Report No. LMSC-682684

TECHNICAL REPORT

ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION NEEDS OF NURSING STATIONS

Medical Information Systems
LOCKHEED MISSILES & SPACE COMPANY
A Group Division of Lockheed Aircraft Corporation
Sunnyvale, California

MAY 1969

Work Carried Out Under Contract PH 110-68-47
National Center For Health Services Research and Development
Health Services and Mental Health Administration
Public Health Service
Department of Health, Education and Welfare

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FOREWORD

This technical report is the final report on the Analysis of Information Needs of Nursing Stations. The study was performed and all related effort accomplished by Lockheed Missiles & Space Company (LMSC) for the U.S. Public Health Service, National Center for Health Services Research and Development, under Contract PH 110-68-47. The work performed by LMSC and the report itself are fully responsive to the contract and fulfill all its terms.

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This study was completed for the National Center for Health Services Research and Development, U.S. Public Health Service. The study was conducted under the cognizance of the Health Care Technology Program – Dr. Bruce Waxman, Director; Miss Bertha Bryant, R.N., Project Officer.

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• HOSPITALS

Barnes Medical Center, St. Louis, Missouri
Campbell Community Hospital, Campbell, California
Canonsburg General Hospital, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania
Children's Hospital of Akron, Akron, Ohio
Institute of Living, Hartford, Connecticut
Los Angeles County General, Los Angeles, California
Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Park Lane Memorial Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri
St. Anthony's Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri
St. Clair Memorial Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
St. John's Hospital, Joplin, Missouri
San Jose Hospital & Health Center, San Jose, California
St. Lawrence Hospital, Lansing, Michigan
Stanford University Hospital, Palo Alto, California
Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, Houston, Texas

HOSPITAL ASSOCIATIONS

Hospital Association of Metropolitan St. Louis Hospital Council of Northern California Hospital Council of Western Pennsylvania



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Section 1 INTRODUCTION

Under conventional forms of hospital organization, the nursing station is the focal point for the exchange of virtually all patient medical information. As such, the nursing station is a highly significant element of any hospital communication system.

Medical information may be operationally defined as data or news concerning patients and their care. Within the hospital environment, this information begins with the admitting process and flows continuously throughout all the subsequent procedures associated with the patient or his pathology. As a result of the increasing quantities and types of information required for the maintenance of patient care and cure regimens, a massive data processing requirement problem has developed over the past 50 or more years.

It is the purpose of this study to (1) perform a detailed examination and analysis of the information handling requirements of typical hospital nursing stations, as they exist today, and (2) provide an analysis of the findings in light of typical developments in computer-assisted hospital information systems.

This technical report reflects the condensation of data collected at 15 different hospitals in 5 different Bureau of Census regions of the United States. Several levels of data reduction are involved. The basic raw data collected have been reduced to a first-level status in a separate, unpublished report.* Some second-level reduction of the data is provided in the Appendixes A through F of this report. The body of the report contains third-level or more refined data. Some of these latter data are presented in the form of computer-generated graphs.

^{*}Lockheed Missiles & Space Company, Documentation of Sample Observations, LMSC-689260, Sunnyvale, Calif., 17 Mar 1969 (special report to Project Officer, National Center for Health Services Research and Development).



Data presented in this report are identified at various points by a hospital identification code used in lieu of the specific names of the hospitals participating in the analysis effort. Codes employed for hospitals where work sampling was performed are as follows:

	Large Hospitals	L1, L2, L3
	Medium Hospitals	M1, M2, M3
•	Small Hospitals	S1, S2, S3

Codes employed for hospitals where computer surveys were conducted are A, B, C, D, and E.

Major aspects of the study for the Analysis of the Information Needs of Nursing Stations are presented in the following sections of this report:

Section

- 2 Approach Overall approach to the analysis effort
- 3 <u>Information Processed at Nursing Station Characterization</u> of information processed at nursing stations
- 4 <u>Information-Processing Models</u> Pictorial and dynamic models of information-processing requirements at nursing stations
- 5 Hospital Computer Systems Survey Commentary on findings of survey of computer applications at nursing stations
- 6 Comparison of Hospital Computer Systems With Model Assessment of degree to which the surveyed hospital computer systems fulfill perceived needs
- 7 Improved Systems Description of concept of total hospital information processing system considered attainable within the present state-of-the-art

The first page of each appendix in this report contains a summary of the contents of that appendix.

Section 2 APPROACH

2.1 GENERAL

A multifaceted approach to the nursing station information needs analysis, involving separate but interrelated avenues of analysis, was employed by LMSC. (See Fig. 2-1.) This approach led to the postulation of a total hospital information processing system for the future. The analysis is based on data collected at 15 different hospitals throughout the United States and is tempered and supported by the prior LMSC experience in related endeavors.

2.2 HOSPITAL SAMPLE SELECTION

Selection of hospitals to participate in the study involved two separate categories. One category included hospitals in which observations of nursing station information processing requirements were to be studied. The other category consisted of hospitals with existing computer installations that have some impact on the nursing station activity.

2.2.1 Hospitals Selected for Nursing Station Observations

The hospital selection process involved obtaining data for a small hospital (under 100 beds), a medium hospital (100 to 300 beds), and a large hospital (over 300 beds), each in three different census regions of the country. In general, large urban centers were avoided since it was reasonable to expect that a concentration of advanced health care developments in such areas might tend to bias the sample. The regions were searched for metropolitan areas of about 1 to 2 million population which tended to show average values for several parameters considered pertinent. A directed selection was made which afforded a statistical comparison of some of the more relevant data. Areas



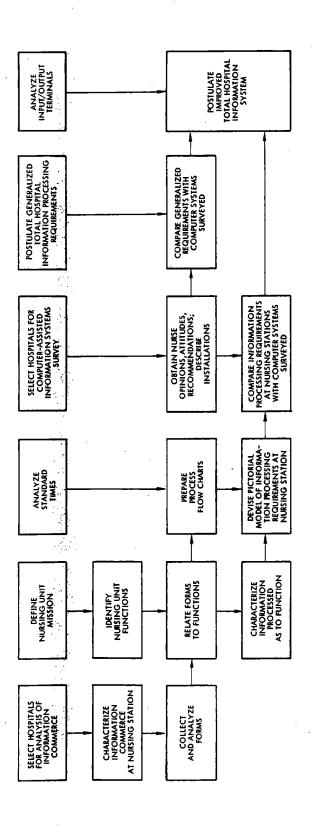


Fig. 2-1 Study Approach

were chosen which tended to represent regions of the United States and metropolitan areas which had in common near-average values for the parameters used for the selection. Table 2-1 shows the selection criteria and some of the candidate areas considered.

The areas finally settled upon were the Greater Pittsburgh, Greater St. Louis, and Greater San Jose areas. Specific hospitals in each area were selected with the advice and counsel of hospital associations or councils in those areas. (See Acknowledgements.) Nine hospitals were chosen, and the selection was such that all major services and specializations typically found in general hospitals (e.g., medical, surgery, psychiatric, intensive care, and long-term chronic disease) were included. The number of nursing stations observed totaled 160. Detailed characteristics of the hospitals selected are presented in Appendix A.

2.2.2 Hospitals Selected for Survey of Computer-Assisted Hospital Information Systems

The criteria for selection of the computer-assisted hospital information systems to be surveyed were developed from a consensus based on the following considerations:

- Operational projects in use in a hospital for a minimum of 6 months
- Input/output devices in use based upon different viewpoints and requirements
- Limit of six hospitals under terms of the study contract

A review of projects around the country, conducted by means of a literature search and telephone verifications, resulted in selection of 10 candidate hospitals. From this group, six hospitals were selected for the survey. They represented several different systems which were considered as demonstrating the characteristic computer-provided assistance at nursing stations. Since the six selected hospitals reflected a broad coverage of applications and were quite different in terms of the hardware employed, and in the contractor-hospital relationships involved, they appeared to

Table 2-1
CRITERIA FOR AREA SELECTION

Site Selection Criteria

- 1. Large, medium, and small hospital in close proximity
- 2. Presence or absence of medical school in the community
- 3. Size of poverty pool
- 4. Resources per capita (physicians, registered nurses, beds)

Data on Selected Metropolitan Areas

Area	Nurs- ing School	Medi- cal School	Beds/ 100,000 Popula- tion	RN's/ 100,000 Pop'n.	MD's/ 100,000 Pop'n.	Poverty- %<\$3,000/ yr	Popula- tion Density (millions)	Census Region
Year Data Gathered	1967	1967	1962	1962	1962	1966	1960	
Boston, Mass.	Yes	Yes	4.5	514	245	10	2,632	1
Pittsburg, Pa.	Yes	Yes	4.3	373	131	15	789	2 ,
San Jose, Calif.	Yes	No	3.4	327	240	12	491	9
St. Louis, Mo.	Yes	Yes	5. 0	222	156	15	511	4
Mobile, Ala.	Yes	No	3. 0	158	91	27	129	5

provide a cross section of current "experiments" under way in 1968. Profiles for these hospitals are presented in Appendix A.

2.2.3 Solicitations and Approvals

After the selections were made, approval for participation of each hospital in the survey was sought from each hospital administrator. Upon receipt of such approval, subsequent arrangements and details were worked out with the Nursing Service Director. Significantly, of all hospitals queried, only one was not in a position to cooperate. This refusal was due, however, to an unusual heavy loading on the staff at the time because of the opening of a new extension at the hospital.

2.3 OBSERVATION OF NURSING STATIONS

A complete listing of the nursing stations observed is given in Appendix C, which shows the designated type of service provided at each station such as medical, pediatric, and obstetric services. A total of 160 nursing stations were observed at 9 different hospitals. In addition, a recently opened facility, which had in operation two nursing stations providing extended, continuing, and long-term psychiatric care was observed. Data from this facility are considered as supplementary material since the contract terms did not include coverage of extended-care facilities. The mix of stations, and the mix within stations in this listing, suggests that very few stations are identical.

Essentially, two basic categories of observation were made. One was a random sampling of the total information processing activity at the nursing station. These observations served to determine the nature and extent of the information processed and the skill levels of the persons doing the processing. The other type of observation involved collection of forms used at the nursing station and flow-charting the activity involved in processing the forms.



2.3.1 Random Sampling

The random-sampling technique employed to observe and document the total information-processing activity assured minimization of bias in the observation. The validity of the observation was based upon the adequacy of the sample size, i.e., the number of observations made.

The selection of sample size is basically a function of the binomial theorem defined, in this case, by the following equation:

$$Sp = C \left[\frac{p(1-p)}{N} \right]^{1/2}$$

where

S = the desired accuracy

N = the number of observations

C = the confidence interval or standard deviations

For working convenience, this equation can be rephrased as follows:

$$N = \frac{C^2 (1 - p)}{S^2 p}$$

The number of observations made were controlled so as to produce a 95-percent confidence level, with the tolerance limit averaging 4 percent but never greater than 7 percent.



The few occasions where the tolerance limit approached 7 percent was because of the relative lack of activity at those stations as compared with the other stations in the hospital or, in the case of a very small hospital, where the activity level was lower than at others. In these cases, the cost of continuing the observations in order to obtain a lower tolerance was not warranted. (Altogether, 90,130 random observations were made during the survey.)

2.3.2 Forms Analysis

Forms used at nursing stations were collected, and interviews were held with nursing station personnel to ascertain usage rate and procedural details. The forms used more than once daily were analyzed in detail and from these, a representative selection of these forms were flow-charted, showing the processing time for each form. (See Appendix D.) The flow process charts, processing time, and usage rates constitute factors, among others, which were used in the development of the models discussed in Section 4 of this report. All told, 1,040 forms were collected, of which 95 were selected for flow charting.

2.4 SURVEY OF COMPUTER-ASSISTED HOSPITAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

At the six hospitals surveyed, interviews were conducted with nursing service personnel and with data processing personnel. The 66 persons interviewed as shown below comprised personnel in the following categories:

Nursing	<u>Physician</u>	Data Processing	Administration
12	1	1	2
8		1	1
.14	1	2	_
4		2	_
7	1	_	1
_4	<u>1</u>	_3	<u>-</u>
49	· 4	9	4

One specific format was used for interviewing nursing personnel, and another for querying the data processing personnel. The formats were structured in an attempt to elicit, as efficiently as possible, subjective information (e.g., nurse's opinions, attitudes, and recommendations about the system at the nursing stations) and objective factual data about the computer installation (e.g., regarding equipment, software applications, terminals, operation, and organization). Nursing station interfaces between computer systems and the manual systems were observed at each of the hospitals during a portion of the day set aside for the visit.

2.5 MODELS

Pictorial and dynamic models of the information processing requirements at nursing stations were developed through analysis of the observations made and the data collected. The models centered primarily, on the information processing aspects attendant to three variables implicit in nursing unit activity; namely, the degree of nursing care, the basic functions of the nursing unit, and the interface requirements with other organizational units of the hospital.

The information needs represented by the model were compared with the accommodations of these needs made by the hospital systems surveyed and with an improved system postulated by LMSC. (See Section 7.)

Section 3 INFORMATION PROCESSED AT NURSING STATIONS

This section presents the information processing data derived from observations at nine different hospitals - three large, three medium, and three small.

3.1 INFORMATION COMMERCE - ALL STATIONS

To gather data on hospital information commerce, nursing station sites in each hospital were identified and work sampled. Personnel at the stations were classified as either processing or not processing information. Of those who were processing, the skill level and the type of processing were noted. Observations were made covering all 24 hours of the day and all 7 days of the week. Data from the nursing stations were summarized and consolidated into totals for each hospital. These summarized data were then processed by computer and computer-generated plots were made showing the magnitude of each information processing activity versus time of day. The preliminary plots showed that the information commence from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. was negligible compared with the 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. time period. This indicated that the daytime load could properly represent the hospital's normal operating conditions; therefore, final computer plots were made to show only the hours 7 a.m. through 7 p.m. (7 through 19 on the charts).

Seven separate plots were made for each of the nine hospitals. These are shown in Appendix B, Figs. B-1 through B-63. The charts in the Appendix are presented in sequence according to the size of the hospital. Results from observations of a small extended- and continuing-care facility, which is operated as a satellite of one of the medium-size hospitals studied, are shown in Figs. B-64 through B-70.

Average and representative trends for large, medium, and small hospitals have been obtained by consolidating and averaging the data given in Appendix B. Thus,

representative data for a large-size hospital are shown in Figs. 3-1 through 3-7; for a medium-size hospital in Figs. 3-8 through 3-14; and for a small-size hospital in Figs. 3-15 through 3-21.

A discussion of the figures representative of a large-size hospital (Figs. 3-1 through 3-7) will suffice for all three groups because the treatment is the same and only the quantities differ. For example, Figs. 3-1 through 3-5 all have an upper curve depicting the total number of people processing information throughout the hospital during each hour of the day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. These information processing operations include form processing, chart processing, work-related conversations, and other work-associated activities.

The lower curve on Fig. 3-1, therefore, depicts the number of people who are engaged in form-processing operations during each hour of the day. Form-processing operations are defined as either reading or writing on a form of any nature. The lower curve of Fig. 3-2 shows the number of people involved in chart-processing operations, which are also defined as either reading or writing on a patient chart. Figure 3-3 gives the number of people involved in work-related conversations such as those related to patient admittance or discharge, visitors, preps, X-rays, or patient transport. And the lower curve on Fig. 3-4 shows the number of people engaged in other types of work-associated information processing. These include telephone conversations, letters, and reading (other than forms or patient charts) such as professional journals, formulary, and data on new drugs.

Figure 3-5, which also has an upper curve depicting the total number of information processing operations, shows five distinct skill levels. The curve for each of these five skill levels represents the number of persons in that skill category who are engaged in information processing during each hour of the day.

Figure 3-6 shows the percent of the nursing staff who are engaged in information processing versus the time of day.

LARGE HOSPITAL

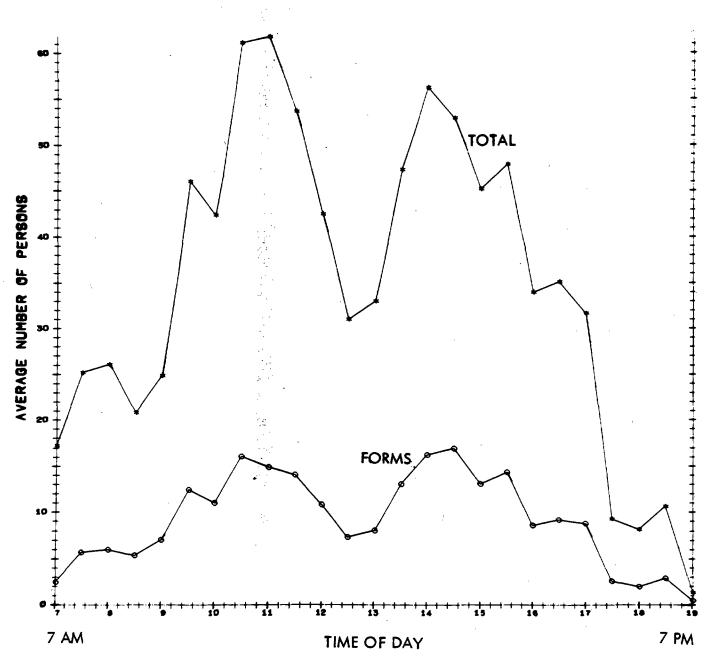


Fig. 3-1 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Large Hospital

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LARGE HOSPITAL

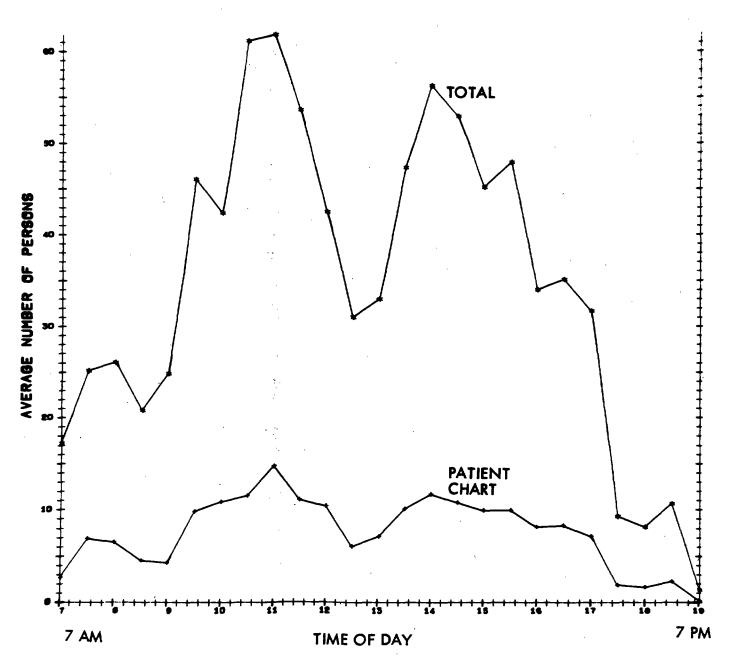


Fig. 3-2 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Large Hospital

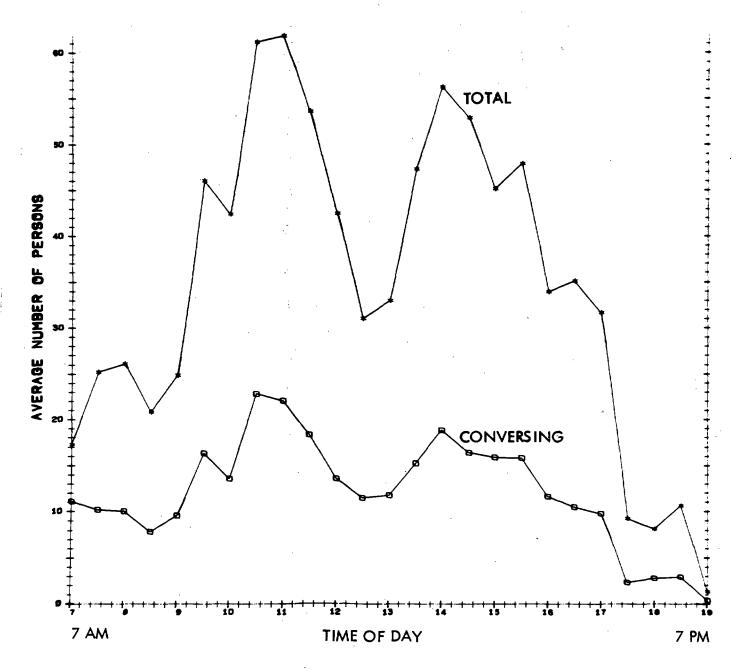


Fig. 3-3 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Representative Large Hospital

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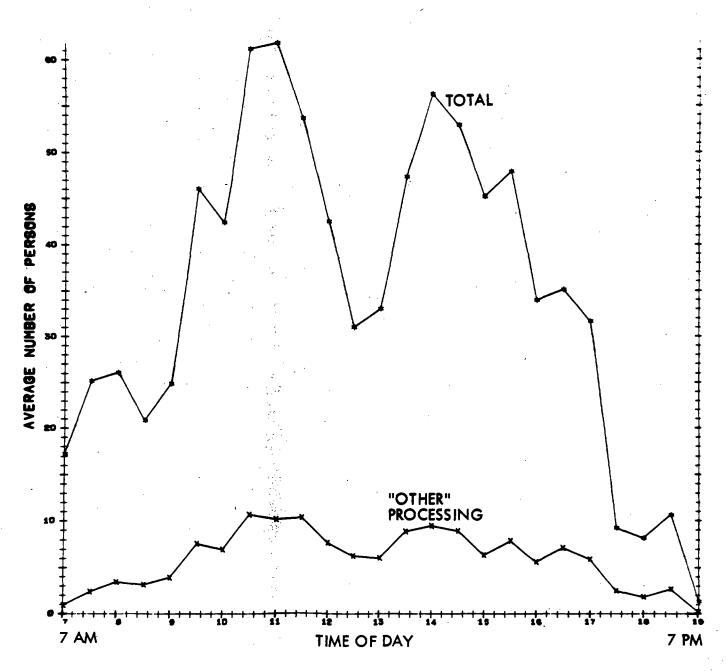


Fig. 3-4 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Large Hospital

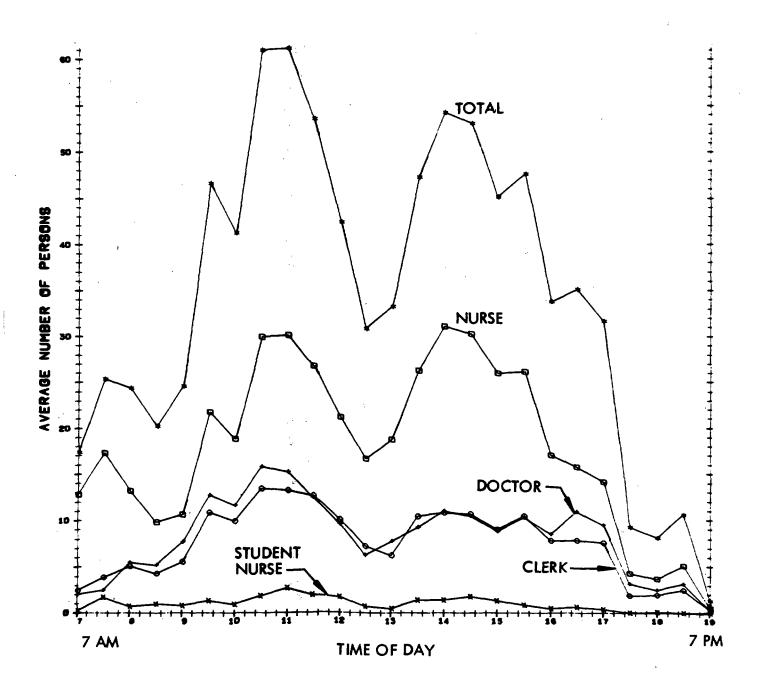
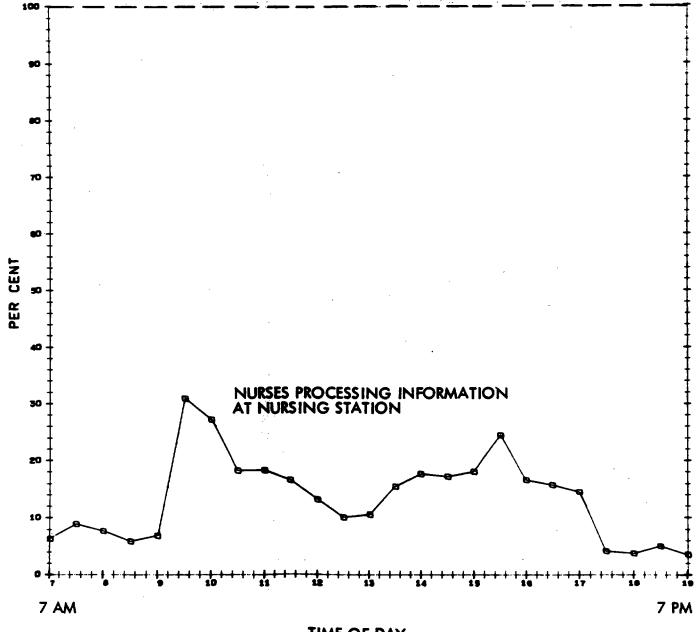


Fig. 3-5 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Representative Large Hospital

TOTAL NURSING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE AT NURSING UNIT



TIME OF DAY

Fig. 3-6 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Representative Large Hospital

TOTAL INFORMATION PROCESSED

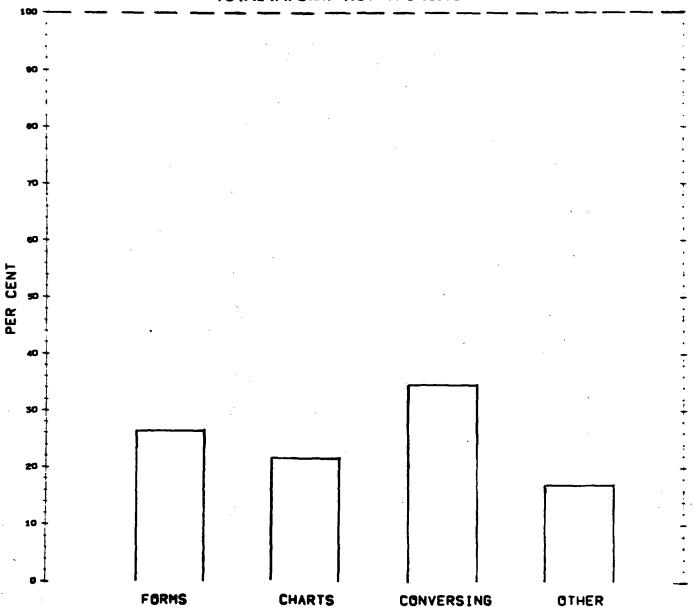


Fig. 3-7 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed – Representative Large Hospital

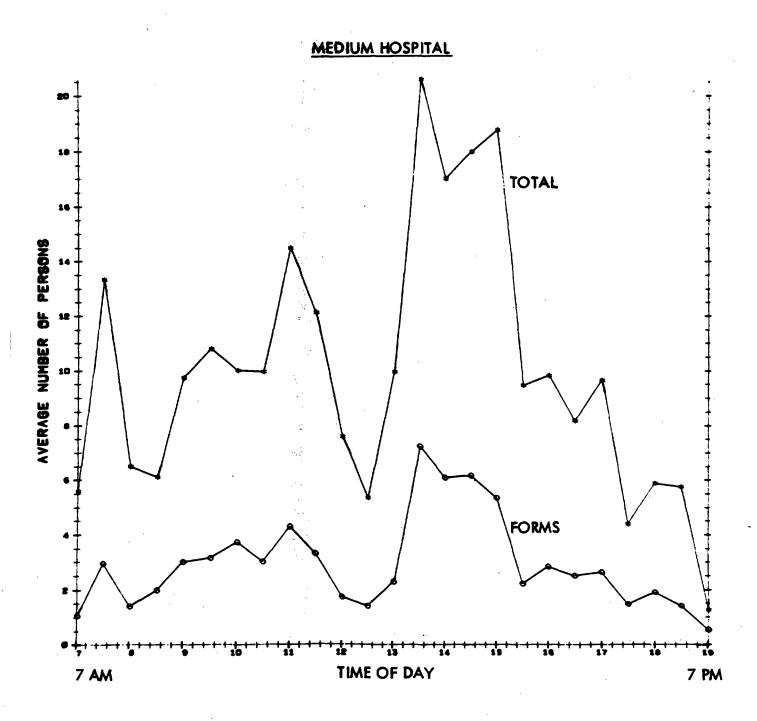


Fig. 3-8 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Medium Hospital

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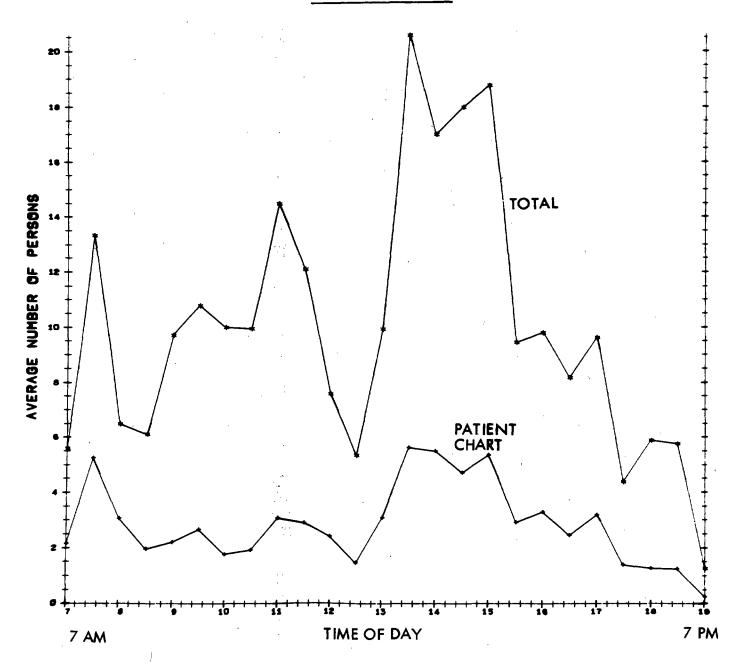


