4 Guest Editors' Introduction: Information Systems for Patient Care
   Thelma Estrin and Robert C. Uzgalis

9 A Medical Information System and Data Language for Ambulatory Practices
   Peter D. Beaman, Norma S. Justice, and G. Octo Barnett
   The COSTAR system keeps medical records and does accounting and administrative tasks for group practices. It also offers clinical researchers a useful query language for manipulating medical data.

19 Medical Guidance and PROMIS
   Peter L. Walton, Robert R. Holland, and Lawrence I. Wolf
   Not merely a computerized medical information system, PROMIS is a comprehensive approach to individual health care, from research and education to overall management of health and illness.

28 The MATRIX Data Base Management System
   Richard M. Sneider, Ralph E. Boyce, and Charles A. Tapella
   This system is designed for the health professional with no previous DP experience—herewith a description, from a user's perspective, of MATRIX's use, architecture, and capabilities.

34 TOD: A Software System for the ARAMIS Data Bank
   Dennis J. McShane, Alison Harlow, R. Guy Kraines, and James F. Fries
   This system is organized for statistical analysis of patient information. Such analysis yields accurate predictions of outcome and, by pointing to appropriate treatments, helps contain medical costs.

42 An Oncology Clinical Information System
   Bruce I. Blum and Raymond E. Lenhard, Jr.
   Because of its reliance on protocols, oncology is an active area for developing patient management systems. This system prepares a daily treatment plan for each cancer patient.

52 Computing in China, 1979—An Update
   Isaac L. Auerbach
   China's accomplishments remain impressive in spite of political barriers to technical progress. Most limiting of these is the dictum of self-sufficiency, which makes vertical integration and its attendant efficiency impossible.

62 Interactive Graphics Teleconferencing
   William Pferd, L. A. Peralta, and F. X. Prendergast
   Interactive graphic displays of layouts or design plans, already in widespread use as design aids, can be even more effective when used in conjunction with teleconferencing.

77 Open Channel: Reliability Rites of the 50's and Software
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