in the health field."

As an example, she said, "I have a sore toe; so I go to my doctor to get it fixed. There are many other ancillary people concerned in getting a toe fixed."

Relatively new on the scene are highly trained technicians for intensive care units and paramedical personnel who save time for physicians and nurses.

It's a team approach to

medical problems, and the programs are aimed at informing the community of the changing patterns because as Mrs. Nudelman said, "An institution (such as a hospital) is always housed, but what runs the mechanism of the housing is people. People together as a group give better care."

The joint program is the third to be held in Baltimore, although it is the first in which University has participated.

The first was coordinated by Sinai and Hopkins, in May, 1971. At that time Robert H. Finch, then counselor to the President, reminded his listeners that "Health care is a human right, not an exclusive privilege."

The two hospital groups presented "Medicines, Morals, Malpractice," in November, 1971.

For those attending the May program, Mrs. Nudelman says, "Dr. Ramey is a professional person, not a professional woman. You'll walk away from her program maybe not a different person, but you will be a thinking person."