Fig. 3-9 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing -- Representative Medium Hospital

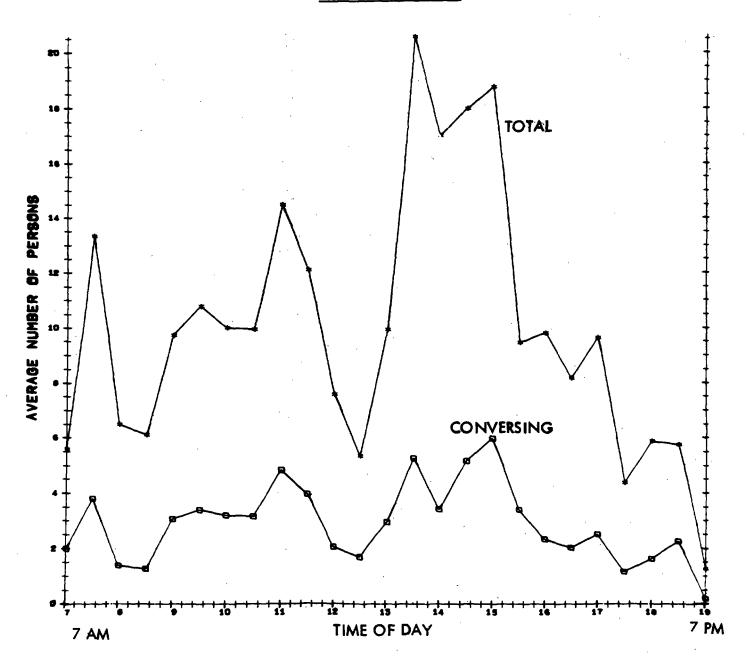


Fig. 3-10 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Representative Medium Hospital

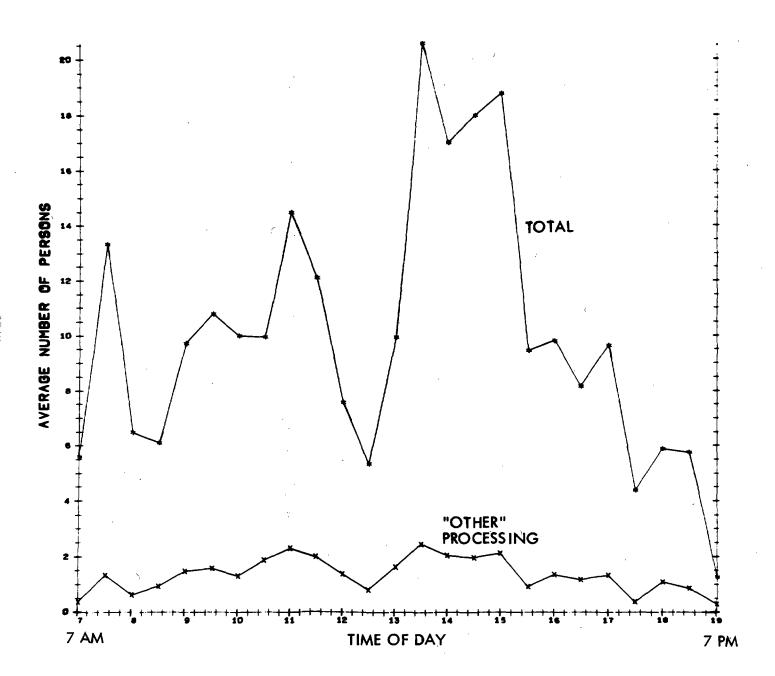


Fig. 3-11 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Medium Hospital

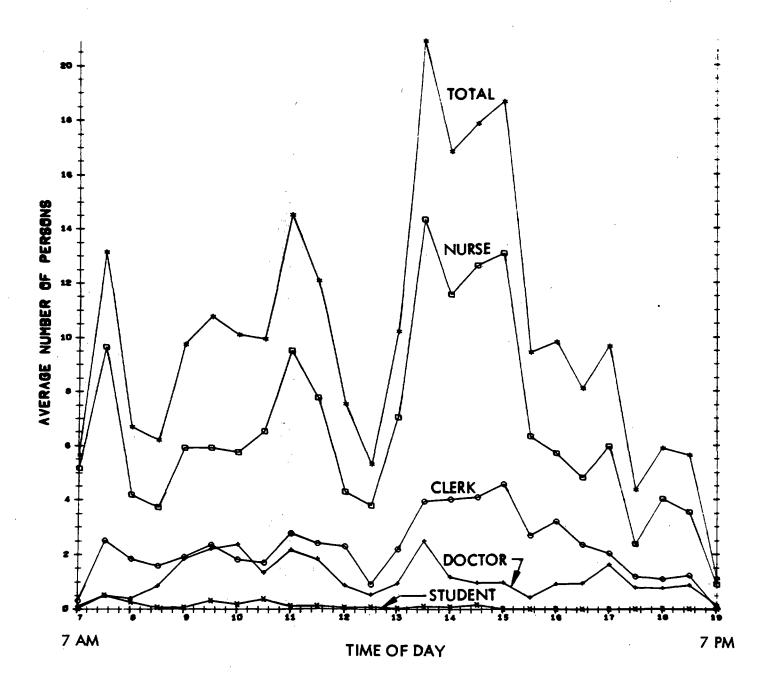
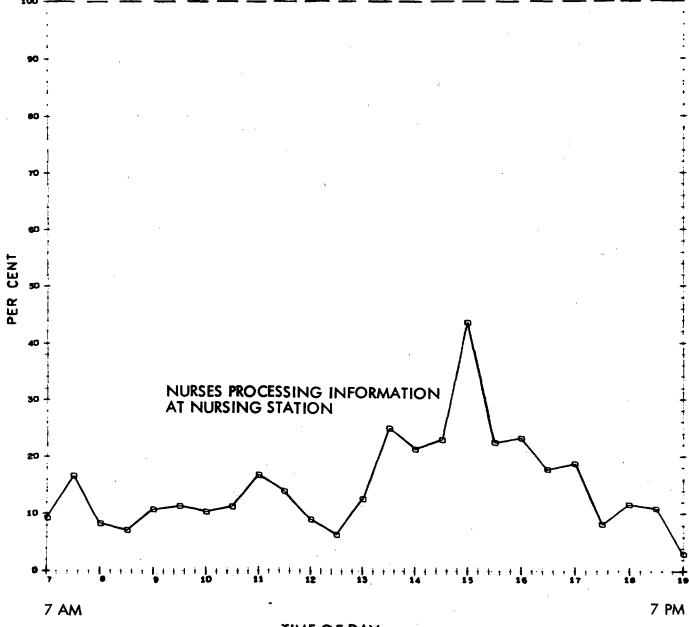


Fig. 3-12 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Representative Medium Hospital

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TIME OF DAY

Fig. 3-13 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information — Representative Medium Hospital

TOTAL INFORMATION PROCESSED

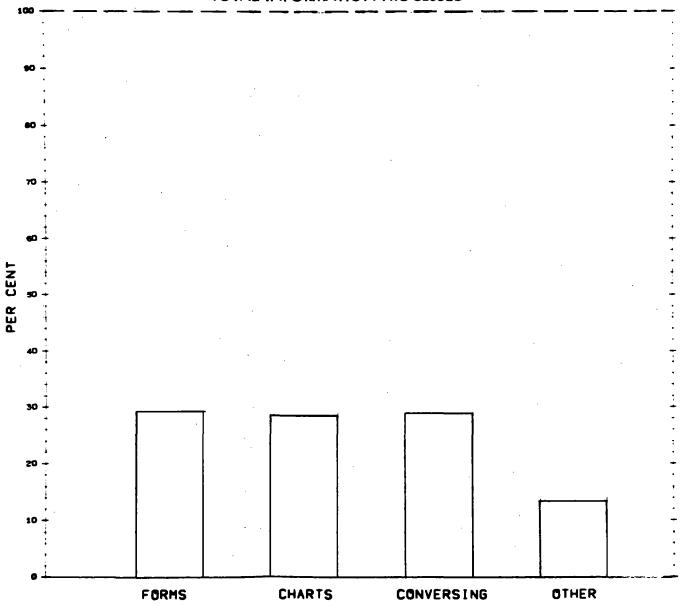


Fig. 3-14 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Representative Medium Hospital

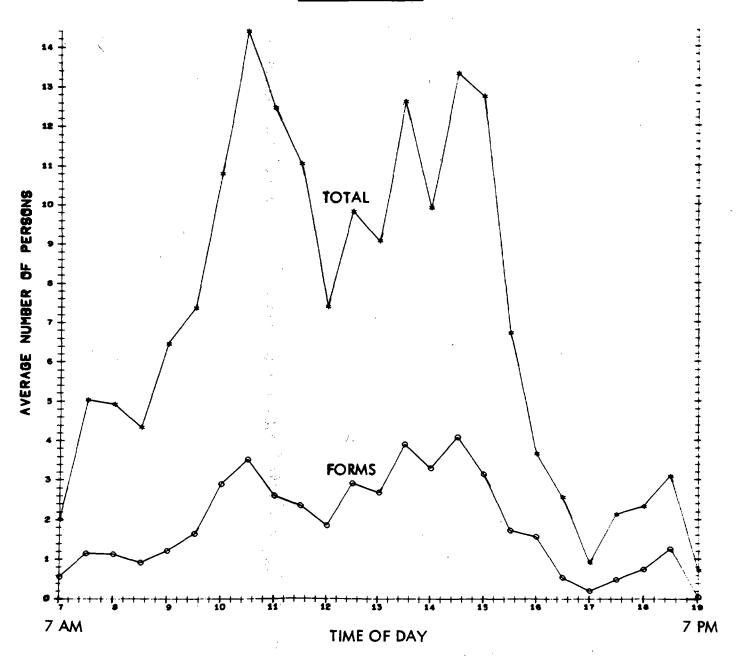


Fig. 3-15 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Small Hospital

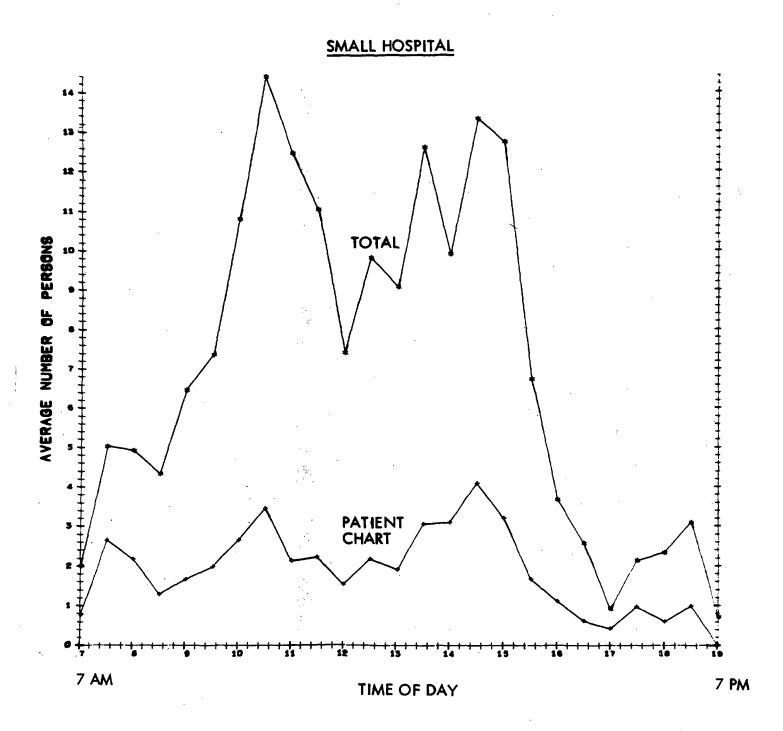


Fig. 3-16 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Small Hospital

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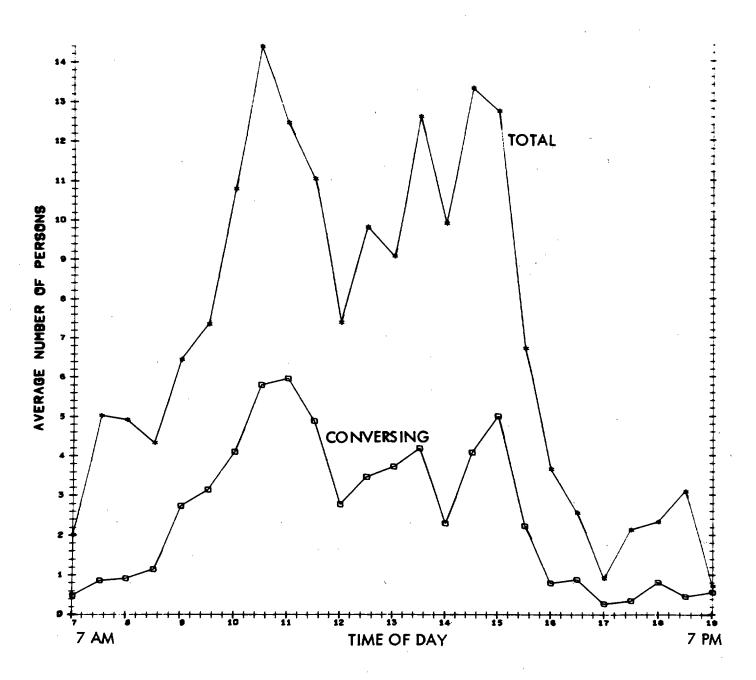


Fig. 3-17 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Representative Small Hospital

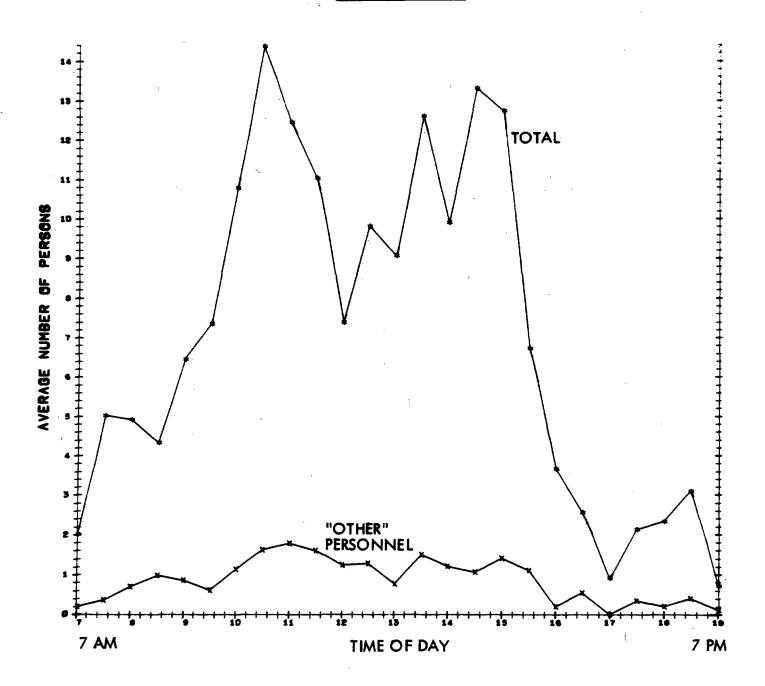


Fig. 3-18 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Representative Small Hospital

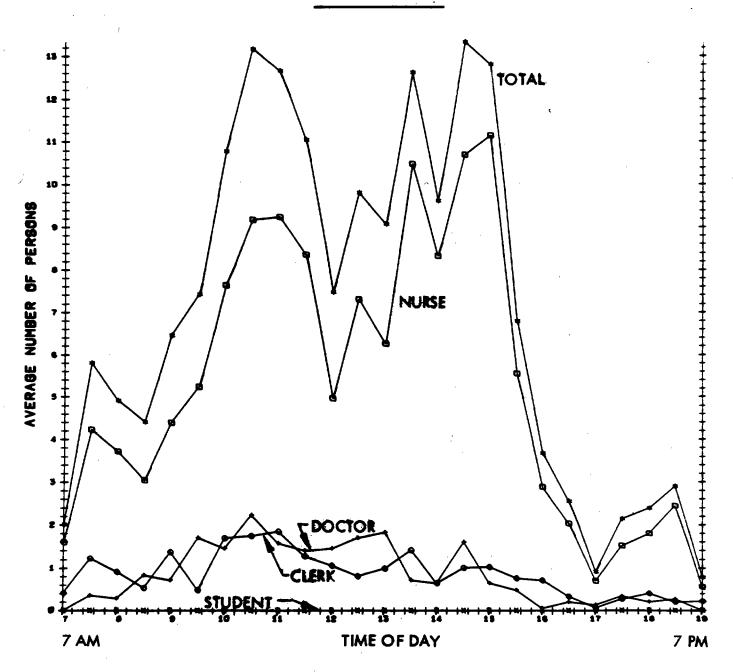


Fig. 3-19 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Representative Small Hospital

SMALL HOSPITAL 1 50 140 130 120 TOTAL NURSING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE 110 AT NURSING UNIT 100 PER CENT 70 50 30 20 10 7. AM 7 PM TIME OF DAY

Fig. 3-20 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information — Representative Small Hospital

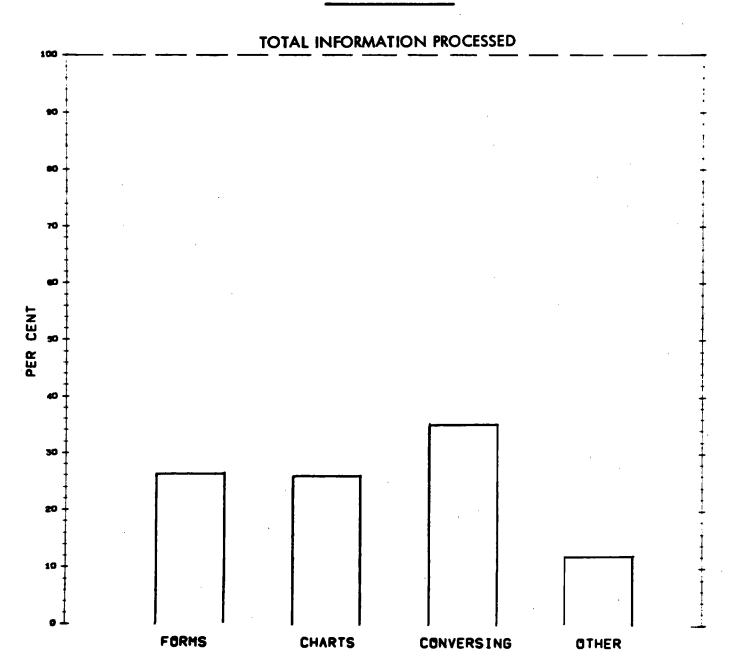


Fig. 3-21 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed – Representative Small Hospital

The last figure in this group, Fig. 3-7, shows the relative percentage of the type of information of each of the four major categories of information processing. From this figure it can be seen that forms processing together with chart processing accounts for nearly half of the total information processing activity. This factor is significant since it gives direction and emphasis to the study of the forms (including patient's chart) used for processing information at the nursing station. This is taken up again later in this section and subsequently in the modeling scheme in Section 4.

3.2 INFORMATION COMMERCE - INDIVIDUAL NURSING STATIONS

From the data collected it is possible to prepare similar charts for each nursing station studied, which would amount to 7 charts for each of the 160 stations. While such information would be of interest to the respective hospitals, or for comparing in detail various types of nursing stations, such an effort was outside the scope of this study. It should be noted, however, that the computer program written to process the total hospital data can with slight modification also be used to process individual station data. In fact, plots of activities for each of a few nursing stations were produced by computer to determine the feasibility of the application. These plots are presented in Appendix C, together with other data for the individual nursing stations.

For gross comparative purposes some detailed analysis was performed on each of the 160 stations studied. This is given in Appendix C. The cornerstone upon which individual stations analysis is built is the gross observations concerning whether a person was "processing" or "not processing." It can be seen from the analysis in Appendix C that lower-level details, such as the type of information processed and the particular skill levels involved (as given in Figs. 3-1 through 3-21), are not included. The analysis given in Appendix C is therefore "representative and average," but none the less useful for comparing various stations. The last two columns on the right are perhaps of most interest. In the first of these two columns the total staff in attendance at the ward (unit) is compared with the number of people working at the station. The second then gives the percentage of those at the station who are actually processing information.

Because nursing station designations vary between hospitals and because of the mixture of services, no two stations are exactly alike, thereby making direct comparisons extremely tenuous.

3.3 FUNCTIONAL GROUPING COMPARISONS

Although it can be seen from Appendix C that designations indicating type of service do not reveal consistent commonality among stations, there is a factor that can be applied to classify common information characteristics among certain types or groups of nursing stations. Basically this factor has to do with degree of patient care required. This notion is developed more fully in Section 4, but let it suffice here to say that functional groupings can be made along the following lines:

- Intensive care (long term)
- Intensive care (short term)
- Intermediate care (special)
- Intermediate care (general)
- Self care

With this notion of functional grouping established, it now becomes possible to make some gross comparisons. Table 3-1 shows comparisons taken from the data in Appendix C. Naturally the comparison can be attempted only where the station designation clearly fits the functional grouping; however, this does not necessarily mean that the stations are identical. On the other hand, if some types of service appear to be missing in the comparisons, it does not mean that the service is not provided at the hospital. It may mean that the nomenclature is not precisely the same, or that a particular station was not included in the observations for some reason. It must be emphasized that the listing of stations in Table 3-1 is for illustrative purposes only, and not a complete functional grouping of all stations studied.

3.4 FORMS PROCESSING

Forms and patient-chart processing were found to be the predominant type of information processing, and, furthermore, it was found that a great deal of the observed

EXAMPLE OF NURSING STATION COMPARISONS BY FUNCTIONAL GROUPINGS Table 3-1

			Percent	age of Con Vho Are P	nbined Staf rocessing	Percentage of Combined Staff at Nursing Station Who Are Processing Information(a)	g Station n(a)		
Nursing Stations by Functional Groupings	La	Large Hospitals	itals	Med	Medium Hospitals	tals	Sma	Small Hospitals	als
	L-1	L-2	L-3	M-1	M-2	M-3	S-1	S-2	S-3
Intensive Care (Long Term)									
• ICU		63		•		64	1		1
np • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	69		73	89				4	1
• Burn	53	1	ı	. 1	1		1	ı	ı
• ICU/CCU	1	1	1	1	41		.1	l	55
Intensive Care (Short Term)									
• OR	63	45	87	70	44	63	1	ī	20
Delivery	64	44	73	37	39	39	I	ı	ı
• Recovery	44	46	1	44	28	1	1	ı	1
• ER	64	09	80	74	52	40	1	25	51
Intermediate Care (Special)									
Psych.	. 79	ı	1	64	1	1	1	1	ı
• Ob.	88	ı	80	ı	ı	ı	ļ	41	ı
Neuro. /Surg.	7.1	26	i	ı	I	l	1	i	ı
• ENT	99	I	ļ	ı	I	ı	1	1	ŀ
• Gyn.	64	ı	81	ı	1	ı	1	1	ı
• Ob./Gyn.	I	70	ı	ı	I	ı	1	ı	1
Intermediate Care (General)	,								
Medical	87	i	80	75	ı	70	1	I	09
• Surgical	82	1	81	78.	29	72	ľ	ı	80
• Med./Surg.	1	29	74	i	65	ı	62	71	ı
Self Care				,				·	
• Psych.	<u>(a</u>)	I	1	<u>.</u>	<u>@</u> ;	@ ;	(Q)	(g)	(a)
• Seli Care	(g)	1	ı	(a)	(q)	(Q)	(Q)	(Q)	@

(a) A dash (-) means "not applicable," no separate station so designated (b) Number of nursing stations surveyed insufficient to permit comparison

conversation related to forms. The conversation usually concerned either what was already entered on or what was about to be entered on a form or patient chart.

Forms were collected at all nine hospitals, and of course a certain amount of duplication ensued. All told, 1040 forms were collected. These were immediately screened to determine those used one or more times a day and those used less than once a day.

Those used one or more times a day were analyzed as to which nursing unit function they served. More will be said later in Section 4 about nursing unit functions, but let it suffice here to say that eight different major functions were defined – admitting, examination, diagnosis, treatment, patient maintenance, supply, control, and disposition. Forms collected are described in Table 3-2. The table shows the number of different forms used in each hospital and groups them by function served and daily usage classification, i.e., one or more/day, less than one/day.

The 573 different forms used one or more times a day were analyzed for commonalities and it was found that a representative selection of 95 different forms served to cover all the applications in all nine hospitals. This selection, then, was deemed to be "average and representative." Procedural details on the processing of these forms within the nursing station are depicted in the process flow charts given in Appendix D. Processing time (in minutes) is indicated on the flow charts for each form. These flow charts contribute to the development of the models discussed in Section 4.

Table 3-2

GROUPINGS OF FORMS COLLECTED

		Lar	Large Hospitals	ospit	als			Tedi	Medium Hospitals	ospi	tals			Sma	Small Hospitals	spit	als			
Nursing Unit Function			L2	0.	Т3		M-1	1	M-2	2	M-3	3	S-1		S-2	3	S-3		Total	
	Z	₹	: ≥ 1	▽	≥ 1	7	141	∇	<u> </u>	₽	λ	₽	≥1	∀	7	4	14	4	>1	∀ .
Admitting	က	1	2	4	2	2	80	2	7	2	1		0	0	_ _ _	0	4	. 74	29	13
Examination	13	10	15	၈	24	21	18	91	19	11	∞	9	4	က	က	7	2	9	111	84
Diagnosis	10	6	23	6	16	14	14	17	13		18	4	9		10	4	2	П	117	09
Treatment	11	7	22	28	25	21	21	10	18	16	10	16	က	2	11	0	တ	2	130	102
Patient Maintenance	2		5	4	23		က	4	1	73	0	က	0	П	-	0	2	7	19	18
Supply	12	9	27	12	2	6	က	ည	9	6	9	2	2	Т,	9	-	, 9	1	78	49
Control	9	4	2	25	6	10	11	11	<u></u>	10	2	13	4	0	4	2	7	7	63	11
Disposition	က	7	2	2	2	13	9	10	2	15	2	4		2	0		က	7	26	64
Subtotal	09	45	106	96	93	91	84	75	69	99	52	52	25	10	36	10	48	22	573	467
Total	105	.5	202	2	184	4	159	6	135	2	104	4	35	10	46	9	70	0	1,040	40

"\ge 1" refers to forms of which one or more are used per day; "<1" refers to forms of which fewer than one per day are used.

Section 4 INFORMATION PROCESSING MODELS

4.1 HOSPITAL ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENTS

General short term hospitals exist to bring together three elements: the individual who is ill, the physician with his skill and knowledge, and the facilities and services the physician needs in treating the patient. The first step in development of an information processing model is to consider the manner in which the hospital is organized to provide facilities and services for patients and medical staff.

Most hospitals employ the classical hierarchy system with the hospital administrator as the chief executive and several department heads reporting to him, directly or through one or more assistant directors. However well such a structure may function administratively, it is not suitable for use in analyzing information processing because of overlapping departmental information requirements.

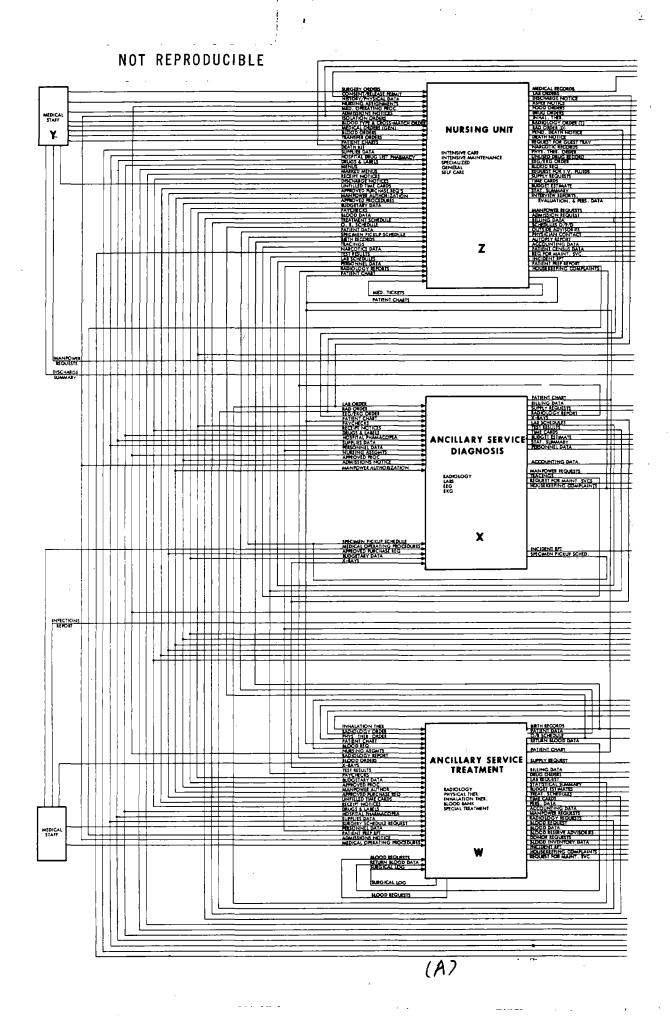
A logical division of the hospital's functional elements from the standpoint of information flow can be derived from the forms used at nursing stations. During this study, a total of 1,040 different hospital forms which passed through the various nursing stations were reviewed. Although these forms were related specifically to the stations, they can be used to reflect the general hospital information requirements as well—since in each case the reviewer noted the source of information arriving at the station (input) and the destination of the outgoing information (output). Analysis of these input/output factors indicated that, in terms of the kinds of facilities and services the hospital provides, a logical division of the hospital organizational elements is as follows:

• Nursing Units. Inpatient domicile areas including the patient rooms, nursing stations, supply rooms, work rooms, and examination rooms which are adjacent to and under the control of the head nurse.

