

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Monday, April 8, 1985

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. We're going to the hospital today. Not to stay, of course; but to visit. We are going to visit a "paperless" hospital. Now, you know that the idea of a hospital without paper is hard to take. From the moment the patient arrives, someone at a hospital is busy writing about the patient on pieces of paper.

And, of course, there are all the internal uses of paper --- for payroll, for personnel records, for inventory. If it's true that an Army travels on its stomach, then perhaps we can bend that old saying and claim that a hospital travels on paper.

But all that is changing. University Hospital at the State University of New York at Stony Brook is working hard at becoming a paperless hospital. Directing that operation is Paul Vegoda, who is deputy director of University Hospital, in charge of information services. Mr. Vegoda, give us an estimate. Is University Hospital, say, 50 per cent paperless?

INTERVIEW MR. VEGODA:

- History of hospital, computer activities
- Chronicle slow, steady development of programs
- Outline some specific program uses re:
 - patients
 - medication and supplies inventory
 - personnel, payroll
- Security
- ~~Advantages, disadvantages~~
- Any application to home uses (PC)?

"Elastic Dream"

14:00

MORE

AFO: Stay with us. We'll return in a moment to talk with Paul Vegoda about how other hospitals around the world can benefit from the "paperless" systems being devised at Stony Brook.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi. I'm Al Oickle, and I'm at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with Paul Vegoda, deputy director of University Hospital. Mr. Vegoda is in charge of the hospital's information services -- a vast computer system that is aimed at ridding hospital personnel of as many uses of paper as possible. Mr. Vegoda, University Hospital has been developing this system for seven years now, and there's no end in sight as I understand it.

INTERVIEW MR. VEGODA:

- Discuss new bedside monitoring system
- Discuss selling partnership with Price Waterhouse
- Eventual applications to home life: daily monitoring of personal health, information relay via modem to MDs and hospitals
- Danger of errors, hackers, human error
- Research applications at University Hospital
- For further information...

29:00 - OUTRO