

■ ORGANIZED MEDICINE

To the Editor: I read with interest your editorial on "A proper role for organized medicine in a new era" (May 1997).¹

Although some may feel that your comments were overly simplistic, I believe that they reach to the very heart of the matter concerning our profession. I appreciate the fact that you saw fit to publish your comments and I certainly concur. As a member of the profession for the past 40 years, I believe that the suggestions in your editorial are those which comprise the very basis for our profession.

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■ REFERENCES

1. Clough JD. A proper role for organized medicine in a new era. *Cleve Clin J Med* 1997; 64:232-233.

To the Editor: I just read your outstanding editorial "A proper role for organized medicine in a new era." I was very pleased to see your presentation of this argument, one which has been silent for too long in medicine. I encourage you to present this argument in other journals and media. It is so important we maintain medicine as a profession with service ideals.

I am not a member of the AMA and state society for these reasons. This goes against my general philosophy of "changing a group from within," but the overwhelming self-serving history of the AMA does not allow for change in my opinion. (I was shocked when I did a paper on the AMA's history for my master's degree.) Other forums for change and preservation of the profession may be needed.

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1997

■ SEPTEMBER

- Second national conference on arrest and reversal of coronary artery disease
September 4-5
Disney Yacht Club Resort, Orlando, Fla
- Heart failure summit
September 4-5
Renaissance Cleveland Hotel
- Endocrinology review
September 7-9
Omni International Hotel, Cleveland
- Heartbeats fast and slow
September 10
Forum Conference Center, Cleveland
- Spine conference
September 19-20
- Invasive echocardiography
September 23-26
- Adolescent medicine
September 26
Marriott Downtown, Key Center, Cleveland
- Geriatrics
September 27

■ OCTOBER

- Dermatopathology self-assessment workshop
October 4
Omni International Hotel, Cleveland
- Pituitary tumors
October 15
Omni International Hotel, Cleveland
- Women's health issues
October 17
- Advances in female voiding dysfunction and pelvic disorders
October 24-25
Renaissance Cleveland Hotel

All courses will be held at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Bunts Auditorium, unless otherwise noted. Courses and dates subject to change. For further information and a descriptive brochure, please call (800) 762-8173 or (216) 444-5696.

The Cleveland Clinic CME schedule can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ccf.org/ed/netcme.htm>.