- Medical Staff. Practicing physicians, residents, and interns who have been granted the privilege of practicing medicine in the hospital according to established regulations stipulated in the hospital Medical Staff By-laws
- Ancillary Service Diagnosis. Skilled personnel, material, and equipment provided in support of the physician and used in accordance with his medical orders to evaluate a patient's condition to determine the existence of disease and its type, status, and rate of progress
- Ancillary Service Treatment. Skilled personnel, material, and equipment provided to carry out medical orders whose purpose is to impede, arrest, reverse, diminish, or eliminate disease or abnormal patient conditions
- Admitting. Admission of a patient into the hospital, transfer of an inpatient between nursing units, and discharge of a patient from the hospital
- Administration/Business Office. Management of the hospital, its personnel, supplies, facilities, and patients
- Hospital Service Operations. Supply and maintenance activities necessary to support the hospital's medical and hotel operational capability
- <u>Medical Records.</u> Controlled library storage of all past inpatient information, medical and administrative, in the form of discharged patient's charts, x-rays, and business folders for some designated period of time
- Community Interface. Establishment, maintenance, and exercise
 of specific methods and procedures of communication between the
 hospital and the community it serves, various governmental agencies,
 professional groups, insurance agencies, and other hospital and
 medical groups

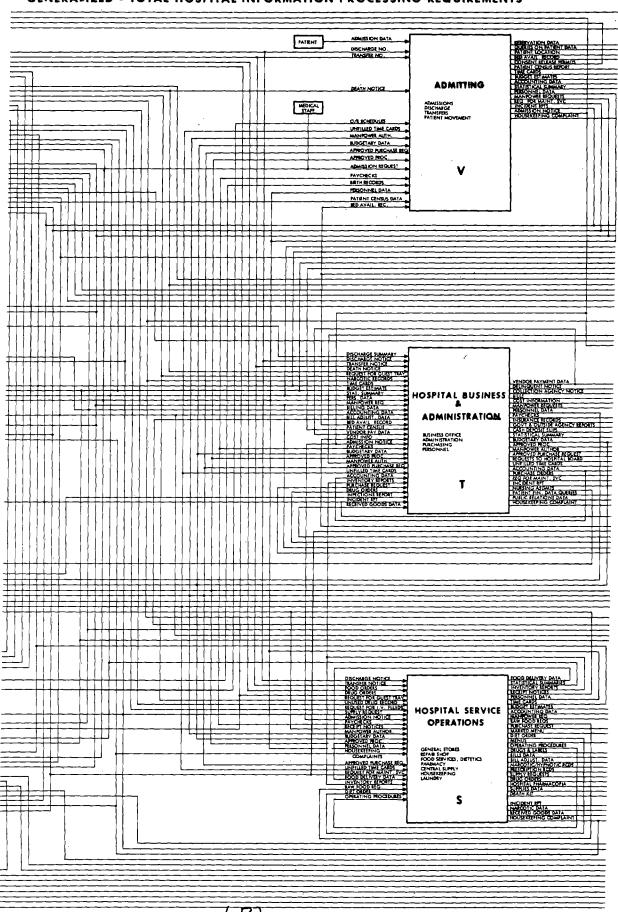
Characterization of the hospital's information processing requirements in terms of these nine organizational elements (Fig. 4-1) permits logical treatment of information flow separately by categories or as a whole. Information related to treatment,

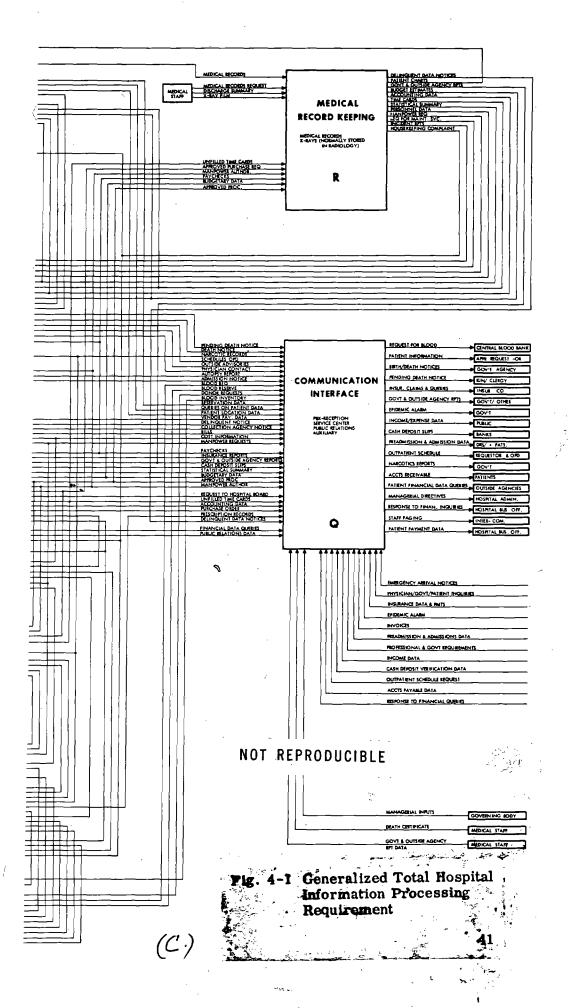
e 42.24



NOT REPRODUCIBLE

GENERALIZED - TOTAL HOSPITAL INFORMATION PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS





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information related to admission, information related to supply, and so on can be examined as separate entities, if desired, in terms of rate, volume, input and output. At the same time, the relationship of each major element to all other elements from an information processing point of view can be shown, and it then becomes possible to indicate diagramatically the total hospital information processing requirements in terms of all nine organizational elements. Figure 4-1 also shows the relationship among the nine organizational elements from the standpoint of information processing—illustrating the broad areas of common information flow that each organizational element shares with the others. This pictorial representation also shows the information requirements which are unique to each element, and permits information commerce to be traced from point of initiation to final disposition. The information elements depicted were derived from this study. No single hospital is likely to exhibit exactly the catalog of elements nor the exact network of communication illustrated; Fig. 4-1 represents a typical hospital's total information processing requirements.

The nursing unit, as one of nine elements of the hospital, has a network of communication links connecting and interconnecting it with the others. Focusing on the nursing unit and eliminating from consideration the lines of the communication network connecting other elements with each other, attention is concentrated on those links between the nursing unit and the other eight elements. The nursing unit becomes the center of the system with spokes radiating outward to each of the other organizational elements. Thus in Fig. 4-2 the communication lines are limited to the interface of the nursing unit with each of the other elements.

A study of the information needs of nursing stations requires analysis of the exchange between the nursing station and each of the other elements. Such study and analysis is conducted from the standpoint of the nursing station — the focal point of all activity in the nursing unit.



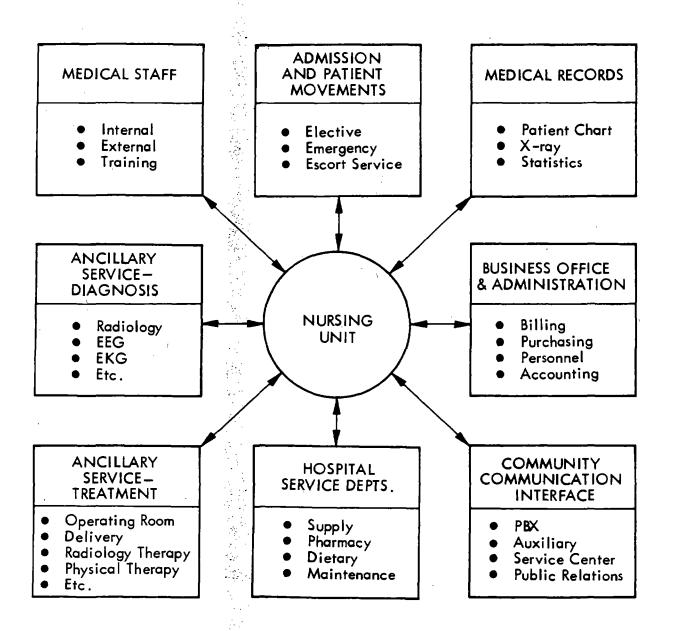


Fig. 4-2 Relationship of Nursing Unit to Total Hospital Functions

4.2 NURSING STATION FUNCTIONAL GROUPS

In the early stages of the study, customer and contractor personnel agreed upon the following preliminary definition of the nursing station:

"A Nursing Station is a functional unit used by health care delivery personnel in providing services to patients. Health care delivery personnel are defined as those who participate in providing care and service to patients located in beds assigned specifically to that unit."

As the study progressed, it became apparent that this definition was not adequate; it does not take into account the multitude of activities that occur at nursing stations. Even within one hospital, the configuration, layout, functions, duties, and events of the nursing stations vary widely. A useful definition (Section 4.2.2) was derived through consideration of physical and functional factors.

4.2.1 Nursing Station Physical Characteristics

During the course of the on-site data collection, 160 different nursing stations were observed. The layouts and configurations of these stations covered an exceedingly wide range. Some were essentially the same as when the hospitals were built in the middle 1800's; others were so new they had been occupied only a few weeks. Some stations consisted of wall desks in halls with patient charts in portable racks and medicine rooms, sterile and linen supply, soiled storage and housekeeping equipment stored in alcoves, closets, and small rooms throughout the nursing unit. Others had roomy, well ventilated and lighted areas set off from the aisle traffic and containing all essential requirements within a single enclosed area. Since the hospitals studied were selected with some care, and the 160 stations observed did represent a population of nursing stations, it can be stated that a standard nursing station for a specific medical service does not exist. Indeed, a standard nursing station for a specific medical service did not exist within a single medium or large hospital among those studied.



The major functions of the nursing unit are defined as follows:

- 1. <u>Nursing Unit Admitting Function</u>. Receiving patient from Admitting or from other nursing units, assigning patient to bed, notifying physician (intern, resident, or staff) of patient's arrival, and arranging for patient history (Hx) and physical examination (Px).
- 2. Examination Function. Gathering of medical information concerning a patient's illness, progress of the illness, and effect of treatment, and recording of patient status such as vital signs, graphic recording, and general appearance and condition.
- 3. <u>Diagnosis Function</u>. Evaluating patient's condition to determine the existence of an illness, as well as its type, status, and rate of progress. Evaluating recovery progress to specify treatment. Evaluating special tests, studies, data, and consultant reports to confirm or define a particular illness or disease level.
- 4. Treatment Function. Carrying out medical orders or actions whose purpose is to prevent, impede, arrest, reverse, diminish, or eliminate disease or abnormal conditions. Recording patient's reaction to treatment. Preparing patient for off-unit treatment, such as surgery, X-ray therapy, physical therapy, etc.
- 5. Patient Maintenance. Performing nonmedical activities concerned with patient care, such as bed linen change, food distribution, personal hygiene and related needs, and patient handling.
- 6. <u>Supply Function</u>. Ordering, receiving, maintaining, and issuing standard and patient-peculiar items (e.g., medications, sterile supply, treatment kits, laundry, solutions, nursing station administrative supplies, diagnostic-treatment supplies, and food).
- 7. Control Function. Directing and coordinating unit activities, including planning and actions necessary to effect examination, treatment or maintenance activities ordered by the physician so they will be accomplished at the proper time with the proper supporting supplies and equipment on hand. Ensuring accomplishment of the routine or special patient-care tasks related to examination, treatment, and maintenance that are performed without direct physician orders. Providing



4.2.2 Basic Nursing Functions

Although the configurations and layouts of nursing stations vary, their basic functions are the same from one station to another and from one hospital to another. Each of the nine hospitals studied used some sort of nursing policies and procedures — ranging from formal, published documents to typed sheets and varying with hospital size and variety of service offered. All nursing personnel were strongly concerned with methods of nursing care and continuity of patient treatment.

Continuity of treatment is ensured by recording everything that is done to or for a patient or is in any way patient-related. All nursing activity can be inventoried by examining all forms used in the mirsing station and relating them to the source of their data, the processing of these data required at the station, and the destination of the processed data. This technique was employed at the nine hospitals studied; the forms analyzed were limited to those used at the station one or more times a day. (This limitation provided the data sought without burdening the study with obsolete, redundant, or rarely used pieces of paper). Over 1,000 forms were collected and reviewed; from these, a master list of 95 subfunctions were identified and shown on flow charts.

The list of 95 subfunctions was still too cumbersome for meaningful analysis. A relatively short list of major functions was required. Some of these major functions were readily apparent; for example, such activities as requests for diagnostic data, therapeutic treatment requests, and the transfer of a patient from one unit to another can be grouped easily. Some were not so apparent. On the basis of experience on related projects, the data analysis conducted for this study, and the work performed by others in this area,* the nursing station mission is defined as follows:

"A nursing station is a control point for the nursing unit system whose function is to determine and/or execute the necessary care and treatment and appropriate disposition of hospital inpatients. This includes the collection and distribution of medical information in a controlled environment designed to sustain the patient's life."

^{*} Thomas, Kurucz, Smith, and Kelly, A Model of a Hospital Information System, NIH Grant #0306-993-A-50-642B, Department of Industrial Engineering and the Computing Center, State University of New York at Buffalo, Sep 1965.

general and specific information concerning the unit, its patients, and the hospital for the general public. Collecting, retaining, and disseminating unit status information in terms of personnel, facilities, and equipment.

8. <u>Disposition Function.</u> Executing the final movement or disposition of patients and related material as prescribed in medical orders or in administrative policies and procedures.

With these major functions identified and defined, the information processing that occurs within the nursing station can be characterized in terms similar to those of the input/output relationships shown in Fig. 4-2. Figure 4-3 represents this internal processing in terms of the major functions identified.

4.3 FUNCTIONAL NURSING STATION GROUPS

While vast differences were observed among nursing station configurations, the basic nursing functions were found in all the stations observed. However, the stations lend themselves to functional groupings in terms of the degree of care afforded. This grouping was accomplished on the basis of observation, work sampling data, census and attendance data, and the rate, volume, and use of the major forms examined. Parameters used included the following:

- Special patient support equipment in the unit
- Special patient monitoring equipment
- Ratio of RN's to patient census
- Ratio of RN's to those with other nursing skills in the unit
- Type and frequency of procedures performed
- Ratio of information processing to other activity

The first two of these factors are easily observed; the last four were quantified in considerable detail during the course of the study, as reported in Section 3 and the



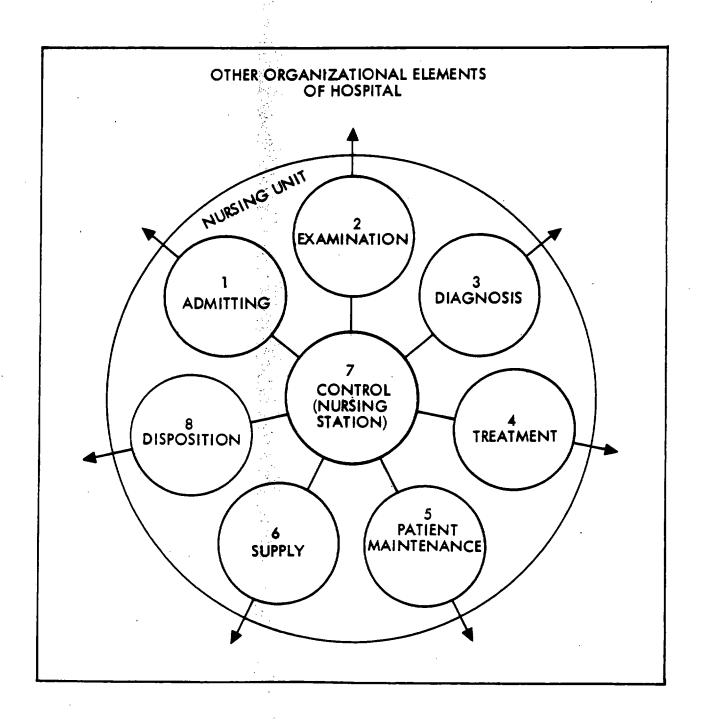


Fig. 4-3 Nursing Unit Functions

appendixes. Based on the special equipment required and on the study results, the following functional unit groupings were defined, tested, and used:

- Intensive Care (Long-Term) e.g., coronary care, care for burns, craniotomy, prematures
- Intensive Care (Short-Term) e.g., care in operating room, recovery room, emergency room
- <u>Intermediate Care (General)</u> e.g., cardiovascular rehabilitation, care of infectious hepatitis
- <u>Intermediate Care (Special)</u> e.g., post operative, maternity, neonatal care
- Self-Care e.g., diagnostic work-up, radiotherapy

Resources and characteristics of these functional groupings are as follows:

• Intensive Care (Long-Term)

- Special patient support equipment
- Special patient monitoring equipment
- High ratio of RN's to patients
- High ratio of RN's to those with other nursing skills
- Fewer procedures performed
- Lower ratio of information processing to other activity
- Special training required

Intensive Care (Short-Term)

- Same as Intensive Care (Long-Term)
- No patients permanently assigned

• Intermediate Care (Special)

- Special patient support equipment
- Some special patient monitoring equipment
- Average ratio of RN's to patients
- Average ratio of RN's to those with other nursing skills
- Average number of procedures performed

- Average ratio of information processing to other activity
- Some special training required

• Intermediate Care (General)

- Average patient support equipment
- Average patient monitoring equipment
- Average ratio of RN's to patients
- Average ratio of RN's to those with other nursing skills
- Average number of procedures performed
- Average ratio of information processing to other activity
- Average training required

Self Care

- Little patient support equipment
- Little patient monitoring equipment
- Low ratio of RN's to patients
- Low ratio of RN's to those with other nursing skills
- Small number of procedures performed
- Average ratio of information processing to other activity
- Average training required

4.4 DEVELOPING THE MODEL COMPONENTS

With the identification and definition of the five functional groups of nursing stations, the components of a model are available, namely:

- Hospital organizational elements
- Basic nursing functions
- Nursing station functional groups

A model can be constructed by relating these components to each other on the basis of data flow characteristics observed during the study. However, some arbitrary means of identification of components is first required.

4.4.1 Model Coding and Components

For the eight hospital organizational elements, the following alpha code using capital letters will be employed, beginning with the end of the alphabet (omitting the letter "U" to avoid possible confusion with "V"):

- Z Nursing Units
- Y Medical Staff
- X Ancillary Service Diagnosis
- W Ancillary Service Treatment
- V Admitting
- T Administration/Business Office
- S Hospital Service Operations
- R Medical Records
- Q Community Interface

For the functional nursing unit, an alpha code is again used, employing capital letters from the beginning of the alphabet:

- A Intensive Care (Long-Term)
- B Intensive Care (Short-Term)
- C Intermediate Care (Special)
- D Intermediate Care (General)
- E Self Care

The final component is the basic information processing function. Encompassed by the eight basic nursing functions identified in Fig. 4-3 are 95 subfunctions constituting the bulk of the information processing activity. Coding here is accomplished by assigning a number to each major function and a lower-case alpha character to each subfunction, as shown in Table 4-1, where subfunctions are listed in terms of the forms employed.



Table 4-1
CODING FOR PROCESSING SUBFUNCTIONS

1.	NU	RSING UNIT ADMITTING	2	w	Infant HX & Px
	1a	Admitting Form	2:	x	Surgery Check List
	1b	Admission Worksheet	2	y	Professional Consult. Request
	1c	Emergency Admission			
	1d	OB Admission	_		AGNOSIS
	le	Nursery Admission	3	3a	Professional Consult. Report
	1f	Patient Transfer		3b	Prothrombin Time
	1g	Newborn ID & Birth Cert.			Lab. Report
	1h	Emergency Admitting Recor	.u		EKG Report
	1k	Birth Notice			EEG Report
2	DΔ	TIENT EXAMINATION	3	f	X-ray Report
		Laboratory Report	3	g	Path. Report (non-surg.)
		X-ray Request			Path. Report (surg.)
		PKU/Cord Clot	3	k	PKU/Cord Clot Results
		Sleep Chart	4. <u>T</u>	R	EATMENT
		Input/Output, 8-hr Record	4	a	MD Order Sheet
	2f	Input/Output, 24-hr Record	4	b	Emerg. Rm. Report
		Vital Signs	4	d	Medication Ticket
	_	ICU/CCU Record	4	e	Nursing Care Plan
		Recovery Room Record	4	f	Blood Transfusion (Request)
	2 K 2 l	Blood Pressure Chart	4	g	Anesthesia Record
		Medical Records Note	4	i	Med./Treatment Record
		Graphic Sheet - Routine	4	k	I/V Feeding-Infusion Record
		Graphic Sheet - Intensive	4	m	Parenteral Fluid Sheet
		Diabetic Record	4	0	Anticoagulant Chart
	-	Bedside Record	4	r	Delivery Room Record
		Hx & Px (Nursing)	4	t	Delivery Room Record
	25 2t	Progress Notes	4	u	ICU/CCU Record
		OR Prep. Sheet	4	x	Labor Record
	~u	or representation	4	у	Record of Procedure

Table 4-1 (Cont.)

5. PATIENT MAINTENANCE

- 5a Patient Daily Care Routine
- 5b Routine Nursing Notes
- 5d Daily Nursing Care Report
- 5e Incident Report
- 5g Patient Clothing & Valuables List

6. SUPPLY

- 6a Central Supply Requests
- 6b Ward Nourishment List
- 6c Floor Central Supply
- 6d Pharmacy Request
- 6e Pharmacy Floor Supply
- 6f Diet Order
- 6g Diet Change
- 6i Linen Request
- 61 General Stores Request
- 6m Diet Card
- 6n Unit Dietary Schedule
- 60 Narcotic/Hypnotic Record
- 6p Daily Antibiotic Record

7. CONTROL

- 7a Nursing Assign. Sheet (Patients)
- 7b ICU/CCU Log
- 7c Nursing Assign. (Unit)
- 7d Seriously Ill Slip
- 7e Daily Floor Census
- 7f Nursing Unit Report
- 7g Condition Report
- 7h Emergency Room Log
- 7i Minor Surgery Log
- 7k OR Log
- 71 Emergency Case Report
- 7m Sponge Count
- 7n Delivery Room Record
- 70 OR Patient Call Slip
- 7r OR Schedule
- 7s Recovery Room Log

8. **DISPOSITION**

- 8a Discharge Summary
- 8b Discharge Log
- 8c Unclaimed Items Report
- 8d Take Home Rx
- 8e Take Home CSR
- 8f Patient Chart (To Med. Record)
- 8g Newborn Release

4.4.2 Relating the Model Components

For the model to be an effective tool, the relationships among the components must be well understood. The purpose of the model is to depict the information processing needs of the nursing station; therefore, the model must show source (termed input); and disposition (output) of information. Input and output involve the organizational elements of the hospital (including the nursing station) that generate, transmit, receive, or store information. The processing of information involves the activities that occur with the receipt of information until an output transmission or file storage terminates that transaction as far as the nursing station is concerned.

Processing is described as one of the subfunctions in terms of form used, the time necessary to complete the subfunction, and its rate or frequency of occurrence. Table 4-2 illustrates the input/output relationships among the nursing station functional groups, the basic nursing functions, and the hospital elements. Table 4-3 illustrates the specific subfunctions that occur in each type of functional group.

With respect to subfunction 1a, for example, (Admitting Form, Table 4-1), every patient appears at the nursing unit with admission data which originated at the admitting office. These data generally require additional processing and ultimately are made available to the attending physician, the admitting office, the business office, and nursing personnel in the station. Table 4-2 shows this input/output relationship, and Table 4-3 shows that the subfunction is performed by all the functional groups of stations except (B) Intensive Care (Short-Term). The total activity at the nursing station can be described symbolically as follows:

- V > Input from the admitting office
- Tla Standard time to process the Admitting Form 1a, at the nursing station
- RA1a Rate of occurrence of the Admitting Form 1a at Intensive Care (Long-Term) (A)
- RC1a Rate of occurrence of Admitting Form 1a at Intermediate Care (Special) (C)



Table 4-2

INPUT/OUTPUT RELATIONSHIPS*

E. Self Care	Output	YVZT	XTYZR		ZTY	IZS	ZZ	ZRTS
E. Se	Input	ZA	Z >	WZY	z	z	Z	ΥZ
D. Intermediate Care (General)	Output	YVZT	XTYZR	ZSWY	ZTY	ZZT	ZTQ	ZRTS
D. Inter Care (Gen	Input	ZA	Z	WZX	Z	SZ	z	ΖĀ
mediate	Output	YVZT	XTYZR Z	ZSWY	ZTY	SZT	ZTQ	ZRTS
C. Inter Care (Spec	Input	ZA	Z >	WZX	Z	SZ	Z	λZ
B. Intensive Care (Short-Term)	Output	YVZTQ	Z XTXZ Z	ZSWYT	ZTY	\mathbf{SZT}	ZTY	i
B. In C (Shor	Input	VZ	2	ZX	Z	Z	Z	ì
A. Intensive Care (Long-Term)	Output	YVZT	XTYZ	ZSWYT	ZTY	SZT	ZTYQ	ZRTS
A. In Ca (Long-	Input	ZA	Z	WZY	Z	SZ	ZZ	ZX
Functional Groups	Functions	1. Nursing Unit Admitting	2. Examination	. Treatment	5. Patient Maintenance	6. Supply	. Control	. Disposition
/ 2	<u> </u>		87 6	2 4	ည	9	7.	8.

*Hospital Organizational Elements:

- Z. Nursing Units W. Ancillary Service Treatment
 - V. Admitting
- T. Administration/Business Office
- S. Hospital Service Operations
- Q. Community Interface

R. Medical Records

Y. Medical Staff

Table 4-3

SUBFUNCTIONS BY NURSING STATION FUNCTIONAL GROUPS*

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D. Intermediate Care (General)	8 8	80	B	8	8 €													
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C. Intermediate Care (Special)	2	. 7d	1 7c	37.	7g	ş 70	_		B	_	_	_						
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Care	9 P 9		•	•	•	9		•										
B. Intensive Care (Short-Term)	4 8	.6	44	48	4	₹	*	4m	4p	4r	4 t	4w	\$	4y				
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A. Intensive Care (Long-Term)	5a 6b	7	9	2	5g	2 p		-										
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*The subfunctions are defined in Table 4-1.

RD1a - Rate of occurrence of Admitting Form 1a at Intermediate Care (General) (D)

RE1a - Rate of occurrence of Admitting Form 1a at Self Care (E)

> YVZT - Output to the medical staff, admitting office, business office, and receiving nursing unit

A convenient notation can be used to express requirements generated by each subfunction; for example:

This symbology states that for subfunction 1a input comes from the admitting office, V, the time required to process the data received at the nursing units is T1a, and the functional groupings A,C,D, and E all receive the data. The rates at which each functional group receives the data are expressed as RA1a, RC1a, RD1a, and RE1a. The product of (T1a) and (RA1a + RC1a + RD1a + RE1a) gives the total processing load of subfunction 1a in terms of applicable functional groups.

The processed data are shown as output from each functional group to the medical staff Y; admitting office, V; the nursing unit itself, Z; and the business office T.

This kind of logic can be employed in a mathematical expression to symbolize the total impact of each subfunction relevant to a particular nursing unit function involving all applicable functional groups. In such a manner, the expression of Fig. 4-4 illustrates the information processing impact of the Examination function.

Similar expressions can be constructed to show total information requirements for the other functions, i.e., for Nursing Unit Admitting, Diagnosis, Treatment, Patient Maintenance, Supply, Control, and Disposition. They can be used to estimate the total



	
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+ 2	> T2d RA2d RC2d > YZ + Z > T2e RA2e RC2e > YZ + Z > T2f RC2f RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ RD2f > YZ
+ 2	> T2g RA2g RB2g RC2g > YZ + Z > T2h RA2h > YTZ + Z > T2k RB2k > YTZ RD2g RE2g
+ 2	> T2l $\begin{vmatrix} RA21 \\ RB21 \\ RC21 \\ RD21 \\ RE21 \end{vmatrix}$ > YZ + Z > T2m $\begin{vmatrix} RC2m \\ RD2m \\ RE2m \end{vmatrix}$ > R + Z T2n $\begin{vmatrix} RC2n \\ RD2n \\ RE2n \end{vmatrix}$ > YZ
+ 2	$> T20 \begin{vmatrix} RA20 \\ RB20 \\ RC20 \\ RD20 \end{vmatrix} > YZ + Z > T2p \begin{vmatrix} RC2p \\ RD2p \end{vmatrix} > YZ + Z > T2r \begin{vmatrix} RA2r \\ RB2r \\ RC2r \\ RD2r \end{vmatrix} > YZ$
+ 2	> T2s RA2s RC2s RC2s RD2s RE2s RE2s RE2t RD2t RE2t RC2t RD2t RE2t RD2t R
+ Z	> T2w RC2w > YZ + Z > T2x $\begin{vmatrix} RB2x \\ RC2x \\ RD2x \end{vmatrix}$ > YX + Z > T2y $\begin{vmatrix} RA2y \\ RC2y \\ RD2y \\ RE2y \end{vmatrix}$ > YXZ

Fig. 4-4 Expression for Total Examination Function Involving all Functional Groups

information processing requirements of the nursing unit in terms of manhours by basic nursing function and by group of nursing units. These expressions are amenable to digital computer programming for specific analysis; however, they do not present a visual concept of the information processing activity.

Visual presentation of information processing should contain the same kind of data in a format that is more familiar to and more easily understood by individuals without technical backgrounds. It must show the data flow and the manhour requirements by basic nursing function and by functional nursing unit, structured in such a manner that it can be understood readily by nursing and administrative personnel. The objective of such a model is to provide these individuals with a tool which they can apply in evaluating their own information processing needs at the nursing stations and in evaluating the potential of computerized systems with respect to their own requirements. Figure 4-5 is a matrix that contains the same information as the mathematical expressions but displays it as a pictorial model which facilitates explanation and understanding.

Only the larger hospitals would be likely to be concerned with the entire model, yet it is just as effective for a small hospital with only a few nursing units. A professional individual at a hospital can easily relate the subfunction identification to the commerce of his own facility. The larger hospitals would include all or nearly all of the subfunctions while the small hospital would be concerned with fewer subfunctions.

To permit this model to function for an individual hospital requires the values to be substituted for T and R in determining the actual manhour requirements by subfunction, by basic nursing function, by nursing unit functional group, or for the total nursing division. Table 4-4 provides the means necessary to supply these data. Based on "standard" times (averages from the hospitals studied), the table shows the "standard" minutes of processing per occurrence of each subfunction and the rate of occurrence of each subfunction. An individual hospital can determine its own rates of occurrence of admissions, transfers, newborns, etc; the standard time values then will permit a general assessment of the nursing station needs for information processing at that hospital. Depending upon the results (or the degree of accuracy desired)

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subfunctions can be expanded or contracted so that they fit the individual hospital, and time values peculiar to that facility can be used instead of average values. These specific time and rate values could be refined further to specific kinds of skill categories on the nursing unit, i.e., RN, LPN, W/C, students, etc.

This pictorial model can be used to describe the information processing activity that occurs at the nursing station in as great detail as is desired. From a particular hospital's point of view, Fig. 4-6 is a representation of the data format that might be employed in collecting and arranging the particular data required by that hospital to evaluate its present requirements for information processing at the nursing station, and to compare the result with a proposed computer system.

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(C) INTERMEDIATE CARE (Special)	V TIABCIB VYZ	Z Tibrcib VT	Z TICRCIC VY	V >TIARCIA > VY		Z STIERGIE S VV		Z > TIARCIA > YZ
(B) INTENSIVE CARE (Short Term)			Z TICRBIC YY	V TIARDIA VY	Z TIemie Vr		Z TIRBIR VTQ	Z Threbh YZ
(A) IMPENSIVE GARE (LODG TEIM)	V > TiaRAia > IVZ	Z TIDRAID VT	Z TICRATE VY			2 TIFRAIF > VY	tra tra	
n vii	(a) Admitting Form	(b) Admission Worksheet	(c) Emergency Admission	(d) O.B. Admission	(e) Nursery Admission	(f) Patient Transfer	(g) Newborn I.D. &Birth Cert	(h) Emergency Admit Record



Fig. 4–5 Pictorial Model of Hospital Information Processing Requirements

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	(A) INTENSIVE CARE (Long Term)	(9) INTENSIVE CARE (Short Term)	(c) INTERMEDIATE CARE (SDESIAL)	(D) INTERMEDIATE CARE (General)	(E) SELP CARE
(a) Lab. Requests	Z TZeRAZe XT	тх Хасивга Хт	Z YZaRCża XT	Z Y TZaRDZa XT	Z TZaHEZa XT
(b) X-Ray Requests	2 T2bRA2b XT		Z \ T2bRC2b \ xT	Z T2br02b XT	Z T2bRE2b XT
(c) PKU/Clots Request			Z YTZCRCZC XT		
(d) Sleep Chart	Z TZdRA2d YZ		Z Y TZGRCZd YZ	Z > T2dRD2d > YZ	
(e) I/0 - 8 Brs.	Z TZeRA2e YZ		Z YT2CRC2C YZ	z > TZCRDZC YZ	
(f) I/0 - 24 Hrs.	Z \ T2fra2f \ YZ		Z > T2fR02f > YZ	Z Y TZÍRDZÍ YZ	
(g) Vital Signs	Z TZERAZE XZ	Z \ T2gRB2g \ TZ	Z Y TZGRCZG YZ	Z TZEKUZE YZ	Z T2gHB2g YZ
(h) ICU/CCU-Record	Z Y TZNBAZh Y YPZ				-
(k) Recovery Room Record		Z Y TZKRBZK Y YTZ			
(1) Blood :Pressure Chart	Z T21BA21 XZ	Z 721RB21 7 YZ	Z T21RC21 YZ	Z YELRDZI YEZ	Z \ T21RB21 \ YZ
(m) Medical Records Note			Z TZmRC2m NR	Z TZmRD2m R	Z Y T2mRE2m X R
(n) Graphic Sheet-Routine			Z Tenreen Tz	Z Temfüen XZ	Z Y T2nREÇn Y YZ
(o) Graphic Sheet-Intensive	Z Y TZORAZO Y YZ	Z \ T20HB20\ YZ	Z Y TZORCZO YZ	Z TYORDZO YZ	
(p) Diabetic Record			Z T2pRC2p YZ	Z T2pRD2p YZ	
(r) Bedside Record	Z TZrRA2r YZ	Z TZTRBZT YZ	Z T2rRC2r YZ	z Yerroer yrz	
(s) Hx/Px N/S Record	Z T2sRA2s YZ		Z \ T2sRC2s \ TZ	Z T2sRD2s YZ	Z \ T2sRE2s \ YZ
(t) Progress Notes	Z T2tRA2t YZ	Z T2tRB2t YZ	z > T2tRC2t > TZ	Z T2thD2t YZ	Z Y T2 tre2t Y YZ
(u) O.R. Prep. Sheet	Z TPurazu YZ	ZY KEBRET Z	z) Teurces rz	Z \ TZUBDZu\ TZ	
(w) Infant Ex/Px			Z TZWRCZW YZ		
(x) Surg. Check List		Z T2xRB2x YZ	Z T2xRC2x YZ	ZI XSOUPESI X Z	
(y) Prof. Consult Req. (in-	Z TZYRAZY YXZ		Z Y TZYRCZY YYZ	Z Y TZYRDZY YXZ	Z Y TZYREZY YYZ
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Fig. 4-5 (Cont.)

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	(C) (D) (E) (E) (FREWEDLATE CARE SELF CARE (SPOSIAL)	X \ T3aRC3a \ Z	X \ T35RG35 \ Z \ X \ T35RG35 \ Z \ X \ T35RG35 \ Z \ Z \ X \ Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z	$X \rightarrow T$ 3cHC3c $\nearrow Z$ $X \rightarrow T$ 3cHD3c $\nearrow Z$ $X \rightarrow T$ 3cHB3c $\nearrow Z$	X \T3\dR03\d \Z X \T3\dR03\d \Z X \T3\dR03\d \Z Z \T3\dR03\d \Z Z \T3\dR03\d \Z	$X \rightarrow T3$ eRG 3 e $\rightarrow Z$ $X \rightarrow T3$ eRB 3 e $\rightarrow Z$ $X \rightarrow T3$ eRB 3 e $\rightarrow Z$	X > T3 T3 T3 T	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	X \ T3hric3h \ Z	X > TRANCESK > Z
(5) DIAGNOSIS FUNCTION	(A) (B) INTENSIVE CARE (Short Term)	X \ TARAJa \ Z	X Tybráje Z Z X Tybrbje	X T3cRA3c Z X T3cRB3c	X \ T3dRA3d \ Z \ X \ T3dTB3d	X \ T30RA30 \ Z	X \ T\$ (RA3f \ Z \ X \ T3 fRB3f	X T3GRA3g Z X T3grB3g	X T3hra3h Z X T3hra3h	
45.	wiger with a state of the	(a) Radiologist Report	(b) Prothrombin Time	(c) Lab-Chem Results	(d) FMG Report	(e) EEG Report	(f) X-Ray Results	(g) Path-Non Surg,	(h) Path-Surg.	(k) FKU/Clot Resulta

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(B) SELP CARE	Y) TqahEda S Z	Z	W T4hRE4h Z Z T41RE4i Z	Z TrankE4m Z W T4mRE4m Z	2 \ T40FE40 \ Z \ T4pFE4p \ YZ		Fig. 4-5 (Cont.)
(D) INTERMEDIATE CARE (General)	I \ T4aD4a \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \	2	W T4hRD4h Z T41RD4i Z T41RD4i Z	2 \ T4,3T04,3 \ Z \ Z \ T4,42T04k \ Z \ Z \ T4,42T04m \ Z \ Z \ T4,42T04m \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \	2 \ T40HD40 \ Z \ Z \ T4pHD4p \ Y Y Y Z		
(C) INVERMEDIATE CARE (Special)	Y Таанола Z T Таанола Z Z Таанола S	Z T4aR04a Z Z T4eR04e Z Z T4FR04f V	W TAPROAD Z Z TAIROAI Z	Z T4JR04j Z Z T4RR04k Z Z T4RR04m Z X T4RR04m Z	Z \ T40RC40\sqrt{2} Z Z \ T4PRC4P\sqrt{2} YZ		
(B) INTENSIVE CARE (Short Term)	Y > Teatebae > Z Z Adarbade > YTZ Z Adarbade > YTZ Z Adarbade > S	2 \T4fRB4f\ W	T) TAGEBAR > ZT	2 \ T4,3RB4; \ Z \ Z \ T4,2RB4; \ Z \ Z \ T4,0RB4; \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \	2 \ T4PRB4T \ ZT	2 \ T4xB4x \ 2 \ Z \ T4xB4x \ Z \ X \ T4xB4x \ Z \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X	
(A) INVENSIVE CARE (Long Term)	Y > Taekada > z Taekada > z		lecord country and a second co	2 \ T4,1844; \ Z \ T4,1844; \ Z \ Z \ T4,1844; \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \ Z \	Z T40R440 Z Z T4pR44p Z	Z Transkau ZT	
((a) M.D. Order Sheets (b) Emer. Rm. Report (c) Oxygen Request	(d) Medication Picket Z (e) Nursing Gare, Flan (K) Z (f) Transfusion Req. for blood Z	(g) Anesthesia Record (h) Physican/Occup.Ther.Record (i) Medical & Treat.Record	(4) Neds Added to I/V (k) I/V Feeding/Infusion Record (m) Parenteral Fluid Record (n) Inhalation Therapy	(c) Anti Coagulant Chart (p) Allergy Condition (r) Delivery Room Record (t) O.R. Record	(u) ICU/CCC Record (v) Newborn Record (x) Labor Record (y) Record of Procedure	10 MI C 25 C 10 MI

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·	(E) SELF CARE		Z \ T5bRE5b \ Z	Z TSARESA T	Z TSeRESe YT	Z TSfresff T				
	(D) INTERMEDIATE CARE (General)	2 \ T5aRD5a \ Z	д Т5ъврър д	Z T5dRD5d T	Z T5eRD5e YT	Z TSfRD5f > T	Z Z TSGNDSg ZT	Z T5hRD5h T		
:	(C) INVERMENTATE CARE (Special)	Z \ T5aR05a \ Z	z \ Т5bR05b \ z	Z T5dRC5d T	Z T5eRG5e YT	Z TSfrcsf T	Z TSeHC5g ZT	Z > T5hRC5h > T		
(5) PATIENT MAINTENANCE FUNCTION	(B) INTENSIVE CARE (Short Term)		д Тъъввър 7 д	г т5акв5а т	Z T5eRB5e YT					
	INTERISIVE CARE (LOUG Term)	(a) Patient Daily Care (K) Z \ TSaRASa \ Z	(b) Routine Mursing Notes 2 TybRA5b Z	(d) Daily NUrsing Care Z T5dRA5d T	(e) Incident Report Z T5eRA5e YT	(f) Chaplain's Report 7 Transf T	(g) Patient Clothing Record Z > TSgRA5g > ZT	(h) Patient Valuables Pouch Z TShRASh T		

Fig. 4-5 (Cont.)

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(5) SUPPLY PUNCTION	(C) (D) (SEES CARE (SEES CARE (SEES AL) (GENERAL)	SZ Z TGARDGE SZ Z TGARDGE SZ Z ZGARDGE SZ Z N GGARDGE SZ Z N GARDGE SZ Z N GARDGE N GA	2 272 < Z	STZ Z TéeRobe STZ Z Trée tobe STZ a TSTRACE SZ TÉATOFF SZ TÉATOFF SZ	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	SZGY Z TG1RG1 SZGT Z TG1RG1 SZGT Z TG1RE51 SZGT Z TG4RG6A Z TGC UG6B Z TGC UG6B Z Z TGC UG6B Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z	S Tenticen Z S Temiden Z Z	TS	
	(A) INTENSIVE OLAS (Long Term) (Long Term)	(a) Central Supply Requisition Z > TGaPAGe > SZ Z > TGaRBGa (b) Vard Nourishment List	(c) Floor Control Supply Req Z > Téchéc > STZ Z > Téchéc (d) Phartecy Supply Req. Z > Téalád > SZ	(e) Frarracy Floor Supply Z TGeRide STZ Z TGEREGE (f) Diet Order Z TGIRAGE STZ Z TGEREGE	(g) Diet Changes Z Y T6gRA6g S SZ (i) Linen Request Z Y T61RA6i S SZT Z YG1RB6i	(1) General Stores Req. 2 TG1RA61 SZT Z TG1RD61 (m) Diet Cards (Menus)	S Téarbaéa Z Z	(p) heily Antibiotic Report 2 TepRASp TS Z TepREsp TS TS TEPREsp TS TS TEPREsp TS TS TS TEPREsp TS TS TS TS TS TS TS T	

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	(E) SELF CARE	Z \ TTARFIA TZ	Z TYCRETC Z	Z TYERETE T	Z \ TYCHETE\ T											
	(D) INTERMEDIATE CARE (General	Z \ TYANNA \ TZ	Z \TTGEDTC \ Z	Z Tramps T	Z YTTERDIE Y T	Z >TTENDIE > TQ							Z X TORMO X TZ			
	(C) INTERVEDIATE CARE (Special)	Z TTakta TZ	Z TTCHCTC Z Z TTARCTA TQ	Z Trencre T	Z TTGCTf T	Z Treficte Tro							Z YTORCTO ZT			
(7) CONTROL FUNCTION	(B) INTENSITE CARE (Short Term)	Z \ TYa.RB?a \ TZ	Z \ TTGRB7c \ Z		T < 17 frant 7 Z		Z YThæbyn y	Z \ T71RB71 \ TT	Z > TIKBBIL > TT	Z > TT1RB71 > ZT	Z YTMRBTm Z ZT	Z Transfa Tr		Z TTpRBTp ZTT	Z \ TTrRB7x \ ZYT	Z TIGRB7s ZY
	(A) INTENSIVE CARE (Long Term)	(a) Nursing Assgn. Sheets Z TraRA7a > TZ (b) IGU/CCU Log Z TrbRA7b > TY	(c) Narsing Assgn. (Unit) T Trease Z Z (A) Seriously II1 Sifp Z Trankrd Z Tr	(e) Taily Floor Census Z YreRA7e T	(f) Mursing Unit Report Z YTERATE T	(g) Condition Report 2 7 Transle 7 TQ	(h) Emergency Rm. Log.	(i) Minor Surgery Log.	(k) 0.R. Log	(1) E.R. Case Report	(m) Sponge Count.	(n) Delivery Room Log	(o) O.R. Patient Call Slip Z Trokaro Z ZT	(p) Bally Del.Rm. Opeck List	(r) 0.R. Schedule	(s) Recovery Room Log

Fig. 4-5 (Cont.)

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FUNCTION
DISPOSITION
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		(A) INTENSIVE CA	CARE	(B) INTENSIVE CARE (Short Term)		(C) INTERMEDIATE CARE (Special)	CARE	INI	(D) INTERMEDIATE CARE (General)	RE		(E) SELF CARE	
(a) Discharge Summary	¥	У ТӨвКА Өв	AZ.		¥	TBaRC8a	> zr	A	TBaRDBa	ZR ZR	*	> TeaREBa	Z.R.
(b) Discharge Log	2	TEBRAGD	E C		22	ТВЪВСВЪ	E .	2	Теридер	E	2	Терква	ATR
(c) Unclaimed Items Report	2	TBCRABC	T		22	TBcRCBc	EH	22	TBCRDBC	EH	12	TBcREBc	E
(d) Take Home Rx	12	Tedrasd	s		2	Теансеа	S	2	Teambea	S	Z	TRCRESC	S
(e) Take Home CSR	Z	Y TBeRA8e	s		2	TBeRCBe	S	Z	TeeRDe	8	22	TBeREBe	8
(f) Patient Chart-Med Record	22	Tefrabl	B		2	V THEFTICHE	В	22	THERMORE	E C	63	TERREST	N N
(g) Newborn Release					Z	Tegree	я						
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Table 4-4

NURSING UNIT SUBFUNCTIONS - TIME REQUIRED AND RATE OF OCCURRENCE

1. NURSING UNIT ADMITTING FUNCTION

Receiving patient from Admitting or from other nursing units, assigning patient to bed, notifying physician (intern, resident, or staff) of patient's arrival, and arranging for Hx and Px

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Required Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of Occurrence
1a	Admitting Form	14.2	1/pat. admitted
1b	Admission Worksheet	4.8	1/unit/day
1c	Emergency Admission	10.2	1/emerg. admit
1d	OB Admission	14.8	1/OB admit
le	Nursery Admission	13.6	1/newborn
1f	Patient Transfer	2.9	1/pat. transfer
1g	Newborn ID and Birth Certificate	29.8	1/newborn
1h	Emergency Admitting Record	8.0	1/emerg. pat.
1k	Birth Notices	15. 0	1/birth

Table 4-4 (Cont.)

2. EXAMINATION FUNCTION

Gathering of medical information concerning a patient's illness, progress of the illness, and the effect of treatment, and recording of patient status, such as vital signs, graphic recording, and general appearance and condition

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Required Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of Occurrence
2a	Laboratory Requests	3.9	4/pat. admitted
2b	X-Ray Requests	6.2	1.25/pat. admitted
2c	PKU/Clots Requests	4.6	1/newborn
2d	Sleep Chart	22.1	1/unit/day
2e	Input/Output, 8-hr record	11.7	1/4 med.pats./day
2f	Input/Output, 24-hr record	27.3	1/10 med.pats./day
2g	Vital Signs	1.5	3/pat./day
2h	ICU/CCU Record	18.9	1/ICU-CCU pat./day
2k	Recovery Room Record	13.6	1/surg. pat.
21	Blood Pressure Chart	4.7	1/15 med. pats. /day
2m	Medical Records Note	5.2	1/10 pats. admitted
2n	Graphic Sheet — Routine	4.7	1/pat/day
20	Graphic Sheet — Intensive	4.7	1.25/med. pat./day
2p	Diabetic Record	11.1	1/5 med. pats./day
2r	Bedside Record	1.5	1/pat. admitted
2s	Hx/Px N/S Record	9.5	1/pat. admitted
2t	Progress Notes	2.0	4/pat./day
2u	O.R. Prep Sheet	4.6	1/surg. pat.
2w	Infant Hx/Px	9.5	3/newborn/day
2x	Surgery Check List	5.3	1/surg. Pat.
2 y	Professional Consulting Request (In-House)	6.4	0.5/pat. admitted



Table 4-4 (Cont.)

3. DIAGNOSIS FUNCTION

Evaluating patient's condition to determine the existence of an illness, as well as its type, status, and rate of progress. Evaluating recovery progress to specify treatment. Evaluating special tests, studies, data, and consultant reports to confirm or define a particular illness or disease level

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Re- quired Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of Occurrence
3a	Radiologist Report	7.5	1/5 med. pats./day
3b	Prothrombin Time	1.5	1/pat. admitted
3c	Results	1.5	4/pat. admitted
3d	EKG Report	4.39	1/5 med. pat.
3e	EEG Report	4. 39	1/15 med. pat.
3f	X-Ray Report Results	3.3	1.5/pat. admitted
3g	Pathology Report - Non-Surgical	2.1	1/10 med. pats.
3h	Pathology Report - Surgical	5. 2	1/surg. proced.
3k	PKU/Clot Results	1.1	1/newborn

Table 4-4 (Cont.)

4. TREATMENT FUNCTION

Carrying out medical orders or actions whose purpose is to prevent, impede, arrest, reverse, diminish, or eliminate disease or abnormal conditions. Recording patient's reaction to treatment. Preparing patient for off-unit treatment, such as surgery, X-ray therapy, physical therapy, etc.

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Required Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of occurrence
4a	M.D. Order Sheet	3.1	1/pat. admitted
4b	Emergency Room Report	2.2	1/Emer. Rm. Pat.
4d	Medication Ticket	9.6	3/pat. admitted
4e	Nursing Care Plan (Kardex)	16.5	1/pat. admitted
4f	Blood Transfusion Request	14.5	1/2 surg. pats.
4g	Anesthesia Record	4.5	1/surg. proced.
4i	Medication and Treatment Record	5.2	3/pat./day
4k	I/V Feeding/Infusion Record	18.6	1/10 pat. admitted
4m	Parenteral Fluid Sheet	5.7	1/unit/day
40	Anticoagulant Chart	16. 2	1/med.unit/day
4r	Delivery Room Record	12.1	1/mat. pat.
4t	O.R. Record	17.3	1/surg. pat.
4u	ICU/CCU Record	17. 3	1/ICU-CCU pat.
4x	Labor Record	19.2	1/mat. pat.
4y	Record of Procedure	3. 7	1/surg. pat.

Table 4-4 (Cont.)

5. PATIENT MAINTENANCE

Performing nonmedical activities concerned with patient care — such as bed linen change, food distribution, personal hygiene and related needs, and patient handling.

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Required Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of Occurrence
5a	Patient Daily Care Routine (Kardex)	3.1	1/pat. admitted
5b	Routine Nursing Notes	2.0	3/pat./day
5d	Daily Nursing Care Report	83.1	3/unit/day
5e	Incident Report	4.9	0.5/unit/day
5g	Patient Clothing Record	4.5	1/pat. admitted
[1	

Table 4-4 (Cont.)

6. SUPPLY FUNCTION

Ordering, receiving, maintaining, and issuing standard and patient-peculiar items, e.g., medications, sterile supply, treatment kits, laundry, solutions, nursing station administrative supplies, diagnostic-treatment supplies, and food.

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Required Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of Occurrence
6a	Central Supply Requisitions	5. 7	1/pat. admitted
6b	Ward Nourishment List	3. 1	1/unit/day
6c	Floor Central Supply Requisition	8.8	2/unit/day
6d	Pharmacy Supply Requisition	5. 7	2/pat. admitted
6e	Pharmacy Floor Supply Requisition	24.5	1/unit/day
6f	Diet Order	5.7	1/pat. admitted
6g	Diet Changes	5.7	1/2 pat. admitted
6i	Linen Requisition	9.4	1/unit/day
61	General Stores Requisition	14. 2	1/unit/day
6m	Diet Cards (Menus)	1.0	1/day/pat.
6n	Unit Dietary Schedule	8.8	3/unit/day
60	Narcotic/Hypnotic Daily Record	11.3	3/unit/day
6p	Daily Antibiotic Report	11.3	1/unit/day

Table 4-4 (Cont.)

7. CONTROL FUNCTION

Directing and coordinating unit activities, including planning and actions necessary to effect examination, treatment, or maintenance activities ordered by the physician so they will be accomplished at the proper time with the proper supporting supplies and equipment on hand. Ensuring accomplishment of those routine or special patient-care tasks, related to examination, treatment, and maintenance, that are performed without direct physician orders. Providing general and specific information concerning the unit, its patients, and the hospital for the general public. Collecting, retaining, and disseminating unit status information in terms of personnel, facilities, and equipment.

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Required Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of Occurrence
7a	Nursing Assignment Sheet (Pats.)	20.0	1/unit/day
7b	ICU/CCU Log	7.7	1/unit/day
7c	Nursing Assignment (Unit)	14. 0	1/unit/day
7d	Seriously Ill Slip	4.7	1.25/IC pats./day
7e	Daily Floor Census	14.0	3/unit/day
7 f	Nursing Unit Report	6.0	1/unit/day
7g	Condition Report	11.2	3/unit/day
7h	Emergency Room Log	7.7	1/unit/day
7i	Minor Surgery Log	7.2	3/day
7k	O.R. Log	7.7	1/shift/day
71	Emergency Room Case Report	7.6	1/ER pat.
7m	Sponge Count	6.3	1/surg. proced.
7n	Delivery Room Log	7.7	3/unit/day
7o	O.R. Patient Call Slip	21.0	1/surg. unit/day
7r	O.R. Schedule	34.1	1/surg. unit/day
7s	Recovery Room Log	7. 7	3/R. R. /day
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Table 4-4 (Cont.)

8. DISPOSITION FUNCTION

Executing the final movement or disposition of patients and related material as prescribed in medical orders or in administrative policies and procedures

Code	Subfunction (Form)	Time Re- quired Per Occurrence (min)	Rate of Occurrence
8a	Discharge Summary	6.5	1/pat.
8b	Discharge Log	4.4	1/pat./unit
8c	Unclaimed Items Report	6.2	1/unit/day
8d	Take Home Rx	7.1	0.25/pat.
8e	Take Home CSR	7.1	0.1/pat.
8f	Patient Chart (To Medical Record)	13.2	1/pat.
8g	Newborn Release	7.0	1/newborn

No. of Beds		Total Nursing Attendance								
No. of Bassinets			Admin./Super							
Admissions per Y	ear		Central Supply							
Average Daily C	ensus			_ Nursing	Units					
Births				_ Other _	 				·	-
			Nurs	ing Unit De	scription					
	7 (A. Detle	Patier	nt Flo	w	At	tendance	•
Nursing Unit ID No.	Type of Service	Beds of Unit		Av. Daily Census	Admit.		ns= er	RN	LVN	С
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Fig. 4-6 Hospital Data Sheets

Section 5 HOSPITAL COMPUTER SYSTEMS SURVEY

5.1 FOCUS

As an adjunct to hospital communications, computer systems will rapidly become controversial unless a high degree of user acceptance is achieved. This is particularly true of services and functions provided at the communications center of patient care units. In the typical hospital, for example, the transcription of orders is a tedious task which could be simplified with or without computer assistance. This aspect of the system design is often overlooked.

It was clear during this survey that computer applications to patient-care data continue to suffer from lack of insight into or consensus on an effective and appropriate communication system. Although the use of remote terminals throughout the hospital was central to the preoccupation of the designers, little had yet been accomplished in terms of providing practical and meaningful services related to patient-care data. In the relative absence of interest and concern on the part of health care providers, service bureaus and computer manufacturers were offering software based upon their concepts of simply automating the existing manual system. Varieties of input/output devices were in use and time sharing was increasingly viewed as a cost-saving factor.

In general, computer services appeared to be a mixed blessing, for neither accuracy nor time savings could be demonstrated in any one system. The phase of user involvement in systems design seemed to be just starting.

The survey of computer systems at hospital nursing stations included a review of the state-of-the-art in both teleprocessing and batch processing of patient-care information at nursing stations in six hospitals (see Tables 5-1 and 5-2). A more detailed summary of the commitments of these hospitals may be found in Appendix E.



Table 5-1
HOSPITAL COMPUTER SETTING

		•	Hospita	al Code		
Item	A	В	C	D	E	F
Computer Location						
• Within hospital	X		х	х	x	
Outside hospital		x				x
Computer Personnel						
• Full time	8	16	12		1	15
Part time			71			
Computer System Status						
• Shared						·x
• Rented		X	X	X		
● Owned	X					
● On R&D project		X	X	X	X	Х

Table 5-2 HOSPITAL COMPUTER EQUIPMENT

			Hospital	Code		
Item	A	В	С	D	E	F
Computer Model	IBM 1710 1620	IBM 1440 (To be replaced by shared UNIVAC 494)	IBM(a) 360/40 360/40	Medelco T*H*I*S (SCAM)	CDC 160A	IBM 360/50 (shared)
Core Storage (characters x1000)	60	16	128 (+data cells)	(b)	16	256
Random Access Storage (1 mil- lion characters)	. 8		45			45
Random Access Devices	4		6			6
Magnetic Tape Units			1	1		2
Communication Links:						
Cable Telephone	X	X X	X X	X	X	X X
I/O Terminals at Nursing Stations	IBM 1793 KB; 1053 1092 Printer	BKR 204 Video terminal Off-line optical scanner printer	IBM 1092 1093 Exper. IBM CRT 2260 Printer 2740	Card readers + teletype model 33 TTY	CDC Digi- Scribe CRT Printer	IBM 2260 Scope CRT Printer 2740

⁽a) Two systems.(b) Solid-state central processor unit.

Historically, computer systems in the hospital environment have evolved with the following goals:

- Expediting the flow of information between the patient and the providers of care
- Providing a more efficient administrative and cost accounting system

Differences in the approaches to these broad problems varied in several ways. Some started with a clearly stated design and methodology. Others conducted a work sampling, then modified information handling practices at nursing stations and stations and elsewhere, and proceeded to introduce teleprocessing or batch processing on a trial basis. In general, remnants of a manual system were found to be needed in order to protect the patient-care data both in terms of accuracy and in terms of confidentiality.

Most of the projects received additional monies not provided for in their annual budgets. The principal source of funding has been the Federal Government (Department of Health, Education, and Welfare), although some hospitals have been supported by computer manufacturers and interested philanthropical groups.

In this report, specific attention is given to input/output devices in use at nursing stations and interfaces between the printouts and/or displays being obtained, the patient's chart and other information processing requirements, impact of the system on the nursing care function, and training programs established in relation to the use of the computer.

5.2 SUMMARY OF HOSPITAL COMPUTER SYSTEMS SURVEY

Two of the hospitals visited were using keyboard/printer devices. One had "keymats" specifically scored and designed for requesting and reporting selected hospital services; the other employed a "message-coded keyboard" which essentially served the same purpose. Both of these hospitals had the terminals in use for providing data on

admissions, transfers, discharges, bed vacancies, and diet listings, as well as a listing of patients according to type of service and physician.

One of the hospitals received an on-line printout of the admitting laboratory work performed by an autoanalyzer. The report was provided on gummed-back paper at the nursing station and subsequently affixed to the laboratory sheet. All other laboratory work was manually transcribed from the worksheet by the laboratory technicians who made rounds to the nursing stations at periodic intervals for this purpose. Most of the printout material found at nursing stations in this survey was either a worksheet, a schedule, or other temporary document. These were to be discarded either daily, weekly, or, in some hospitals, every four hours. They provided the users with accurate, concise, and easily read information needed for use in a few functions which are part of the total patient-care requirement.

Four of the hospitals visited were introducing cathode ray tube (CRT) terminals for input/output use in a variety of experimental modules. One hospital used a small CRT to provide a nursing graph of patient behaviors. At this institution, the computer was programmed to sort and process data originating from source documents called Automated Nursing Notes. It was possible to retrieve a display based on a statistical analysis of the behaviors observed over an extended time period, usually seven days.

Another hospital was working on the problem-oriented patient chart. Here the major focus was upon the development of a chronological reporting scheme based upon tracking problems found by both physicians and nurses at the time of the patient's admission to the hospital, and thereafter during the period of hospitalization. Each problem was given a number and referred to by a name and number when reported on subsequent days. General problems such as pain were outlined on the displays in terms of location, severity, etc. Thus, the cathode ray tube was providing the user a wide variety of descriptive terminology which would serve to compose a significant message about a given patient.

Another institution had a cathode ray tube terminal at the nursing station for the purpose of providing the users a review of orders and the capability of entering vital signs. Calculations of fluid balance could be performed and a recommended daily input retrieved through specific programs.

The last of the institutions visited was experimenting with a cathode ray tube and was transmitting data to the patient's record based upon the administration of medications. Here the attention of the system designers and the users was directed toward accuracy of input. Retrieval of displays was in process of assessment by a team of users who were specifically concerned with the content of the message (i.e., name of drug, dose, route, frequency, and warnings related to maximum daily dosages as well as reminders for renewals).

Input devices themselves were viewed for the most part as limited by technical features such as coding necessitated for access, ribbons on keyboards needing frequent changing, and delays in obtaining certain kinds of feedback such as bed vacancy corrections.

All of the systems using input/output devices were experiencing problems that held significant implications for those involved in developing and implementing future systems. The simplest input was found to be through the edge-punched card which was entered at the nursing station into a central processor. A rather minimal problem was associated with this system in that a "wait" light flashed if a series of cards were being entered too rapidly of if another unit was busy at the time an order was being processed. These cards served as a much needed link between both nursing and physicians and other hospital departments. There was a high degree of user acceptance of this total hospital information system, the only one known to provide such extensive service through teleprocessing.

Batch processing of the Automated Nursing Notes was the only off-line system visited which was initiated at the nursing station. Since this provided the basis for the teleprocessing of the nursing graph, the mark-sense form was performing a reliable service as an input device.

Printing devices, providing on-line typed copies on various sizes of paper, were in use in all but one of the institutions visited. Although originally designed for business or industrial environments, they had been modified for use in hospitals. In general, soundproofing was the chief factor needing attention, although modification of the size of the output (i.e., medication cards vis-a-vis schedules or other listing) was also undergoing considerable experimentation. Off-line batch processing through optical scanning of reports involved delays of 24 hours between the data input and the availability of the hard copy printout.

Most of the institutions visited had begun to reevaluate the present system of personnel allocation to the information handling requirement. Those having input/output devices linked to the computer had, without exception, employed nonnursing personnel to operate the terminals in addition to other clerical duties. This was true of several other computer-assisted hospital systems which, though not actually visited, were described over the telephone.

On-line nursing station information processing requirements necessitated the employment of nonnursing personnel to maintain constant surveillance of the equipment. Many application programs in either operational or development mode were planned to provide on-line responses to queries, and cathode ray tube displays were entering the field (see Table 5-3).

Modular components were found to be widely used. User representatives and programmers were beginning to work on specific segments of data to define and test parameters of selected subsystems. The interrelationships among these various modules and their subsequent bearing upon the hospital operation were ultimately to be tested in all cases. Some institutions were more specific than others in stating their purposes and rationale for selecting a given module. It was not always clear why certain decisions had been made to use a given approach. Although all were prepared to describe the flow of data through the use of remote terminals, remnants of the manual system were retained and were often redundant.

Table 5-3 SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS(a)

Application	On-Line	Batch	Hard Copy	Display	In Dev.	Operating
Vital Signs	1-2-6	1-2-6	1-2-6	2-6	1-2-6	
Fluid Balance	1-2-6		1-2-6	2-6	1-2	6
Treatments	1-2-6		1-2-6	2-6	2-6	
Unit Clinical Tests	1-2-6		1-2-6		1-2-6	
Shift Summary	1-2-6		1-2-6	2-6	1-2-6	
Patient-Care Plan	2-6	•	2-6	2	2	6
Laboratory Test Orders	1-4-6		1-4-6	2	2	1-4-6
Medication Orders	1-3-4-6		2		1-3-4-6	2
Patient-Care Report	2 -3	3	2-3	2-3	1-2-3	2-3-4
Laboratory Test Report	1(b)		1			1
Medication Report	6		6	6	6	
Diet Order	1-4		1-4			
Patient List	1-6		1-6			6
Patient List by Doctor	2		2	2	2	2
Patient List With Diagnosis	1-4		1-4			1-4
Diet List	1-4		1-4			
Admission Notice	1-4-5		1-5			1-4-5
Bed Vacancy Notice	6		6			6
Housekeeping Request	5		5			5

(a) Legend:

1 = Hospital A 2 = Hospital E 3 = Hospital B 4 = Hospital C 5 = Hospital D 6 = Hospital F

 $^{(b)}$ Admission only.

In 1968, the items from a patient's record which were being transformed either in whole or in part by computer application were:

- Admission data
 - Name
 - Age
 - ິ − Sex
 - Race
 - Diagnosis
 - Service
 - Physician
- Initial history (and/or physical examination)
- Observations
 - Vital signs
 - Fluid balance
 - Medication administration
 - Signs, symptons, complaints
 - Patient-care summaries
- Activity regimens or care plans including therapeutic intervention by physiotherapists, nurses, occupational therapists
- Laboratory requests, reports, schedules (specimen pickup lists)
- Discharge summaries

Care assistance was viewed by some as a potential product of two computer systems. The problem-oriented patient chart and the automated nursing notes represented the effect of recognition of this computer potential by user populations. They appeared to be the most sophisticated conceptual approaches to the care function. In another system project, activity schedules for individual patients were the result of viewing the computer as a tool for comprehensive health care delivery within a hospital.

Entering data into an on-line nursing station terminal eliminated for the most part the intermediate steps of keypunching and clerical transcription. In one project, query sets required that terminal operators respond to a separate group of questions for



each data type. In another, the terminal was activated by a simple code and the displays did not depend upon this query technique for functionally activating a message.

In two hospital systems, the data could be processed by statistical formulas (sometimes referred to as advice rules):

- Calculations of fluid and electrolyte needs are established according to specific urinary output. Gastrointestinal losses, and other fluid loss, are determined, with a report indicating amount of water and electrolytes required by the patient for a 24-hour period. In addition, the number of bottles, composition of standard solutions of fluids to be used, and rate of administration in milliliters per hour and drops per minute are prescribed.
- Conversions of weights from pounds to kilograms for use in calculating children's dosages can be activated by a simple input of body weight.

Reports on the care function were planned for several systems. In general, these were to be available every eight hours, although one planned to have a monthly summary as well. Formats were slightly different, but essentially represented an attempt to build on the progress of the patient during hospitalization. Users of the automated nursing notes reported that as a result of the project the nurses were more astute in observing patient behavior. In addition, they felt that having the tool improves the communications between team members as they carry out the treatment program.

There was a variation in the perceived requirement for on-going education and training for users. Some of the personnel interviewed had attended courses offered by computer manufacturers. Only one institution was conducting a short course for nursing service personnel on a regular basis.

In most instances, a brief orientation was provided for the personnel assigned to the projects. This was unfortunate in that major problems associated with implementation were identified as "incorrect manner of entry by users" and "incorrect data."



The state-of-the-art in 1968 for computer usage in hospital nursing stations in the United States appeared to fall into two categories.

- Administration or nonnursing programs
- Patient-care problems, which are dealt with by varieties of care providers and may be teleprocessed in real time on request, or batch processed

For the long-term patient an off-line batch process using a mark-sense form was seen to provide a satisfactory method of data gathering not only for chronological use but also for summarization and analysis of data. On the other hand, in cases of acute illness or injury, computer applications may range from the analog to digital conversion of parameters (such as the electrocardiogram) to displays of terminology related to the entire patient-care spectrum. Recommendations for changes in systems were elicited from nurse users and are summarized in Table 5-4. Details of visits to each hospital may be found in Appendix E.

5.3 SUMMARY OF USER OPINIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Each selected hospital presented a different picture of computer usage and development. Of the personnel interviewed, there were wide variations in positions, ages and professional experience. Similarly, there was a marked difference in their preparation for using the computer system. The data collected are depicted in Tables 5-5, 5-6, 5-7, and 5-8.

The involvement of nursing personnel in system operations was also somewhat different among hospitals. In general, the equipment maintenance associated with terminal handling was referred to the EDP departments. Down time was not viewed as a problem, although scheduled down time occurred daily in the five hospitals not using a solid-state computer. None of the systems were operating on a 24-hour basis.

Nurse systems requirements were incorporated in a variety of ways, chiefly through head nurses and supervisors, but also through committees.

Table 5-4
RECOMMENDATIONS

			Hospita	al Code		
Item	A	В	С	D	E	F
Improve Maintenance	X					
High Speed Printer	X		X	X		1
Clerks as Terminal Operators Around-the-Clock	X					
Total On-Line System	X	X			X	[
Staffing Schedules by Computer	X .			·	X	
All Nurse Inputs via Computer Terminal	X	X	;		Х	
Committees of Users Development Requirements		X			X	x
More Terminals for Nurses and Physicians on Each Unit	X	X			X	
On-Going Revision Involv ing Nurses	X	X	x		X	x
EDP Training Program and Education Use of Terminals	X	x	X		х	
Developments of Patient Profile q8H q24H	X	x			X	
Use of Dictaphone for Communicating Observations, Reports	,			x		
Experimentation on more extensive use of computer directly to physicians, offices (ICU, CCU, esp)			,	х		

Table 5-5
NURSING PERSONNEL PROVIDING OPINIONS*

Hospital Surveyed	Nursing Personnel
Hospital A	12
Hospital B	13
Hospital C	4
Hospital D	7
Hospital E	8
Hospital F	4
Total	48

*Of the 48 nursing personnel interviewed concerning the use of the computer system, their status ranged from clerk to nursing director. Their ages ranged from 20 to 36 years. Twenty-five of the 48 persons who participated reported that they were married. All were full-time employees. Three were male nurses. Their assignments included all patient-care categories. Just as variations in years of hospital experience were evident (6 months to 30 years) so the professional preparation of the individuals interviewed was also quite different; however, there was a predominance of diploma graduates in the survey.

Table 5-6
TRAINING PROGRAM FOR COMPUTER PROJECT (a)

			Hospital Code						
	Item	A	В	С	D	E	F		
1.	Training Program								
	Yes No	X	x	X	x	x	x		
2.	Training Guide								
	Yes No	X	X	X	X	x	X		
3.	User Guide at Nursing Station					 			
	Yes No	·X	x	X	X	x	X		
4.	Pre-Test for Project								
	Yes No	x	X	X	x	X	x		
5.	Post-Test for Project								
	Yes No	X	X	X	X	X	x		
6.	Evaluation of Training Program								
	Yes No	, X	x	X	X	х	х		

⁽a) Although only one of the hospitals in the survey reported that it had an on-going training program (Hospital C), some of the nursing personnel in the other hospitals included in the sample reported that they had received some form of specialized training for the computer project. None indicated the need to learn programming, but felt that some understanding of systems analysis and coding was helpful. Inconsistencies in responses to questions related to training within and among hospitals may be further examined by referring to the unpublished documentation of this report. (See footnote, p. 1-1.)

Table 5-7

IMPACT OF COMPUTER SYSTEM ON SPECIFIC DUTIES AND JOB SATISFACTION^(a)

Hospitals		Impa	act on Sp Duties			-		act on tisfacti		
Surveyed	1 ^(b)	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Hospital A	·X	X	X	X	X		х	x	x	
Hospital B	x	х	x	x		x	x	x		
Hospital C	X	X	\mathbf{x}	-	X			x	x	
Hospital D	Х.	X	×			x	х	x		
Hospital E	X	x	:X	x		x	X .	x	x	
Hospital F	X	X	X	х			x	х		

⁽a) A review of responses to questions relative to the impact of the hospital computer system on specific duties and job satisfaction suggests that there are inconsistencies in the perception of the systems. This table includes a summary of those responses and reveals the spread of attitudes both within and among the selected institutions.

(b) Legend:

- 1 = Marked Improvement
- 2 = Some Improvement
- 3 = No Change
- 4 = Some Interference
- 5 = Marked Interference

Table 5-8

IMPACT OF COMPUTER SYSTEM ON OLD

MANUAL SYSTEM(a)

Hospital Surveyed	Yes	No
Hospital A	X	X
Hospital B	x	. X
Hospital C	X	x
Hospital D	X	x
Hospital E	X	· X
Hospital F	X	Х

(a) As depicted here, there was no consensus on the impact of the computer systems in the manual systems in the sample hospitals. In the categories selected, it was evident, if the hospital was working on a specific application program, that the personnel recognized this and indicated their reactions to it. In the case of a hospital which was not working on "Vital Signs," for example there were consistently negative responses.

Assessment of the experiences with the systems indicates no reduction of paper work, but some changes in staffing (clerks for terminal operation and supervisors eliminated in one).

Override capability as a means of maintaining continuing communication through the system was not consistently defined by the users interviewed. Some were clearly utilizing the technique of responding to queries by verifying the accuracy of information, while in another system an override button served to release data sought. In each institution, the term "override" was discussed by the investigator with various staff members in relation to what such a service could mean since in three cases the override was "in development" in the system, in one the override was contracted by EDP, and in another override represented "correction."

The systems had provided assistance to the nursing station function in terms of stimulation to achieve:

- More complete information on the patients
- More accurate and relevant patient data
- Better organization of charting through the use of guidelines either on mark-sense forms or cathode ray tubes
- Increased awareness of the patient's progress through the potential of on-line reporting
- Revision of staffing patterns through elimination of redundant schedules and provision of updated assignment sheets
- More useful worksheets for use by individual nursing staff members
- Elimination of manually prepared requisitions

The systems had interfered with work at some nursing stations due to the problems associated with initiating a new method, the need to instruct all personnel on new tasks expected of them, lack of coordination in terms of a complete information system, and the varying subjective perceptions of employee/employer relationships.

The impact of the computer systems was not consistent in terms of either improving or interfering with job satisfaction. Tables 5-7 and 5-8 depict the variations found. It should be noticed, too, that some of the hospitals visited had not conducted appraisals of their systems; thus, a true evaluation of system effectiveness could not be measured.

5.3.1 Hospital A

Nurses interviewed indicated that much of the manual system remains in use at this hospital. There were feelings expressed that the system could do more for them. They presently duplicate work related to the programs available through the terminals. The majority expressed positive opinions regarding the clerk manager, an innovation in the nursing service, and an interface between patient care and physicians' orders.

One of the significant factors in the revision of the system was that q hour printouts of formulas due was not useful; after a trial period of about three months, a change was made to a q4 hourly printout. The opinions that the operation of the terminal took nurses away from patient care was consistently expressed by all nursing service personnel who were interviewed.

5.3.2 Hospital B

In general, nurses stated that the system of Automated Nursing Notes (off-line) and Nursing Graphs (on-line displays) were of real value to them. The comments elicited were as follows:

- Charting is more readable.
- Charting is more organized.
- Increased awareness of specific aspects of patient behavior has resulted.
- More accurate reports are provided.
- There has been a significant reduction in time spent charting.
- The form provided excellent guidelines for charting.
- The physician receives a more meaningful description of behavior.
- Nurses have become more aware of the progress of the patients through the Automated Nursing Notes and the Nursing Graphs.
- Nurses are functioning with a more patient-centered approach.

One nurse felt that more time was needed to chart, using the mark-sense automated note. In general, the attitude was that they wanted more on-line communications,

with more cathode ray terminals on more units throughout the hospital, operating on a 24-hour basis.

Once again the concept of readiness for change was brought into the discussion with the comment that this should be part of everyone's attitude.

5.3.3 Hospital C

The nurses expressed the feeling that the variety of worksheets provided are easier to read and more accurate. They stated that they were gradually becoming more involved in patient care.

Attitudes expressed by the nurses were that cooperation, thoughtfulness, creativity, and a feeling of accomplishment and learning had been an outcome of the approach taken.

There was a comment expressed that although a course in data processing is provided for nursing, more time should be provided to allow for increased participation by nurses in the system development. It was evident that the project is too new to be evaluated, particularly since they have not had sufficient opportunity to use many aspects of it.

5.3.4 Hospital D

The opinions of the nurses using the Medelco system reflect success. They report the following:

- Minimal savings have resulted in relation to verification of orders and requisitioning (transactions).
- Errors are more promptly noted since the printouts of transactions occur in less than 25 seconds.

One member of the nursing staff indicated that updating of the available new items (on cards) should be more prompt. One suggested that a more comprehensive view



of nursing could be achieved through this card system. Clerks were quite capably using the system, as were some of the nurses. One of the most interesting comments was made by a nurse who had resisted the introduction of the system and who after several months of using it, found that 'I wouldn't know how to get along without it.'

5.3.5 Hospital E

The nurses surveyed at Hospital E appeared to have responded to the opportunity to work with the physicians and to revise the manual system. This effort at using computer capabilities in a hospital started with a research approach. The nurses have since adopted the attitude that research implies change and are enthusiastically reorganizing the patient-care record system.

One individual indicated that charting through the use of sequential displays will result in more complete and accurate reports. Although much of the work is developmental at Hospital E, the nurses were pleased with the Digiscribe ability to sort data and to send messages. There was general consensus that they would ultimately be returning to the bedside and leave clerical tasks to be performed by a unit clerk at the nursing station. Minimal involvement of the in-service educator had occurred at this hospital. Finally, the stimulation to consider the problem-oriented patient chart has resulted in the nurses' application of criteria or logical thinking. The research and educational orientation of the project suggests that the impact of this system will be far reaching.

5.3.6 Hospital F

The evaluation of a system was seen to 'progress in and out of helpfulness" in the Hospital F setting. With the focus on spinal cord injury documentation, nurses had contributed many helpful suggestions. A computer printout for each patient was inserted in the Kardex and gave a ready review of all of the care requirement on a time-scheduled basis. Nurses expressed the view that joint participation of pharmacy, nursing, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and radiology personnel would be desirable. The present method of having external coordination between EDP and nursing was viewed as necessary during the initial developmental phase of the project.

5.4 INPUT/OUTPUT DEVICES

Since the survey of hospital computer systems was limited to a selection of six hospitals, the terminals surveyed do not reflect all currently available terminals feasible for applications at the nursing station.

For completeness, a survey of state-of-the-art terminal applications is presented in Tables 5-9 and 5-10. These tables do not attempt to relate the terminals to any particular system. Rather, as is shown, the charts reflect suggested relationships bearing upon human factors and the processing of patient-care data using computer assistance.

The selection of terminals for a specific site involves evaluation of the user's skills, information commerce, regulatory constraints, station time utilization, and cost-effectiveness of the device. In general, the simplest skill-level classification is between those with and those without typing skills. A large number of clerical personnel for hospitals are hired on the basis of typing skills whereas, for hospital professionals, typing skills are of no consequence.

Information commerce must be analyzed in terms of word volume, vocabulary, and other characteristics such as signal or image data. The information commerce must be carefully specified in terms of rates per hour and per minute as a means of analyzing queueing problems (i. e., the number of individuals who are likely to be lined up waiting for terminal service at a given time) and in order to determine the maximum communication and processing rate required of the computer. The information commerce should further be categorized in terms of priority so that economies may be achieved during the design process by suggesting that some information be set aside in preference to priority data, thus leveling the peaks of information flow.

Terminals must further satisfy some significant real and implied regulatory constraints. Access and utilization by unauthorized individuals must be limited or



Table 5-9 INPUT/OUTPUT TERMINALS - COMMENTS

,			User	-		
Input/Output Terminals	MD	RN	LVN	Ward Clerk	Tech- nician	Comments
Video/Light Pen/Keyboard	P	Р	Р	P	P	Minimum training for information input and review; minimum papers
Video/Keyboard	1344a	T	T	P	T	Requires typist training; minimum paper
Message-Coded Keyboard		Т	Т	P	P	Requires format training; requires output response device
Identity Card Reader (attached to input devices above)	P	P	P	P	P	Reduces transcription and errors
Typewriter Input/Output Response		T	Т	P	T	Requires typist; noise critical
Mark Sense Page (Page reader – batch)	P	P	P	P	P	Form design and form selection critical (paper system)
Mark Sense Card (Card reader – small batch)	P	P	P	P	P	Form design and form selection critical (paper system)
Edge-punched Card/ Addressograph/Multilith Imprint		P	P	P	P	Form selection and manual manipulations
Printer - Report		Т	Т	P	P	Noise critical

Note: P = Primary T = With Training

Table 5-10

INPUT/OUTPUT TERMINALS - ON-LINE INFORMATION

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Source	1897	्रथ्।															Ъ					_
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	On-Line Terminal information		Mensurements Orders	Performance Treatment Orders Performance	Progress Notes	Laboratory Test Orders	Diet Orders	Ambulatory Status	Supply Orders Special Treatment General Stores	Calculations (Intake, Etc.)	Housekeeping	Census and Bed Vacancy		Measurements (Vital Signs, Etc.)	Treatments (Completion Notice)	Progress Notes	Laboratory Test Results	X-Ray Reports	Nursing Care Plan	Bed Assignment Notice	Medication List	Shift Summary
	Apar Japan Devices	STEPLES.	ndul		<u> </u>	× Ľ	: Ā	— —		- 	H	ď	Outputs		- ፲	<u>ч</u>	Р 	ъ́ Н	Z -	В		P
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prevented. Certain reports must be carefully formatted, some on specific forms such as Federal Narcotics forms, and means must be provided to validate the entries. In addition to having limited access to the system, means must be provided to positively identify the author of any transaction.

The information must further be analyzed in terms of timeliness of response. For example, the routine radiological examinations scheduled on one day will probably not be done until the next; however, it may represent a significant time savings for the physician or patient to have the information on the result available as soon as it is generated. This constitutes an output load on the station and should be considered along with the input load in the analysis of station time utilization.

Finally, system cost-effectiveness must be considered. The selection of terminals has a profound effect on information processing methods, so that time savings of revised or supplanted processes must be considered in addition to the times involved in direct dialogue with equipment in the determination of overall cost-effectiveness. Choice of an input/output terminal at a given worksite determines the scope of the information that can pass that point; this too has extensive implications in potential costs and benefits.

5.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

Examination of the hospital communication system suggests that at least the following areas should be explored:

- Analysis of content of telephone messages
- Experimentation with predictability of nursing observations as a guide for preparation of staff assignments
- An investigation of the relationships between the admission, transfer, and disposition functions superimposed upon the examination, diagnosis, treatment, and maintenance functions as these occur at the patient care unit (communication station) with a view to differentiating these from the supply and control function



Section 6 COMPARISON OF COMPUTER SYSTEMS WITH MODEL

In this section, a gross type comparison is made between the model developed, as described in Section 4, and the computer systems surveyed, which are reported in Section 5. The model represents operational logic covering functions which are performed by a hospital communication system. As previously stated, the model is rather broad since it is based upon the study of hospitals ranging in size from 30 to 1,100 beds. The selected hospitals in the computer systems survey ranged in size from 58 to 3,000 beds; however, none of the systems surveyed was installed throughout the hospital.

The model components were compared with the applications programs, and the system design identified in the computer systems surveyed. The analysis was not sufficiently detailed to establish that equivalent functions had, in fact, been developed in the computer systems surveyed; however, similarities were evident. Table 6-1 is a matrix that shows, for the hospitals surveyed, the types of information presently processed by computer at those hospitals relative to the major nursing station functions postulated by the LMSC model.

In Fig. 6-1, all the identified functions of the six hospitals surveyed are superimposed upon the model. Each such function is shown by means of a heavy circle drawn around the components on the model. A gross comparison is thus achieved. This technique suggests the means for comparing almost any system under consideration with the now known total requirements identified by the model.

It is considered significant to this report to point out that incompatibilities between an operational construct of a manual system and the designs for computer systems may be anticipated. This survey is a case in point.

^{*}See p. 6-5.

Table 6-1

FUNCTIONS OF NURSING STATION INFORMATION SYSTEM MODEL UNDER DEVELOPMENT FOR SIX COMPUTER-ASSISTED HOSPITAL SYSTEMS (1968)

				Mødel-Postul	Model-Postulated Functions			
Hospital	Nursing Unit Admitting	Examination	Diagnosis	Treatment	Patient Maintenance	Supply	Control	Disposition
Hospital A	Admitting	Laboratory	Lab/ohem test results	Medication ticket			Nursing assignments	Discharge log
Hospital B					Routine nurs- ing notes		Dally census	
Hospital C	Admitting	Laboratory	Lab/chem test results	Medication ticket Medications added to		Unit dietary schedule Ward nour-		Discharge log
			,	Intravenous		Pharmacy supply Diet order		
Hospital D	Admitting	Laboratory				Central supply requisition		Discharge log
Hospital E						Pharmacy supply		
Hospital F		Laboratory 1/O, 8 hr t	Lab/chem test results	Nursing care plan	Daily nursing care report			Discharge summary
		Vital signs Blood pressure Graphic sheet						

By definition, a function is a broad general term which pertains to characteristics and actions. Thus, the service provided to assist in carrying out a function may be regarded as the general purpose of the communication system. If there is general agreement on the design of the hospital communication system, there could be a minimal incompatibility between the function performed to support manual and computer systems.

In view of this, interface areas require definition to determine distinction between discrete data sets for processing and for retention in the record of each hospitalized patient. Again, the type of data required for documentation of hospital services should be identified and utilized consistently so that communications between hospitals and community agencies could be strengthened. In addition, the numerous worksheets cited as products of some computer systems could be scrutinized for utility when the cost of producing them is considered.

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(a) Admitting Form V TiaRala YVZ (b) Admission Worksheet 2 TibRalb VT (c) Emergency Admission 2 TicRalc VY (d) O.B. Admission	TietBie	V > TIARCIA > VYZ Z > TIARCIA > VT Z > TIARCIA > VT	Z > Tibrin > VT	V > Tlakkla > VZZ
Z TIDENID	TICRBIC	T1bRC1b	TibRmb	Tiben
Z TICRAIC	TicRBic	T1cRC1c		
(d) O.B. Admission	1		2 TIGUES	Z TICEBIC VY
=	V \ TIARDIA \ VY	V > TidRCid > VY		
(e) Nursery Admission	Z TierBie VT			
(f) Patient Transfer . 2 TIFRAIF VY		Z >Trifrent > vr	Z TIFEDIF > VY	Z TIEBELE > VX
(g) Newborn I.D. &Birth Cert	Z TIRBBIR > VTQ			
(h) Emergency Admit Mecord	Z > TIARBIA > IZ	Z > Tihrcih > YZ	Z TIDRUID VZ	

Fig. 6-1 Comparison of Model With Systems Surveyed

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(b) X-Ray Requests	2	T2bRA2b	ZX.	+			z	TZ	T2bRC2b	£X		T2bRD2b	XT	Z	T2bRE2b	EX.
(c) PKU/Clofs Request				++	<u> </u>		Z	72	T2cRC2c >	E.					 	
(d) Sleep Chart	Z	TZdRAZd	, XZ				N	ŢŢ.	TZdRC2d	ZX	2	TEARDEA	> rz			
(e) I/0 - 8 Hrs.	2	TZeRAZe	\ xx		-		2	7.	T2cRC2c	ZX	2	T2cRD2c	> xz	+-		
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(g) Vital Signs		TERRACE		7	150											
(h) ICU/CCU Record		TZhRAZh	ZIII						+							
(k) Recovery Room Record				. 23	TZKRBZK	B2k YTZ		++								
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(n) Dishetic Record					-		Z	712	T2pRC2p	Z.	2	TepRD2p	21.			
(m) Redeside Record	N	T2rRA2r	711	2	TZrRBZr	B2r \ YZ	2	[2]	T2±RC2±	YZ	2	TZERDZE	ZX <			
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(u) O.R. Prep. Sheet	z	TPuRAPu	ZX	22	Teurbe	RB2u YZ	23	7	TZuRCZu	7.7	Z	TruRD2u	> rz			
(v) Infant Hz/Pz					+		2	TZ	TZWRCZW	ZX				+		
(x) Surg. Check List				22	Tax	T2xGB2x YZ	2	4	T2xRC2x >	23	2	TZTBDZx	7.7			
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(h) Physicad/Occup.Ther.Record	- Lo				W TANRCAN Z	W TANEDAN Z	W > T4hRE4h > 2
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(j) Neds Added to I/V	Z T4,iRA4,i	Z \ 1	2	T4,1RB4,1 > Z	2 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	Z \ 74,1004.1 \ Z	
(k) :/V Feeding/Infusion	Z T4kRA4k	Z \ A	2	T4kB4k 2 Z	Z TAKRCAK Z	2 \ T4kHD4k \ 2	
(m) Parenteral Fluid Record	Z T4mRA4m	Z S	Z	T4mRB4m 2	Z T4mBC4m Z	Z TqmkDqm Z	Z \ T4mRE4ta \ Z
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Fig. 6-1 (Cont.)

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(5) PATIENT MAINTENANCE FUNCTION	(B) INTENSIVE CARE (Short Term)		д Утрънвур у д	Z Т5айв5а У т	Z T5eRB5e YT						
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		(a) Patient Daily Care (K)	(b) Routine Nursing Notes	(d) Daily NUrsing Care Report	(e) Incident Report	(f) Chaplain's Report	(g) Patie : Clothing Record	(h) Patient Valuables Pouch	5.		

Fig. 6-1 (Cont.)

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(f) Nursing Unit Report Z TTERATE	f \ T \ T \ T TRB7f	T Z Trincle	E	Z YTTEDIL > T	Z Y TYFRETE T
(g) Condition Report (5) Z TIERAIR	g > TQ	Z Treficile	TG	Z \Tretting \ TQ	
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(k) 0.R. Log	Z > TREBTA >				
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(p) Daily Del. Rm. Check List	Z Trprepp	ZIZ			
(r) 0.R. Schedule	Z TTARBIT	TXZ			
(s) Recovery Room Log	Z Transte	Z			

Fig. 6-1 (Cont.) 129

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Section 7 IMPROVED SYSTEMS

7.1 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

It is important to re-emphasize that the survey of computer-assisted hospital information systems (Section 5) was limited by terms of the Nursing Station Information Needs contract and therefore does not constitute a complete survey of all existing computer applications in hospitals. As described in Section 2, the criteria for selection of the computer-assisted hospital information systems to be surveyed were developed on the basis of a consensus drawn from the following considerations:

- Operational projects in use in a hospital for a minimum of six months
- Input/output devices in use based upon different viewpoints and requirements
- Limit of six hospitals to be surveyed

In relating the model presented in Section 4 to the computer systems surveyed in Section 5 (and compared in Section 6), it becomes clear that computer-assisted nursing station information processing exists for limited subfunctions only. It is therefore necessary to describe a system which provides for more nursing station functions and its interfaces with a total hospital information system.

It is likely that such systems are now undergoing development by various interested organizations in the United States and that they may offer the capability necessary to accommodate all the needs indicated by the model. Sufficient information on these systems is not available within the framework of this analysis, however, and it therefore appears appropriate and useful to describe a pertinent LMSC-developed system concept. This system is in the final development stage, and a test demonstration of on-line operation will be accomplished by the end of 1969.



7.2 STATE-OF-THE-ART HOSPITAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

This hospital information system concept is based upon actual experiments and data derived from extensive studies of information flow in hospitals. The system differs from other proposed uses of the computer in the hospital environment in the following manner:

- Provides a unified approach to the handling of all combinations of hospital information
- Utilizes computers located remotely from the hospital which are capable of serving a number of hospitals concurrently
- Provides highly reliable service through the use of redundant equipment and spare remote terminals
- Utilizes the LMSC video matrix terminal (VMT), which facilitates natural language communication between the user and the computer

The overall development plan encompasses evolution from a prototype system identified as Medical Information System – I (MIS-I), to an even more comprehensive system identified as Medical Information System – II (MIS-II).

The MIS-II system extends the MIS-I concept, which was set at the medical-orders level, to include direct entry of narrative information, beginning with nursing notes and extending through physicians progress notes to the recording of history and physical examination data. The system will include interfaces with automated laboratory testing and reporting equipment and with physiologic monitoring data. It will involve extensive manipulation of processing control information in the hospital, including laboratory, dietary, radiology, and patient scheduling. It is intended that the MIS-II system will continue to evolve beyond the inclusion of diagnostic and therapeutic reference guides to the actual provision of mathematical support to diagnostic and and therapeutic decisions.

The first problem in the system development sequence is to define an adequate interface between (1) the originators and the users of medical information and (2) the computer



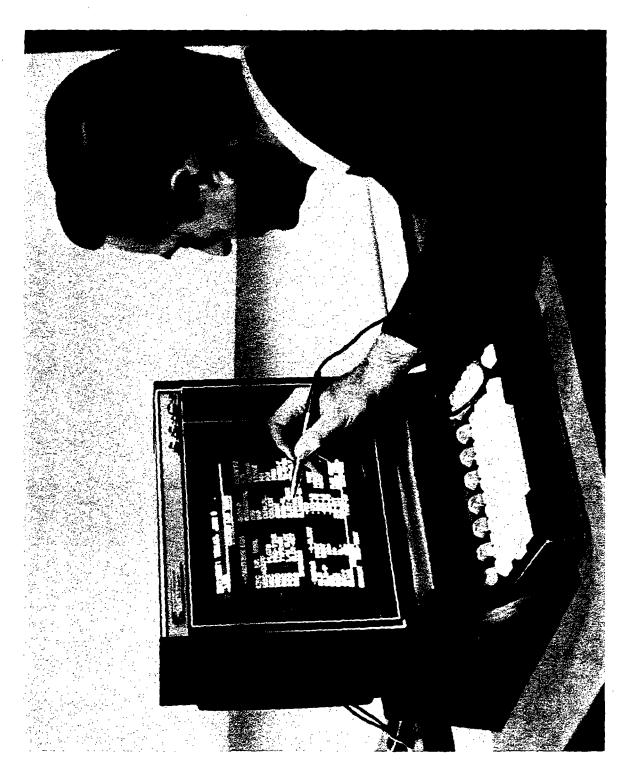
systems. As previously indicated, this system employs the video matrix terminal for this interface. This approach is based upon the fundamental concept that it is possible to define and structure the information content of medicine, and that with suitable tools — a cathode ray tube and light pen — medical personnel can use this type of computer interface device with nominal training and without the use of intermediary steps or devices. (See Fig. 7-1.)

7.3 VIDEO MATRIX TERMINAL (VMT)

The implications of input/output (I/O) device selection are crucial for system acceptance and system economic viability. In Fig. 7-2, a simple process-flow diagram for the generation of laboratory test data is suggested. Beginning with origination of the order by the physician, the order is progressively processed by the nurse, laboratory clerk, and laboratory technician; recorded in a number of places by the laboratory clerk; and returned to the nurse who charts the result for the physician. In terms of information processing, this procedure is very costly because the information processing activities of nurse and clerk are redundant. The effects of utilizing different types of I/O device for automation of this process-flow loop are presented in Fig. 7-3. In this illustration, the process-flow loop has been opened up and laid flat at the top of the figure. Here again, the flow direction is from the physician to nurse to clerk, etc. The time investment for each step in the process is identified for manual processing, typewriter, message-coded keyboard, video output or video display with keyboard, and the video matrix terminal. At the right of the graph, the time investment in the process for each of the methods of implementation is shown. This time requirement ranges from 18.2 min for the manual method to 3.5 min for the video matrix method (based on data from LMSC Hospital Information System studies). Although the video matrix terminal is the most expensive of these I/O devices, in terms of cost effectiveness, the extensive simplification of information processing procedures offered by its use leads to the greatest potential cost savings.

Additional considerations relevant to terminal selection are presented in Appendix F.





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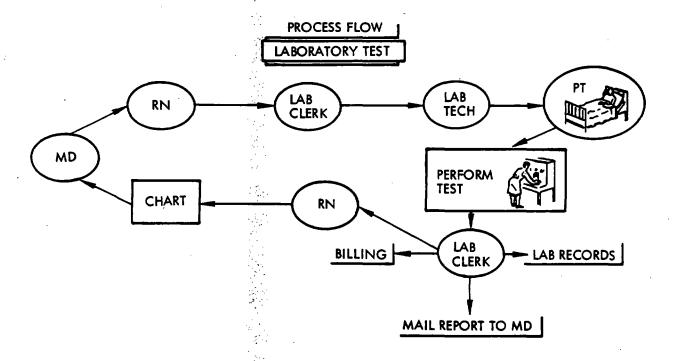


Fig. 7-2 Simplified Process Flow for Generation of Laboratory Data

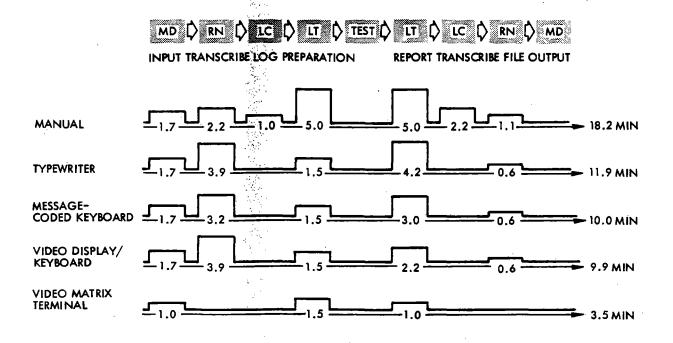


Fig. 7-3 Effect of Input/Output Terminal Selection on Process Flow

7.3.1 User Acceptance

As indicated in Section 5, acceptance by the hospital users of the computer-aided information system is all-important to the success of the system operation. Users of the nursing station communication terminal are the physician, the nurse, and the laboratory clerk.

The physician is a prime information originator whose information requirements scope is vastly greater than that of any other user in the medical environment. The volume of his on-line information input/output is also very large, although some of it may be entered off-line, in the case of dictated correspondence and procedural notes. The physician may be further characterized as relatively independent, concerned with maintaining his freedom and flexibility in medical and other activities, inclined to be critical and impatient, and a user whose time is costly. Obtaining his acceptance of a computer-assisted information system may be difficult and involve a prolonged effort.

The nurse is the prime information user in the hospital environment. Although the information she originates may be secondary in importance to that originated by the physician, and lesser in scope, the volume of her output is often greater. Since she is an employee, she can be constrained to some degree to accept or reject specific information processing equipment. Her tasks are fixed; i. e., she must complete a certain level of charting per day on each patient. If a machine system should therefore cause a slowdown in her work, she would probably reject it.

The ward clerk also is a secondary user of the system but has a lower priority than the other users. The clerk originates very little information and is an employee whose tasks are flexible; i.e., work that can be performed within 8 hr (although varying in volume) is accepted and accomplished.



7.3.2 Interaction With Computer System

The technique providing professional personnel with convenient direct interaction with the computer system is based on the grouping and storage of information in the computer in a logical hierarchy that closely parallels the information structure instilled by his training and practice in the professional's memory. Figure 7-4 shows, in simplified form a portion of that hierarchy; in this case the particular structure for issuing a medical order.

The elements of various types of medical orders – general care, medications, and laboratory tests – are stored in the computer. Using the light pen, the physician "writes" a prescription by selecting the elements of the prescription in the hierarchy (from top to bottom and from general to specific), as illustrated in Fig. 7-4. This sequence, in the case of the physician's medical orders, is based on the sequence that he normally follows for writing orders. Thus, a drug order may be completed in six steps by the use of six different displays that are called up from the computer.

- (1) The physician, after properly identifying himself to the system, is presented with a list of his current hospital patients.
- (2) After he makes a selection (e.g., Margaret Dean), the display advances automatically to a master guide which suggests various types of medical orders that he might wish to select general care, medications, laboratory test, and others.
- (3) The physician selects "medications" and the next matrix appears displaying five criteria for selecting medications.
- (4) The physician then selects "organ systems."
- (5) Similarly, the physician selects a specific drug, dose, route, and frequency.
- (6) The physician can then return to other medical order displays to prepare further orders for this patient or he can return to the patient list display and begin the procedure again for another patient.

Hierarchical systems such as the one just described seem to convey an intrinsic feeling of rigidity since they are based on a logical progression defined by one or more

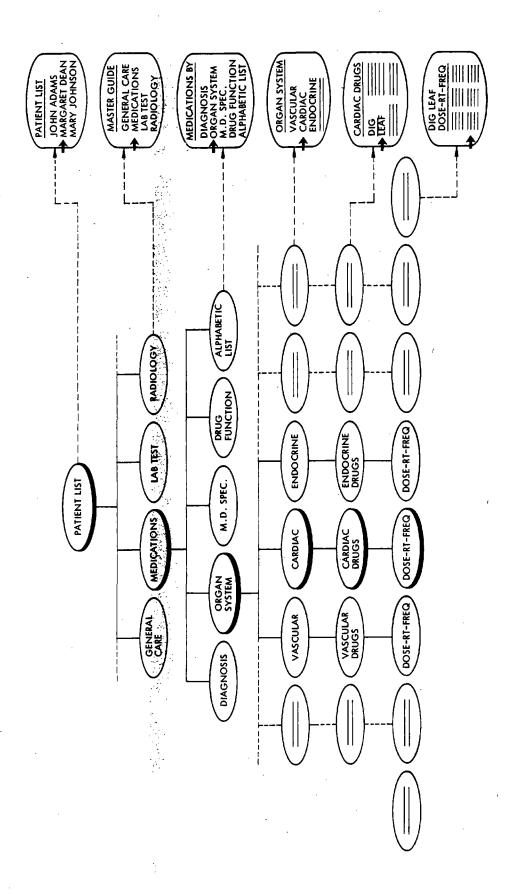


Fig. 7-4 Information Storage Hierarchy

individuals and offered to others for use. It is unlikely that all concerned parties will, however, concur fully on which form of logic structure is completely essential or desirable. Nevertheless, the number of possibilities and paths is not infinite. Consideration of all aspects involved usually reveals only three or four sequential procedures for approaching a given point in the hierarchy. In this system, there are several ways to approach almost every point, and the criterion for inclusion of these routes is only that they be reasonable; for example, in a laboratory guide (Fig. 7-5), there are three entry paths offered, all at the same level. These are,



Fig. 7-5 Guide Display for Laboratory Tests

respectively, entry by laboratory division (e.g., hematology, urinanalysis, or blood chemistry), by specimen samples that cut across several laboratories (e.g., pleural fluid or cerebrospinal fluid) or by index designation. Selection of the appropriate entry will lead to a single matrix that covers all of these possibilities. In cases where the associations or classifications for a particular entry path are unclear, an alphabetic listing is provided. Even within this list there may be multiple

paths; for example, blood urea nitrogen may be found either under BUN or urea nitrogen. The use of these multiport/multipath approaches leads to a system that is regarded by most operators as quite flexible and without the sense of constraint usually associated with closely structured systems.

A few examples of the video displays which the physician uses for entering medical orders are presented in Figs. 7-6 through 7-9.

An example of the manner in which the nursing staff interacts with the system is presented in the following discussion of a selected sequence of patient-care data. The sequence begins with the Patient-Care Plan for a particular patient at the beginning of the shift and ends with the 24-Hour Summary on that patient. A representative patient, Hector C. Gomez, is admitted, for example, to the hospital with a diagnosis of possible myocardial infarction. At 6:30 a.m. on the morning of the next day a Patient-Care Plan (Fig. 7-10) based upon doctor's orders is printed out at the terminal.

The nurse responsible for the care of this patient makes her rounds in accordance with the orders on the Patient-Care Plan and makes annotations on it of the applicable information she has collected. At intervals, she goes to the video matrix terminal and enters this information, together with information pertaining to other patients under her care.

To handle the next step, concerning vital signs, the nurse first calls for a listing of all the patients under care (Fig. 7-11). Using a light pen, she selects the entry, Routine Vital Sign. This selection causes the next display to appear (Fig. 7-12). This display provides for the entry of all numerical temperature, pulse, and respiration data for every patient listed. The nurse then enters the data (e.g., the patient's temperature, 99.2 deg, and pulse, 110, which she had obtained on her rounds at 7 a.m.

To enter observations about the pulse condition, the nurse calls for the next display by selecting the word PULSE listed under OBSV. This display (Fig. 7-13) provides for light-pen entry of any of the formatted conditions listed on the display. Other observations may be made by keyboard entry.

The nurse then calls back the Routine Vital Signs display (Fig. 7-12) and enters the the respiration (20) which she has also obtained during her 7 a.m. rounds.

She is now ready to review and confirm. The next display (Fig. 7-14) shows all the data the nurse has entered. If she is satisfied that the data are complete and accurate, she then selects the function code ENTER.

About 6 a.m. the following morning, a 24-Hour Summary is printed out containing all the data about this patient entered into the system during the preceding 24 hours, including the vital sign entries just discussed. (Fig. 7-15). This 24-Hour Summary is reviewed by the attending physician on his next visit, signed, and inserted in the patient's chart. It includes the new orders the physician wrote during the day (after the Patient-Care Plan was printed out) as well as nursing entries made on the evening and night shifts.

7.4 INFORMATION SYSTEM CONTENT (MIS-I)

The MIS-I prototype when fully implemented will involve all nursing station medical orders, nurses' reports, and work sheets. It will also include linkages to Admitting, Business Office, Food Service, Pharmacy, Pathology, and Radiology functions. Both inputs and printed outputs are described. It can be surmized from the following tables and discussion that although the automated system reduces paperwork, the amount of paper processed will probably stay the same or may even increase.

7.4.1 Nursing Unit Functions

In general, the system will permit the assembly of more than 90 percent of physician orders by light-pen selection. Instructions covering the other 10 percent or less are entered through a conventional typewriter keyboard. Categories of orders are the same as those currently in use. They include laboratory tests, radiology tests, EKG, EEG, pulmonary function tests, medications, infusions, inhalation therapy, physical therapy, diets, nursing care, ambulatory status, vital signs, treatment, and restrictive



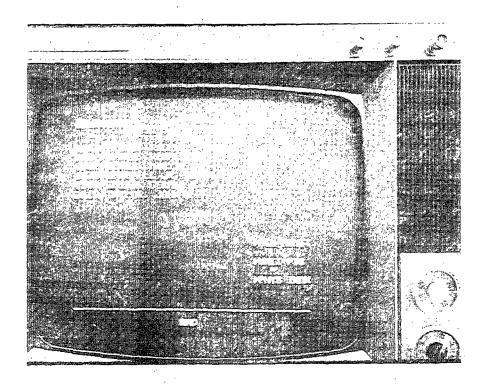


Fig. 7-6 Physician's Patient List

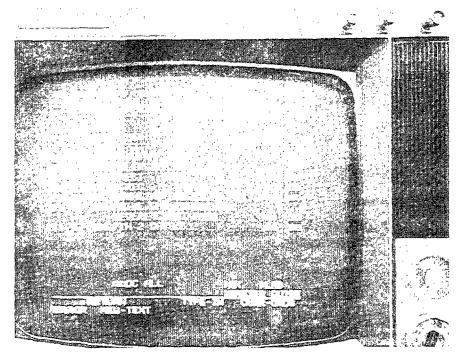


Fig. 7-7 Current Orders

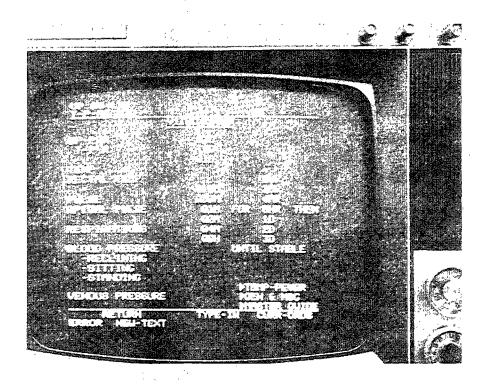


Fig. 7-8 Physician's Master Guide

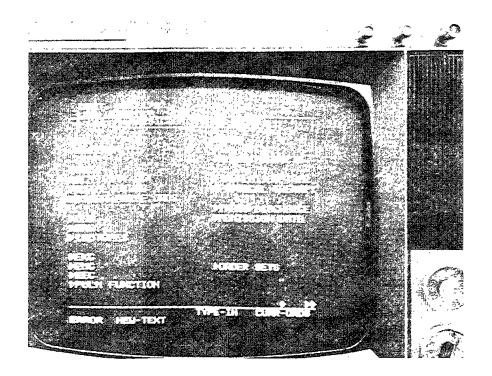


Fig. 7-9 Vital Signs

PATIENT-CARE PLAN 7:00AM-3:00PM SHIFT 03-03-69 4WEST 403 A GOMEZ, HECTOR C M 53 CATH DR. MOORE, E.M. POSSIBLE MYOCARDIAL INFARCT MEDICAL ORDERS: 10 <u>12</u> VITAL SIGNS: 494114-22 3. TEMP, PULSE, RESP, QID 11. BP (11D FLUID BALANCE: 5. REG DIET 10. Soft, kow Sodien REST/ACTIVITY/SAFETY: 4. BEDREST-BRP UNSCHEDULED MEDS: 6. ASPIRIN, TAB-30, #2, PO, Q4H, PRN 10:00-L.VOQ-dad pan 8. MORPHINE-INJ, 5MG, EM, Q2H, PRN PAIN LOC-RUCG- " OTHER DEPT'S: volov 7. EKG-STANDARD, SUSPECT RECENT M. I. NURSING ORDERS: NURSE INFORMATION: PT. CANT SPEAK ENGLISH NOTES, OBSERVATIONS: #3 Kinker - Reg Ling , wick

Fig. 7-10 Typical Patient-Care Plan

Fig. 7-11 Patient List - 4West

Fig. 7-12 Routine Vital Signs Results

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Fig. 7-13 Observations Pulse

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REVIEW

RINNI, P.RN. 405A GOMEZ, HECTOR C. 7

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END
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Fig. 7-14 Review

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GOMEZ, HECTOR C 53 M 24-HOUR SUMMARY.... ENDING 6:00AM, 03-04-69 035130 4 WEST: 403A....MED....DR. MOORE, E.M. **NEW ORDERS** 9. 10:00AM, 03-03-69, DC REGULAR DIET 10. 10:00AM, 03-03-69, SOFT, LOW SODIUM DIET 11. 10:00AM, 03-03-69, BP,QID 12. 2:15PM, 03-03-69, SECONAL, CAP-250, #1, PO, HS, PRN SLEEP 13. 2:15PM, 03-03-69, SMA-12 IN AM 3:00AM, 03-04-69, MORPHINE-INJ, 10MG, IM, STAT 14. 15. 3:00AM, 03-04-69, EKG, STAT MEDICATIONS GIVEN 10:00AM LUOQ, FOR PAIN IN CHEST 2:00PM RUOQ, FOR PAIN IN CHEST MORPHINE 5MG, IM 5MG, IM MORPHINE 7:00PM RMDELT, FOR PAIN IN CHEST MORPHINE 5MG, IM 9:00PM FOR SLEEP 3:00AM LUOQ, FOR PAIN IN CHEST 250MG, PO SECONAL MORPHINE 10MG, IM VITAL SIGNS TEMP PULSE RESP BP 7:00AM 99.2 110 20 PULSE REG IRREG, WEAK 11:00AM 99.4 112 22 90/66 3:00PM 100.00 120 24 100/60 SKIN WARM 104/64 7:00PM 99.2 112 20 3:00AM 140 28 88/50 PT SHOCKY FLUID BALANCE TAKEN WELL REGULAR DIET 8:00AM 12:30PM

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REFUSED

5 M. More

Fig. 7-15 24-Hour Summary

5:00PM

SOFT, LOW SODIUM

SOFT, LOW SODIUM

orders. Further, the video matrixes are designed to facilitate rapid entry of standard orders for routine cases such as general medical admits, tonsils/adenoids (T/A's), and routine obstetrical cases.

The system provides for registered nurses and other physicians to enter medical orders for the attending physician at his request or in emergencies. At the change of shift, the computer will provide a printed Patient-Care Plan containing all current orders for each patient. Those orders requiring subsequent nursing action and system inputs will be arranged by time for the oncoming nursing personnel. The nurse will annotate this plan as required during the shift and make her nursing report entries by means of the video matrix terminal (VMT). Nursing entries and laboratory and radiology test results will be printed out on Shift Summaries before the end of each shift, for the use of the incoming shift and the attending physician.

Table 7-1 summarizes the information processing effort performed by means of the video matrix terminal and a printer.

Following are short summaries of the Nursing Unit functions.

System Inputs. System inputs for the functions are as follows:

- <u>User Identification</u>. The user (doctor, nurse, etc.) of a video terminal must identify himself to the computer before he can enter or retrieve information. The computer will check his typed-in identification code for validity, and then present an appropriate first display for the particular type of user identified.
- Patient Identification. The user (doctor, nurse, admitting clerk) will enter into the system basic data that identify the patient (name, sex, etc.), his physician, and his location (nursing unit, bed number). These data are entered by keyboard entry onto a form displayed on the video matrix terminal. Once entered, these data may be retrieved and revised through keyboard entry at any time during the patient's stay.

Table 7-1
NURSING UNIT FUNCTIONS

			
Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
X X X X X	X X X X X X X X X	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	User Identification Patient Identification Medical Orders Bed Vacate or Occupancy Inhalation Therapy Treatments Given Nursing Reports Central Supply Requests New Medical Orders Scheduled Medications Due Bed Vacate or Occupancy Notice Cancellation Notice Laboratory Test Results Patient-Care Plan Shift Summary 24-Hour Summary Transfer/Discharge Order Stat Test Results Test Result Correction Notice Patient Chart Medications Order Notice Patient List by Nursing Station Patient List by M.D. Current Orders New Order Review M.D. List Medical Orders Current Medications Patient Chart Review Patient Locator Scheduled Medications Given Unscheduled Medications Given Nursing Reports Central Supply Requests

- Medical Orders. Authorized users (doctors, nurses) may enter medical orders into the system by retrieving the required video displays and making light-pen selections from them to assemble each order, proceeding from the general to the specific in each instance. Unusual orders, special instructions, etc., may be entered by means of the keyboard.
- Bed Vacate or Occupancy. When a patient vacates a bed because of a transfer or discharge, the nurse will make an entry through the video matrix terminal. If the patient is being transferred, the nurse will also enter the new bed number.
- Inhalation Therapy Treatments Given. The inhalation therapist will enter information regarding treatments given or not given and observations data through the video matrix terminal at the nursing station where the patient is located. (Other details of this function are still to be determined.)
- Nursing Reports. Nursing station personnel will enter medications given, vital signs, fluid balance, treatments given, unit clinical test results, diet, and special observation data by making light-pen selections from video displays, and as necessary, keyboard entries. Entries will update patient files and be included in subsequent Shift Summaries and 24-Hour Summaries.
- Central Supply Requests. Nursing station personnel will enter Central Supply Requests for all supplies and equipment stocked in Central Services, and chargeable floor-stocked items, based on interpretation of medical orders. Inputs will be made by light-pen selections from video displays, and keyboard entries for items not listed on displays. The billing file will be automatically updated when chargeable items are ordered.

System Printed Outputs. The system provides the following printed outputs:

• New Medical Orders. After the user has completed entry of his orders for a given patient, the computer will print out a copy of these new orders at the patient's nursing station, in the same sequence in which the orders were entered. The doctor will sign each order set, which will then be filed in the patient's chart. All medical orders will be printed at the nursing station, both those for execution by nursing service personnel and those for execution by ancillary services.

- Scheduled Medications Due. This is a periodic printout provided at each affected nursing station, listing the scheduled medications due during the next time period for all patients at the nursing stations for whom at least one medication is scheduled. For each nursing station, the list will be in bed number sequence for those patients having scheduled medications due. The listing will be printed out 10 to 20 min before the first hour of the time period covered by the listing. The list will be in worksheet format to facilitate subsequent entry of medication-given data.
- Bed Vacate or Occupancy Notice. This is a printout issued at appropriate
 hospital locations, containing notification of the bed number of patients
 that have been admitted (including newborn) and discharged (including deaths),
 and the old and new bed numbers of patients that have been transferred.
- Cancellation Notice. Upon cancellation of certain types of medical orders this printout is issued at the appropriate hospital department. It serves to notify the department that the previously ordered test, treatment, or service is not to be performed.
- Laboratory Test Results. This is a periodic printout at each nursing station of laboratory test results that have been completed for patients at that ward since the previous printout. Each printout consists of a listing in patient name, followed by the data in laboratory department sequence. It provides doctors with a quick reference in determining those laboratory tests that are still pending.
- Patient-Care Plan. This is a printout, one for each patient, which is issued shortly before the beginning of a shift, containing (1) the current orders, (2) a list of any specimens to be collected by nursing station personnel, and (3) a schedule of patient-care functions to be performed for each patient during the shift. It will be printed (1) at each nursing station or (2) on the line printer in the Business Office for distribution to each nursing station. It will contain a schedule of the times at which the following classes of doctor's orders are to be executed: vital signs, fluid balance, medications, treatments, unit clinical tests, and diet. The Patient-Care Plan is in worksheet format to facilitate annotation by nursing station personnel as the patient-care functions are performed.



- Shift Summary. This is a printout, one for each patient, provided shortly before the beginning of a shift, of all the nursing reports entered into the system during the shift just ending and since the previous Shift Summary was printed. It will be printed either at each nursing station or on the line printer in the Business Office and distributed to each nursing station. It will contain the following nursing entries, as applicable: vital signs, fluid balance totals, medications given, treatments given, unit clinical test results, diet, and special observations. It is available for reference by the patient's physician until the data are incorporated into the next 24-Hour Summary.
- 24-Hour Summary. This printout, one for each patient, summarizes the data entered into the system during the previous 24 hours. It will be printed about 5:00 a.m. or 6:00 a.m., either at each nursing station or on the line printer in the Business Office for distribution to each nursing station. It will include a list of recent orders, all nursing report entries into the system, laboratory and radiology test results, and bed changes. This printout provides for signature of orders by the physician, and, by its organization, simplifies review of the patient's chart each day. The 24-Hour Summary will be retained as a permanent portion of the patient's chart.
- Transfer/Discharge Order. This printout is made at appropriate areas of the hospital, such as the nursing station, Food Services, Admitting, etc., and notifies such area that a transfer or discharge order has been entered into the patient's record. It serves to alert these areas to pending census and patient location charges.
- Stat Test Results. This is an immediate printout at the nursing station of test results entered as a result of a stat laboratory or radiology order. Each printout will be for one patient and the results for one order. This printout will be filed in the patient's chart until replaced by the 24-Hour Summary.
- Test Result Correction Notice. This is an immediate printout of corrected laboratory and radiology test results which is issued whenever erroneous test results were previously entered into the system and subsequent correction entries made. It identifies the patient, test, entry dates and times, and corrected test results.

- Patient Chart. This is a printout, provided at the option of an authorized user, of any part of a patient's record residing in the computer file, as of the time the printout is requested. Request is made by light-pen selection when the desired portion of the patient's record is displayed on the video matrix terminal.
- Medication Order Notice. This printout will be made at any nursing station at which scheduled medications have not been reported to the system as having been given or not given. Medications which have not been reported upon by 50 min after the hour are logged as overdue. This printout is a "canned" message, and the user must retrieve the Schedule Medications Given video display to determine the specific medication orders that are overdue.

Video Display. The following information is supplied by video display.

- Patient List by Nursing Station. This is a video display listing the names of all patients in a particular ward. Each nursing station requesting this list will automatically receive its own patient list. The display is in bed number sequence for all beds in the ward, occupied and unoccupied with reserved beds identified as such. The list will include patients assigned to the nursing station but not yet given a bed assignment. The primary user of this display will be nursing station personnel for making nursing entries (e.g., medications given, vital sign data, etc.).
- Patient List by M. D... All patients currently in the hospital who are the patients of a given doctor will be listed on this new output display. It will contain the patients' names and bed numbers, and will be in bed number sequence. It will be available to doctors and registered nurses but not to other system users. This display will be the first one presented to the physician after input of his user identification code. He may then make a light-pen selection of the patient for whom he wishes to enter orders.
- Current Orders. This is a video display of those medical orders for a given patient which are currently in effect as being neither cancelled nor completed. The date, type of order, and description of each order are included. Lightpen selections may be made to discontinue or review orders on this display.

- New Order Review. All medical orders in the order set that have just been assembled by the user are shown in this video display. The user will be required to retrieve this display and review the assembled orders for accuracy before he can enter them into the system.
- M.D. List. This is a video display of all physicians on the Hospital medical staff and the services to which they admit patients. The list is in alphabetical sequence, and the proper "page" in the list is reached by use of an M.D. List Index. The M.D. List is used to enter the physicians name in the patient identification or admitting record by light-pen selection rather than keyboard input so as to preclude typing errors. This display will also be used by nurses, or by a physician when entering orders as an agent for another doctor, by light-pen selection of the substituting doctor's name from the M.D. List.
- Medical Orders. These are a large number of video displays used for entering medical orders into the system. They are "fixed" displays in the sense that their contents do not vary from day to day because of changes to patient census, current orders, or medical staff. There are displays for all classes of medical orders, diagnoses and allergies, accessible for assembling of medical orders by successively retrieving the physician's Master Guide, major test/treatment/service order classes, then subtest/treatment/service order classes, using primarily light pen selections supplemented as necessary by keyboard entries.
- Current Medications. This video display contains a list of all current medication orders for a given patient. It is used in conjunction with the Current Orders display. It provides a means for the physician to enter a hold or restart of any medication order on the display, and for the nurse to enter a hold or restart of a medication order as part of a preparation for a test, or for her to enter a supply re-order for a Pharmacy-stocked medication.
- Patient Chart Review. This video display permits authorized users to view a patient's "chart" (i.e., a patient record in the computer file). Each record will contain the patient's identification, admitting data, current orders,

nursing report data test results, narrative reports, and DC'd orders. Each of these sections of the chart may be individually selected by light pen for review. Authorized personnel will include attending physicians, nurses, pathologists, and radiologists.

- Patient Locator. All patients currently in the hospital and their bed numbers are listed alphabetically by last name on this video display. An index on each display permits transferring to the desired section of the alphabet to view that section of the list; alternately, the user may page through the list, display by display. The Patient Locator will be useful to Admitting, Business Office, etc., and to similar departments when they are equipped with a video matrix terminal.
- Scheduled Medications Given. This video display contains a list of current scheduled medications due to be administered to affected patients in the ward where displayed, and of medications overdue for previous time periods. The display is in bed number sequence, listing the medications due and overdue under each patient name. Provision is made for entry by means of the light pen whether or not the medication was given. The display will indicate medications due for a specified time period, and its contents therefore will vary for different times of the day.
- Unscheduled Medications Given. In this video display, a list of all current unscheduled medication orders, for affected patients in the ward where displayed, is provided. The display is in bed number sequence, listing the unscheduled medication orders under each patient's name. The display includes, for each medication order, the time the last dose was given. The user will select by light pen any medications given since the last dose.
- Nursing Reports. These reports are a set of video displays for vital signs, fluid balance, unit clinical tests, diet, and special observations. They provide for entry by light pen of numerical data and descriptive words and phrases, and for entry by keyboard as required, in the above categories. Displays will provide for entry of data in one category for one patient on one display. In some cases, entry may be made in one category for all patients in the ward, using one or two displays.

• Central Supply Requests. These video displays will be used by nursing station personnel to enter Central Supply Requests into the system. Most entries will be made by light-pen selections from lists of Central Supply supplies and equipment, and by keyboard entry for less commonly requested items. This function will be defined in greater detail at a later date.

7.4.2 Admitting Functions

Brief summaries of the Admitting functions listed in Table 7-2 are presented in this subsection.

Table 7-2

ADMITTING FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
X X X	x x	х х х х	User Identification (a) Patient Identification(a) Bed Vacate or Occupancy Notice(a) Transfer/Discharge Order(a) Patient Locator(a) M.D. List(a) Admitting Data Insurance Data

(a) Previously presented.

Admitting Data. Three aspects of this data function are as follows:

• Admitting Data Input. Admitting personnel will make keyboard entries to input pre-admitting data. These data will be an amplification of the patient identification data used in the Nursing Unit functions and may be used in place of patient identification. Entry of pre-admitting or admitting data will initiate the patient record in the computer file, and permit subsequent entry of medical orders.

- Admitting Data Printout. This is a printout at the Admitting office of the pre-admitting or admitting data entered for a given patient, including changes or cancellations. There will be one printout for each original, changed, or cancelled output. Printouts will be on multiple-part paper for distribution to the nursing station, Business Office, etc.
- Admitting Data Display. This video display contains the name of each admitting data element, with space adjacent to each name for entry of the required data. Admitting data previously entered into the patient's record can be retrieved, displayed, and subsequently added to or changed (e.g., preadmitting data supplemented by additional data when the patient is admitted to the hospital. Admitting data may also be cancelled when pre-admitting data have been previously entered, and the pending admit cancelled.

Insurance Data. This aspect of the Admitting function includes the following:

- Insurance Data Input: Entries of insurance data will be made by means of typewriter keyboard during the admitting process and supplemented as necessary by entries at the Business Office. Inputs will include Medicare and Medi-Cal as well as commercial insurance. Once entered, these data may be retreived and revised or supplemented by keyboard entry at any time during the patient's stay.
- Insurance Data Display. The admitting clerk will enter insurance data, by means of keyboard entry, on a series of video forms. Each form will contain the required data element names, with space adjacent to each for entering the required data. When the initial form processing is finished (although the form is usually incomplete at this point) and entered into the computer file by the admitting clerk, these data may subsequently be retrieved for video display by the insurance clerk in the Business Office corrected as necessary, and the missing data elements entered, until the insurance data is complete for each patient. These data are then transferred to the Business Office System (BOS) Patient Billing/Accounts Receivable program.

7.4.3 Business Office Functions

Summaries for the Business Office functions listed in Table 7-3 are provided in this subsection.

Table 7-3
BUSINESS OFFICE FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
X X X	X X X X X	X X X	User Identification ^(a) Insurance Data ^(a) Cash Payments, Credits and Adjustments, and Miscellaneous charges Bed Occupancy Report Physician's Patient Locator Patient Locator Statistical Management Reports Patient Billing Data Discharged Patient Medical Data Billing Transactions

(a) Previously presented.

Input and Display. Cash payments, credits and adjustments, and miscellaneous charges entries will be made at the Business Office, identifying the patient, the type of transaction, the charge code involved, and, as necessary, the amount of the charge or credit. The method of entry – keyboard and/or light-pen selection from video displays – is yet to be determined. Entries will result in updating of the billing transaction file.

Printed Outputs. The following outputs will be provided:

• Bed Occupancy Report. This is a printout listing all beds in the hospital and, for each occupied bed, the patient identification (e.g., name, case

number), bed number, physician's name, etc. The report will be in nursing station sequence and in bed-number sequence within each nursing station. It will be printed on the line printer in the Business Office when an authorized user enters a printout request at the video matrix terminal and will be current as of that moment.

- Physician's Patient Locator. This printout will list the names of all physicians with patients currently in the hospital. For each such physician, it will provide the name, case number, bed number, etc. for each of his patients. The report will list the data by physician name sequence, and by bed-number sequence under each physician's name. It will be printed on the line printer in the Business Office when an authorized user enters a printout request at the video matrix terminal and will be current as of that moment.
- Patient Locator. For all patients currently in the hospital, this printout lists the names, case numbers, bed numbers, physician's names, etc.
 Patient names will be grouped by category (adult, pediatric, etc.), and listed alphabetically by patient name within each category. The report will be printed on the line printer in the Business Office when an authorized user enters a printout request at the video matrix terminal and will be current as of that moment.
- Other Statistical and Management Reports. These printouts will be periodic (daily, weekly, or monthly). The specific reports and their formats, frequencies, etc., are yet to be determined. These reports will not include financial data.
- Patient Billing Data. This printout is a list of all billing transactions generated within the system since the last billing printout. It will contain, for each billing transaction, the patient identification, date and time, and charge code. This listing will probably be run daily, in accordance with the input schedule for the BOS* Patient Billing/Accounts Receivable program.
- Discharged Patient Medical Data. This printout will abstract, chiefly for mailing to the patient's physician, selected data from the patient's record

^{*}Business Office System

(e.g., laboratory and radiology test results) as accumulated during the patient's hospitalization. It will be printed daily, with each daily printout covering all patients who were discharged or who expired during the previous day. It will be printed on the line printer in the Business Office.

Video Display (Billing Transaction File). This display covers the contents of the billing transaction file, for those transactions contained in the file since the most recent transfer of file contents to the BOS Patient Billing/Accounts Receivable program. It is for use by Business Office personnel in crediting and adjusting previously entered charges, retrieving charge codes for discharge day billing, etc. The clerk will identify the patient to the system by use of the Patient Locator display, then retrieve the charge codes for each transaction in the file for that patient for viewing and/or changing purposes.

7.4.4 Food Service Functions

These functions are listed in Table 7-4 and summarized in this subsection.

Table 7-4

FOOD SERVICE FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
	x x x x x x		Diet Order Cancellation Notice(a) Bed Vacate or Occupancy Notice (a) Transfer/Discharge Order(a) Diets Ordered List Patient Meal Count Summary

(a) Previously presented.

Printed Output. Major aspects of the Food Service functions are as follows:

• Diet Order. This is a printout of each diet order at the Food Services
Department immediately after the diet order has been entered at the
nursing station. The printout is used by the dietitian and other Department
personnel to determine the need for consultation with the patient (and/or
doctor or nurses) and for meal planning.

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- <u>Diets Ordered List</u>. This printout is provided to Food Services three times per day, prior to each meal, and lists the current diet order for each patient in the hospital. Each list is in nursing station sequence, with the patients and their diet orders listed in bed-number sequence under each nursing station. The list is used in preparing and routing patient meal trays.
- Patient Meal Count Summary. Three times per day, prior to each meal, a printout is provided to Food Services to indicate the total number of current diet orders by category. These categories are regular, liquid, soft, bland, low-fat, low-calorie, low-sodium, low-residue, diabetic, and other miscellaneous. These data are used in preparing food for patients.

7.4.5 Pathology Functions

Summaries for the Pathology functions as listed in Table 7-3 are presented in this subsection.

Table 7-5

PATHOLOGY FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description	
X			User Identification ^(a)	
X			Laboratory Results	
	x		Daily Laboratory Summary	
	x		Patient Chart ^(a)	
	x		Laboratory Test Requisition	
	X		Cancellation Notice ^(a)	
	X	l di Lagranda	Specimen Pick-up List	
	X		Bacteriology Log	
	X		Laboratory Worksheet	
	X		Reminder Notice	
		x	Patient Chart Review ^(a)	
		X	Patient Selector	
	ı	X	Laboratory Results (by Patient)	
	. ,	X	Laboratory Results (by Test)	
· .		X	Unreleased Laboratory Orders	

⁽a) Previously presented

<u>Inputs.</u> Laboratory test results are entered by the laboratory technician or clerk by making light-pen selections of numeric values and descriptor words. These entries

are supplemented as necessary by keyboard entries. The test results may be entered either by patient or by test type.

Printed Outputs. Six categories of printed outputs are provided, as follows:

- <u>Daily Laboratory Summary</u>. This is a printout at the laboratory, or on a line printer in the Business Office, of all test results completed by the end of the laboratory work day. The data are sequenced first by laboratory department, and then by patient name. This summary may be used as a ready reference by the laboratory for answering telephone inquiries and will provide the laboratory with a permanent hard copy of all test results.
- Laboratory Test Requisition. In this printout, the laboratory tests to be performed on a patient's specimen are listed. Each requisition is on a separate page, and is applicable to one patient and one laboratory department. Requisitions requiring nonblood specimens are printed at the patient's nursing station. After specimen collection, each requisition is sent with the specimen to the laboratory. Requisitions requiring blood specimens are printed at the laboratory. This requisition is in worksheet format for the recording of test results. Routine requisitions will be batch-printed at scheduled times, and stat requisitions will be printed immediately.
- Specimen Pick-Up List. This is a printout at the laboratory of laboratory orders involving pick-up of blood specimens for those orders held in suspense for batch release. There is a separate list for each nursing station with the patients listed in bed number sequence within each nursing station. The list will be printed once or twice per day. Each list will be annotated as specimens are collected, and one copy will be left at the nursing station.
- Bacteriology Log. Cultures on patient specimens that were begun the previous day are listed on this printout at the laboratory. It is printed each morning in test category sequence, with each affected patient's name listed alphabetically under each test category. Space is provided on the Log for the entry of periodic notes related to such items as culture growth or reagents added, and for the laboratory technologist's initials after preliminary or final test results are entered into the system.



• <u>Laboratory Worksheet</u>. This is a printout at the laboratory of those tests which have been held in suspense for batch printout one or more times per day. A worksheet is printed for certain high volume subtests (e.g., WBC), for which all specimens in the batch are given the same subtest at the same time. Each test with a worksheet will also be included on the laboratory test requisition for that patient.

Each worksheet is in patient-name alphabetical sequence. Test results are annotated on the worksheet, then entered into the system by means of the Laboratory Results by Test display.

• Reminder Notice. This printout will be made at the laboratory or the Radiology Department whenever a test result has not been entered within a specified time period after printout of the laboratory test or radiology requisition. Reminder notices will be batch-printed in a laboratory or Radiology Department sequence, with affected requisitions in patient-name sequence within each department.

Video Displays. Four Pathology functions utilize video displays as follows:

- <u>Laboratory Patient Selector</u>. This video display lists the names of patients for whom laboratory orders have been entered but for whom laboratory test results have not been entered. There will be a separate display for each laboratory department with each display in patient-name alphabetical sequence. The user will select, by light pen, the name of the patient for whom he wishes to enter results in order to obtain the appropriate Laboratory Results by Patient display.
- Laboratory Results by Patient. These are a group of video displays, each for a different laboratory department. Each display indicates the subtests performed by a given department, and provides a means for light-pen selection of numeric and word descriptor test results, and for keyboard entry of short, narrative, test-result data. The format will be similar to that of the Laboratory Test Requisition, to facilitate entry of the test results annotated on the requisition. These displays are utilized after the user identifies the patient and laboratory department to the system.



- Laboratory Results by Test. These are a group of video displays, each for a different laboratory subtest. Each display contains the names of patients for whom that subtest has been ordered and provides for light-pen selection of numeric and word descriptor test results and keyboard entry of short, narrative, test-result data. Each display presents the data by patient name in alphabetical sequence. These displays are utilized after the user selects the laboratory department and subtest type from the preceding displays.
- Unreleased Laboratory Orders. This video display permits laboratory personnel to view and, if desired, to release (or print) one or more Laboratory Test Requisitions that are contained in the suspense file awaiting the next scheduled batch-release time. These displays list for each nursing station the name of each patient for whom laboratory tests have been performed, and the laboratory tests ordered for each patient.

7.4.6 Radiology Functions

Table 7-6 presents all of the radiology functions available with the Medical Information System and categorizes them as either input, printed output, or video display.

<u>Inputs.</u> Following are descriptions of the types of input available for the Radiology function:

- Verified Radiology Test Results. When this function is called, inpatient and and outpatient radiology test results, which were previously entered into the system on a preliminary basis, are permanently entered into the patient's files when the medical secretary, using a light pen, changes the status of the test results from preliminary to verified. Verified test results that are entered into the patient's files will be reflected in subsequent reports.
- Radiology Outpatient Identification and Order. When this input function is called, data elements identifying the patient (name, birth date, physician's name, etc.), the responsible party (name and address, etc.), and the code numbers of the radiology procedures to be performed are entered into the

Table 7-6

RADIOLOGY FUNCTIONS

	r 1			
Input	Printed Output	Video Displ ay	Description	
X	·		User Identification ^(a)	
x			Verified Radiology Test Results	
X			Radiology Outpatient Identification and Order	
	x		Radiology Requisition	
	x	97. 43.	Cancellation Notice ^(a)	
	x		Reminder Notice ^(a)	
	x		Radiology Test Report	
	X		Radiology Daily Summary Report	
	X		Test Result Correction Notice	
	X		Patient Chart ^(a)	
		x	Patient Chart Review ^(a)	
		X	Radiology Patient Selector	
		X	Radiology Results (Preliminary)	
		X	Select Radiology Results	
		x	Review Preliminary Radiology Results	

⁽a) Previously presented

system by the medical secretary. A keyboard is used for this purpose. These patient-information elements are retained in the system for a specified period following the entry of verified test results and following the updating of the billing transaction file, and then they are deleted.

Printed Output. Three types of printed output are provided, as follows:

• Radiology Requisition. The Radiology Requisition is a printout, generated on the printer at the Radiology station, which lists the radiology procedures to be performed for a given patient, including the isotope tests and the

radiotherapy treatments that are required. All procedures for a patient bearing the same schedule are printed on one requisition, immediately after entry of the radiology orders. Requisitions are generated for both inpatients and outpatients, and are in worksheet format to facilitate the recording of test results. Each requisition includes the current diagnosis as well as any clinical indications entered as part of the radiology order.

- Radiology Test Report. A Radiology Test Report is generated on the printer at the Radiology station whenever test results are verified and permanently entered into the patient's file. Each report is for one patient and for one radiologist, which the radiologist signs and retains in the files of the Radiology Department. Whenever new or changed test results are entered at the Radiology video matrix terminal, all previous results (for that one patient and that one radiologist) are included on the report.
- Radiology Daily Summary Report. The Radiology Daily Summary Report is a printout on the line printer in the Business Office of all verified inpatient and outpatient radiology test results completed during the previous day, and all radiology orders for which no verified test results have been entered (i.e., orders pending). The printout is sequenced by patient name within each of these two categories. Thus it can serve as a quick reference by Radiology Department personnel to determine workload status and to answer telephone inquiries.

Video Displays. The following functions involve the provisions of video displays:

- Radiology Patient Selector. The Radiology Patient Selector displays in alphabetical sequence the names of the radiology patients for whom test results have not yet been verified and permanently entered. This display appears only after the user has positively identified himself to the system. When the display appears, the user then can light-pen select the patient whose file he wishes to view or change.
- Preliminary Radiology Results. For the patient selected from the Radiology Patient Selector display, the Preliminary Radiology Results display presents,



in procedure number sequence, the radiology procedures that have been ordered for that patient. Test results are entered into the system, or preliminary results changed, by light-pen selection of the word "normal" or keyboard entry of test results. All entries are placed in a suspense file until retrieved for verification or change.

- <u>Select Radiology Results.</u> For the patient selected from the Radiology Patient Selector display, Select Radiology Results displays a list of the radiology procedures that have had preliminary test results entered and are awaiting verification. The user may light-pen select and view any one of the procedures listed on the display.
- Review Preliminary Radiology Results. For the procedure selected from the Select Radiology Results display, this video display will show the preliminary test results that were previously entered into the system and stored in a suspense file. The test results shown on the display may consist of the built-in "normal" statement, the radiologist's narrative statement entered via the keyboard, or both. After reviewing these test results, the user may make additions or changes and then, if desired, enter them into the patient's file as verified test results.

7.4.7 Pharmacy Functions

Table 7-7
PHARMACY FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
	X		Pharmacy Order and Label
	x		Cancellation Notice ^(a)

⁽a) Previously presented

<u>Pharmacy Label and Order.</u> This is a printout at the Pharmacy station of medication orders and medication supply reorders for Pharmacy-stocked medications, each printed immediately after entry of the order at the nursing station. (Orders for floor-stocked medications will be printed at the nursing station only.) Printout at the

Pharmacy station consists of a two-part label, one for affixing to the medication container and the other for affixing to the patient's record in Pharmacy. Medication supply reorders cause printout in the Pharmacy of only the container label.

7.4.8 EEG-EKG Functions

Table 7-8
EEG-EKG FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
	x x		EKG Department Requisition Cancellation Notice ^(a)

⁽a) Previously presented

EKG Department Requisition. At the EKG Department, the following kinds of requisitions are included in this printout, which will be printed immediately after entry of the medical order at the nursing station:

- Electrocardiograms
- Electroencephalograms
- Phonocardiograms
- Vectorcardiograms
- Pulmonary function tests
- Vital capacity tests
- Basal metabolism rate tests

Each requisition will be for a separate test and will contain the patient's current diagnosis.



7.4.9 Physical Medicine Functions

-Table 7-9
PHYSICAL MEDICINE FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
	X		Physical Therapy Requisition
,	X		Cancellation Notice ^(a)

⁽a) Previously presented

Physical Therapy Department Requisition. This is a printout of requests for physical therapy treatments, electromyogram examinations, and evaluations, each printed immediately after entry of the medical order at the nursing station. Requisitions will be printed on the printer in the EKG Department and hand-carried to the Physical Medicine Department. Each requisition is initiated by a separate medical order and will include the patient's current diagnosis.

7.4.10 Inhalation Therapy Functions

Table 7-10
INHALATION THERAPY FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
	X X	M V L	Inhalation Therapy Requisition Cancellation Notice ^(a)

⁽a) Previously presented

<u>Inhalation Therapy Requisition.</u> This is a printout of requests for inhalation therapy treatments, each printed immediately after entry of the medical order at the nursing station. Each requisition is initiated by a separate medical order and will include the patient's current diagnosis.

7.4.11 Central Service Functions

Table 7-11
CENTRAL SERVICE FUNCTIONS

Input	Printed Output	Video Display	Description
	X		Central Supply Requisition

Central Supply Requisition. This is a printout at Central Services of supplies or equipment requested by nursing station personnel, including both chargeable and non-chargeable items. A printout of the request will also be made at the nursing station as a confirmation and, as applicable, as a request for chargeable floor-stocked items. One or more items for a given patient may be included on one requisition.

7.5 MEDICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (MIS-II)

The evolutionary increase in the scope of services will continue during the development of MIS-I. The following functions, some of which have been previously mentioned, are being considered for incorporation into MIS-II:

- Nursing Notes
- Physician's Progress Notes
- History and Physical
- Laboratory Automation
- Diagnostic and Therapeutic Guides
- Physiologic Monitoring
- Dietary Planning
- Patient Scheduling
- Personnel Schedules
- Work Measurements
- Outpatient Department Scheduling
- Administrative Statistics

- Personnel Records
- Personnel Locator
- Poison Control
- Library Retrieval
- Preventive Maintenance
- Prognostic Calculation

7.6 MIS-I SYSTEM BENEFITS

A variety of benefits will be derived from the MIS-I System. Additional advantages will result upon implementation of MIS-II.

7.6.1 Hospital Staff Benefits

Various staff benefits from the improved systems are as follows:

Physician. Following are benefits to the physician:

- Physician orders will be accomplished more quickly and accurately.
- The physician's records will be more legible.
- More efficient chart organization will be available for faster reading.
- Current test data and laboratory reports can be called up on demand.
- Duplicate record generation can be eliminated.
- Batching of orders can be implemented where desirable.

Nurse. Potential benefits to the nurse are as follows:

- Legibility of orders will result since printouts will eliminate handwritten orders. Order transcription will be substantially eliminated.
- Summaries of entries to the patient's chart will be provided at the end of each shift.
- At the beginning of each shift, Patient-Care Plans will be provided and will include accurate, up-to-date orders for the new shift.

- Errors in order transcription will be reduced.
- Overdue test result reminders and medications-given entries will be handled by the computer.
- Cancellation of orders (such as "72 hours only") will be automatically processed by the computer.
- Loss of requisitions will be reduced.
- Improved charting may be anticipated through increased use of displayed data elements related to patient-care observations.

Ancillary Services. Professional and technical personnel in the ancillary services will benefit from the system in the following areas:

- Routine paperwork will be reduced.
- Medical records will be more accessible.
- Work scheduling and assignments will be facilitated.
- Medication labels and laboratory and Radiology worksheets will be generated automatically.
- Processing of charge slips for patient billing will be greatly reduced.

Hospital Administrator. The administrator will receive reports enabling him to increase the efficiency of personnel and facility utilization, and providing previously unavailable management controls. Management information available from the system will include the following:

- Financial management
- Statistical reports
- Medical audit reports
- Trend reports
- Medical staff review

7.6.2 Patient Benefits

Patients will benefit since hospital facilities (beds, drugs, and staff) will be more readily available. Errors will be reduced and routine service and emergency responses will be more timely. Transfer of vital records and billing insurance records will be handled more expeditiously.

7.6.3 Potential Cost Reduction Benefits

The Medical Information System will provide direct cost-reduction benefits in the following areas:

- Reduced manhours in processing doctor's orders by elimination of transcriptions, and other related clerical and physical transfer effort
- Almost complete elimination of manhours spent on patient charges by nursing and ancillary service personnel
- Elimination of manhours presently spent in manually compiling statistical summaries, census reports, diet lists, etc.
- More effective organization of patient-care status and planning

Appendix A PROFILES OF PARTICIPATING HOSPITALS

This appendix presents the characteristics of the hospitals that participated in the Analysis of Information Needs of Nursing Stations. These characteristics are based on data from the Journal of the American Hospital Association, Guide Issue, 1968. (See Fig. A-1 and Table A-1)

As mentioned in the Introduction to this report (Section 1), a hospital identification code has been used to identify data obtained or developed for the various hospitals that participated in the study.

HOSPITALS, J.A.H.A.

KEY LISTING OF REGISTERED HOSPITALS Approval and Facility Codes sbership in the American Ho liable, have been shown Telephone area cades, when avail following the city and co For definitions and explanat ANYTOWN—Universal County—204— *COMMUNITY HOSPITAL-1st St and Main Ave-Zip 62835-Tei 391-2345-John Doe, Adm A-1-2-3-4-5-6-9-10 F-13-4-5-7-8-9-11-12-13-14-15-16 21 10 L 655 18982 595 90.8 45 2114 14135 9227 1782 **APPROVALS** FACILITIES AND SERVICES **CLASSIFICATION CODES** Reported by the approving bodies specified, as of the dates noted CONTROL Actually available within, and reported by, the institution Governmental, sonfederal 12-State Accreditation by Joint Commission on 1-Pathology laboratory (with patholo-13-County Accreditation of Hospitals (Dec. 31, 1966). gist) 14—City 2-Dental facilities 2-Cancer program approved by Ameri-15-City-county can College of Surgeons (Jan. 1, 1967). 16-Hospital district 3—Pharmacy (with registered pharmacist) 3—Residency approved by American Med-4—Occupational therapy department **Voluntary** posprofit ical Association (June 30, 1966). 21-Church related or operated 5-Physical therapy department 23-Other nonprofit -Internship approved by American Med-4-Premature nursery Proprietary for-profit ical Association (June 30, 1966). 31-Individual 7-Outpatient department 32—Partnership 5-Medical school affiliation, reported by 8—Emergency department 33-Corporation American Medical Association (June 30, 1966). 9-Psychiatric inpatient unit Governmental, tederal 41-Air Force -Hospital-controlled professional nursing 10-Rehabilitation inpatient unit 42-Army school, reported by National League for 11-Postoperative recovery room 43-Navy Nursing (Oct. 15, 1966). 44—Public Health Service other than 47 -Social work department 7-Hospital-controlled practical nurse train-45-Veterans Administration 13-Hospital auxiliary ing program approved by state or equiva-46—Federal other than 41-45, 47-48 lent governmental authority; reported by 47-Public Health Service Indian Service 14—Radioisotope therapy National League for Nursing (Oct. 15, 48-Department of Justice 15-Cobalt therapy SERVICE 16-Radium therapy -General 8-Member of Council of Teaching Hos-11-Hospital unit of an institution (prison pitals of the Association of American Medhospital, college infirmary, etc.) ical Colleges (July 1, 1966). 22-Psychiatric The designation (Nonreporting) following a 9—Hospital contracting or participating in 33—Tuberculosis hospital identification indicates that the 1966 Blue Cross Plan, reported by Blue Cross 44-Maternity annual survey questionnaire for the hospital Association (Jan. 20, 1967). had not been received by February 24, 1967, 45—Eve, ear, nose, and throat the cutoff date for statistical processing 47—Orthopedic 10-Certified for participation in the Health The designation (Newly Registered) Indi--Chronic and/or convalescent 48cates that the hospital was registered too Insurance for the Aged (Medicare) Pro-49-Other specialty late to receive and return a questionnaire. gram by the Department of Health, Edu-5--Children's** cation, and Welfare (Feb. 1967). 62-Institution for mental retardation 72—Epilepsy DEFINITIONS OF TERMS IN HEADINGS* 82-Alcoholism and/or addictive diseases *When a hospital restricts its service to INPATIENT DATA: Beds-Number of beds; cribs, and pediatric bassinets regularly main-NPATIENT DATA: Beds—Number of beds, cribs, and pediatric basinets regularly maintained (set up and staffed for use) for impatients as of the close of the reporting period; does not include bassinets for newborn infants. Admissions—Number of patients accepted for inpatient service during a 12-month period; does not include newborn. Ceasus—Average number of inpatients receiving care each day during a 12-month period; does not include newborn. Occapasey—Ratio of average daily census to the average number of beds maintained during the 12-month reporting period. (Note that the number of these "statistical beds" may differ from the bed count at the close of the reporting period.) a specialty not defined by a specific code, it is coded 49 and the specialty is indicated in parentheses following the name of the hospital. **When service is restricted to children, the first digit is always "5," indicating "children's hospital," and the second digit indicates the specific type of service: children's general, 50; children's psychiatric, 52; and so forth. NEWBORN DATA: Bassinets—Number of bassinets normally available for newborn infants. Births—Number of infants born in the hospital and accepted for service in a newborn infant bassinet during a 12-month period; excludes stillbirths. EXPENSE: Expense for a 12-month period; both total expense and payroll component are S-Short-term-over 50 per cent of all patients admitted have a stay of less than 30 days. PERSONNEL: Excludes trainees (student nurses, interns and residents, other), private duty nurses, and volunteers; includes full-time equivalents for part-time personnel. *Definitions are based on the American Hospital Association's Uniform Hospital Definitions. -over 50 per cent of all L-Long-term-Where a 12-month period is specified, hospitals were requested to report for the 12 months ending Sept. 30, 1966. patients admitted have a stay of 30 days

Fig. A-1 Key Listing of Registered Hospitals

10 Listings of Health Care Institutions

Table A-1
HOSPITAL CHARACTERISTICS PROFILE

Hospital Identification faction Facilities	Classi fication Codes	Classi- cation Codes			Inpatie Data	Inpatient Data		Newbo: Data	Newborn Data	Expense (Thousands of Dollar	Expense cousands Dollars)	Ę
	Control	Service	Stay	Beds	soissimbA	snsuəŋ	Occupancy (Per Cent)	Bassinets	Births	LatoT	Payroll	Personne
	21 1	10.	တ	585	17160	538	91.5	37	1415	9395	015	1365
A-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10 F-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-10-11-12-13-14										· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
CV	23 1	97	S	1063	31304	850	80.0	78	2055	21087	10868	2918
A-1-3-4-5-6-8-9-10 F-1-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-			<u>·</u>		<u>.</u>		-					
	23 1	10	S	574 21784	1784	684	85.2	25	2286	17566	10801	1578
A-1-2-3-4-5-8-9-10 F-1-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-	<u></u>		- · -		<i>,-</i> -		· ·					
LV .	23	CI	တ	268	7590	217	81.0	10	1349	4591	2873	809
A-1-10 F-1-3-5-6-8-11-13-15							-					
2	21	10	က	250	9688	509	83.6	31	1219	3693	2542	525
A-1-9-10 F-1-3-5-6-8-10-11-12-13-14-15										1		

Table A-1 (Cont.)

1

			į.	,		,
	Personnel	823	167	114	92	296
Expense Thousands of Dollars)	Payroll	1962	781	275	945	2604
Expense (Thousands of Dollar	LetoT	6371	1017	451	1054	4781
Newborn Data	Births	2857	196	ı	55	I .
Ner	Bassinets	617	22	1	ı	1
	Vocupanco (JneO TeT)	75.2	77.3	47.6	62.5	83.8
Inpatient Data	snsuəg	264	89	39	30	207
Inpa	enoissimb A	14618	2810	1649	1994	14081
	Beds	346	77	82	8 [†] 7	24.7
si- ion es	Stay	ഗ	လ	လ	S	S
Classi- fication Codes	Service	01	10	10	10	50
) įį	Control	23	29	33	23	23
Hospital Identification Approvals	#acllitles	Hospital Mi A-1-6-9-10 F-1-2-3-5-6-8-9-11-13-14-15	<u>Hospital S2</u> A-9-10 F-1-3-5-6-7-8-11-13	Hospital S1 A-9-10 F-1-3-11	Hospital S3 A-1-9-10 F-1-3-5-8-11-13-15	Hospital A A-1-3-4-10 F-1-3-4-5-6-7-8-11-12-13-14

Fable A-1 (Cont.)

Hospital Identification	C1 fic	Classi- fication Codes	1,5,5		Inpa	Inpatient Data		New	Newborn Data	Expense (Thousands of dollars	nse ands llars)	Lər
Approvals Facilities	Control	Service	Stay	Beds	noissimbA	susuə	Occupancy (Per Cent)	Bassinets	sdiria	LatoT	Payroll	rersom
Hospital B	23	22	7	707	545	456	1129	1		ं2559	(1) 	691
A-1-3-10 F-2-3-4-5-7-9-10-11-12-13									,			
Hospital C	13	10	S	2248	65606	5066	73.9	283	11293	67275	41599	5984
A-1-2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10 F-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-11-12-13-14-									(,		
Hospital D	12	10	S	190	7857	152	78.8	19	161	2117	6411	325
A-1-9-10 F-1-2-3-5-6-7-8-9-11-13-14-15									·		,	
Hospital E	12	10	S	346	12158	265	80.5	17	1780	£383	3367	756
A-1-3-6-9-10 F-1-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-11-12-13-15						3			· -			
Hospital F	23	611	Т	55	ı	ı	1	1	1	1		,
A-1-3-5-10												
							,'				- ,	
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Appendix B HOSPITAL COMMITMENT TO INFORMATION PROCESSING

In this appendix, the information commerce at each hospital is presented in seven separate computer-generated plots for each hospital, as shown in Figs. B-1 through B-63.

The relationship of the hospital identification code to hospital size (as used for these graphs) is as follows:

Large Hospitals

Code	Number of Beds		
Lı	1,063		
L2	585		
L3	574		
-	Medium Hospitals		
M 1	34 6		
M 2	268		
MЗ	250		
Small Hospitals			
S1	82		
S2	77		
S3	48		

Figures B-64 through B-70 show the information commerce observed at an extended-care facility which had been recently opened and which was operating as a satellite facility for one of the medium-size hospitals. At the time the study was made, this extended-care facility had only two nursing units in operation. One was a psychiatric unit, and the other provided a combination of extended and continuing care.

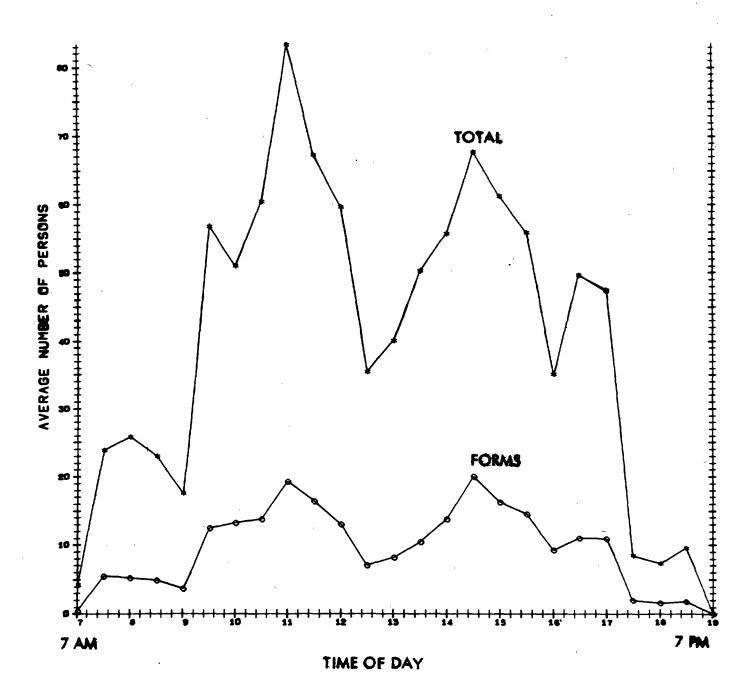


Fig. B-1 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L1

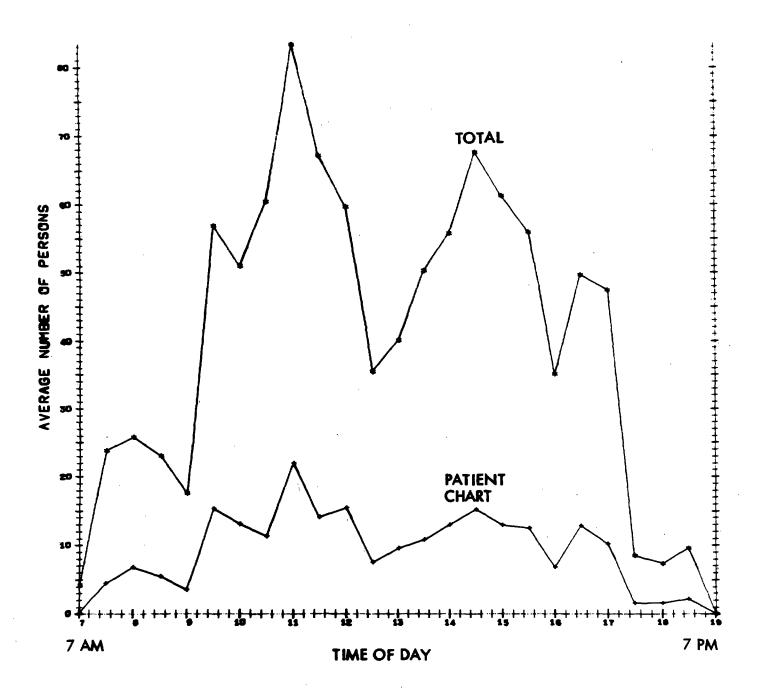


Fig. B-2 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L1

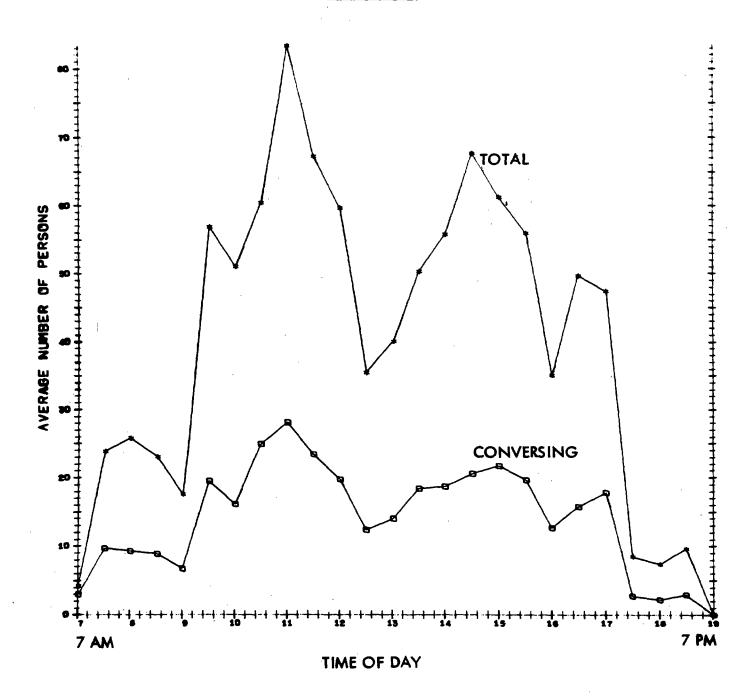


Fig. B-3 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L1

186

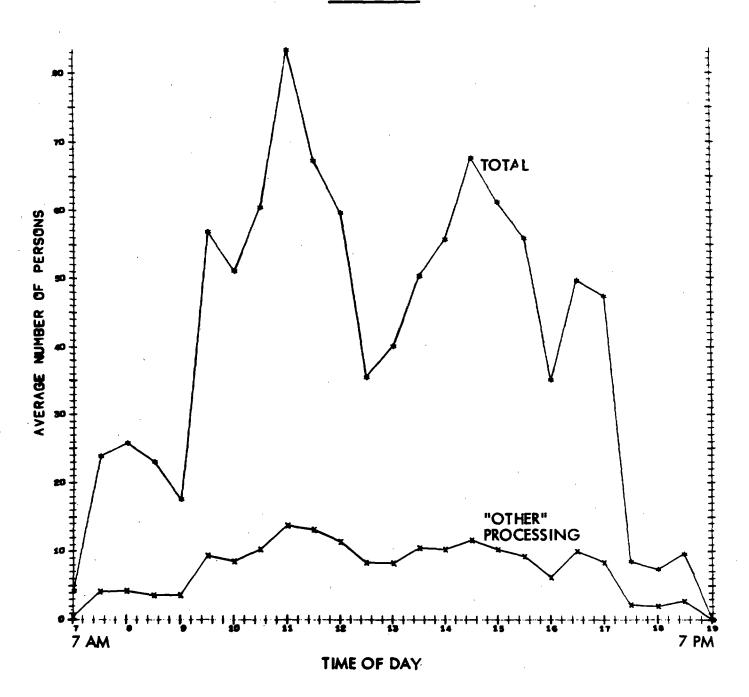


Fig. B-4 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L1

187

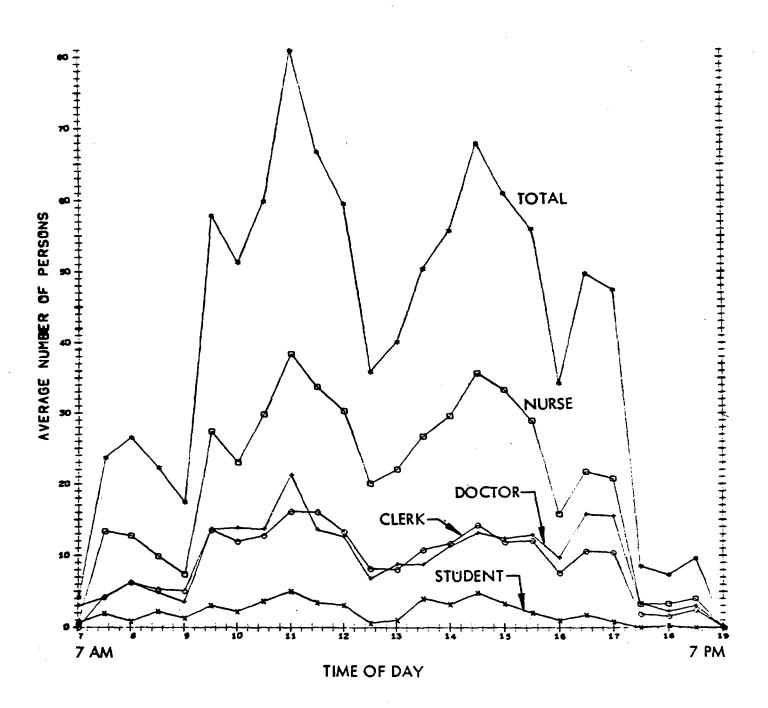


Fig. B-5 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital L1

HOSPITAL LI TOTAL NURSING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE UNIT

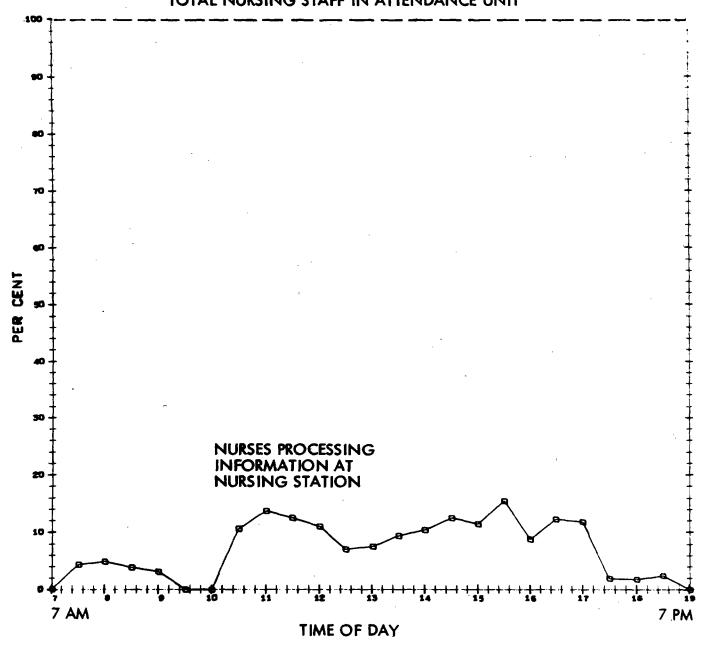


Fig. B-6 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital L1

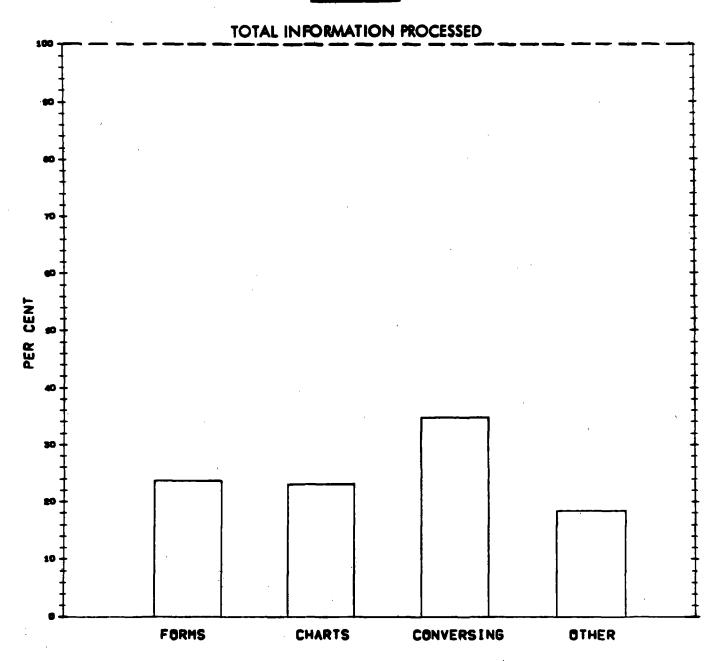


Fig. B-7 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital L1

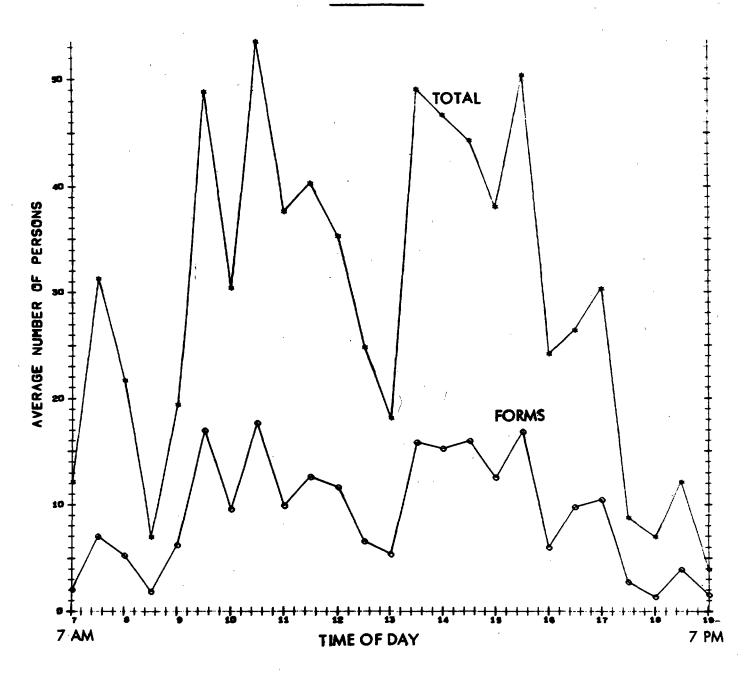


Fig. B-8 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L2

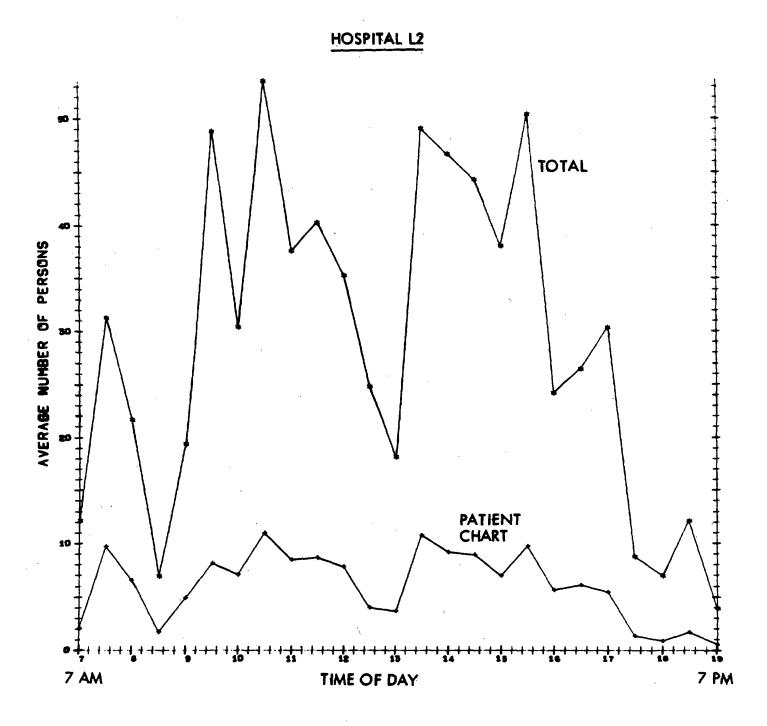


Fig. B-9 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L2

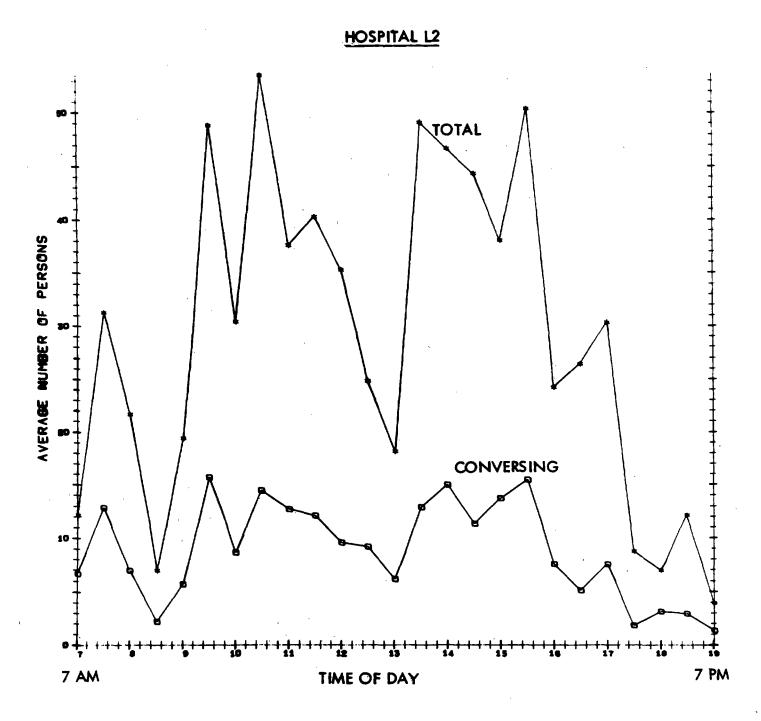


Fig. B-10 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L2

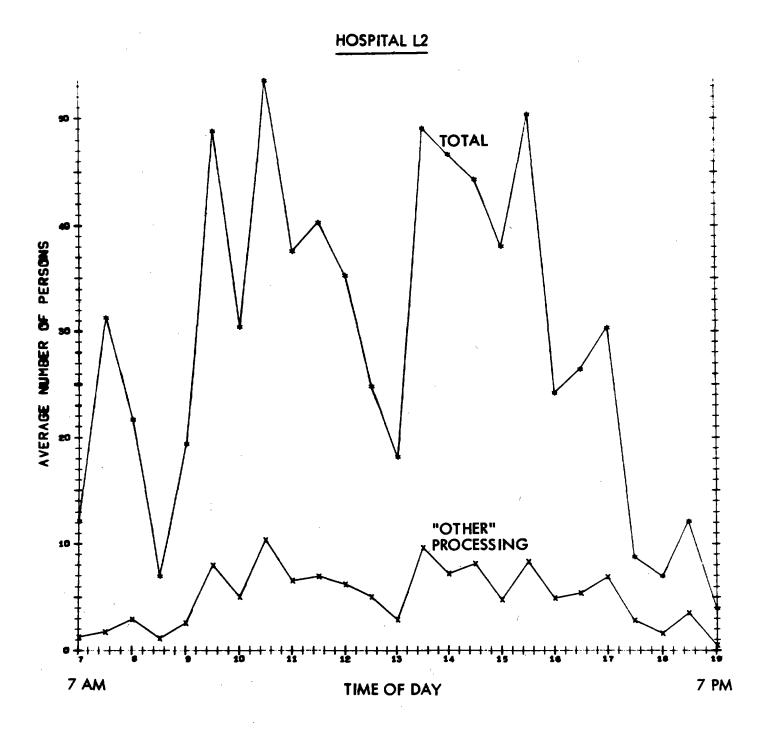


Fig. B-11 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L2

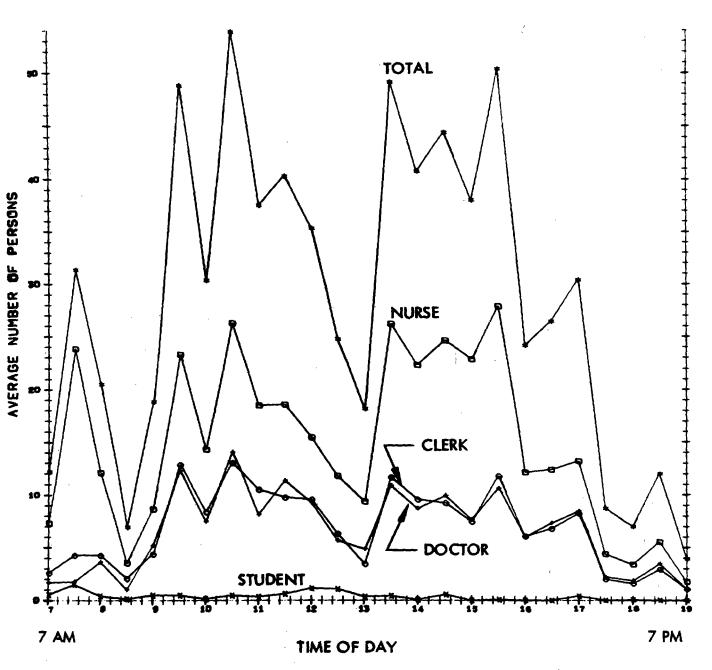


Fig. B-12 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital L2

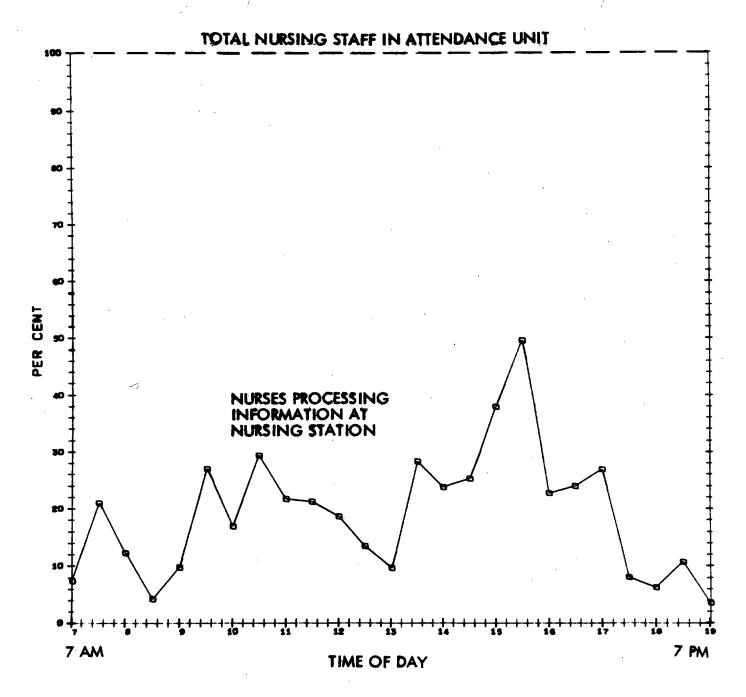


Fig. B-13 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital L2

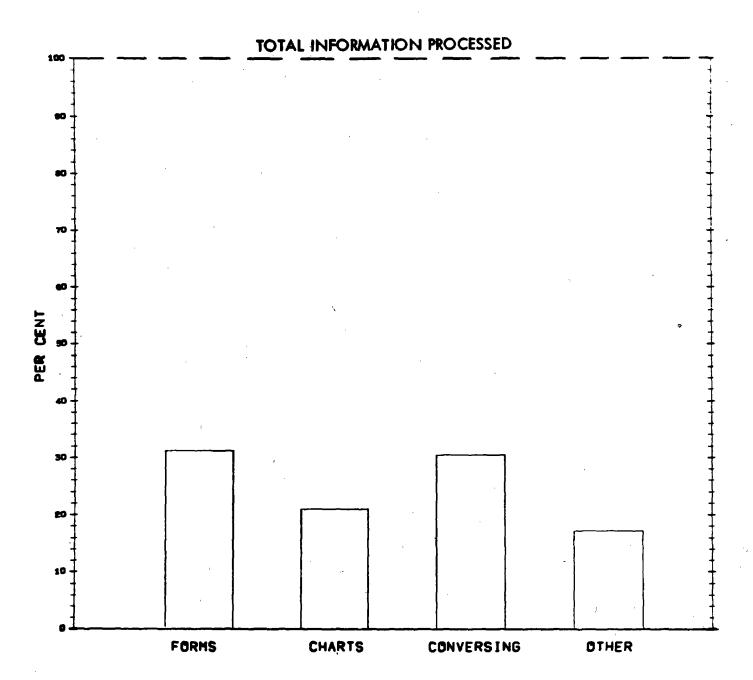


Fig. B-14 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital L2

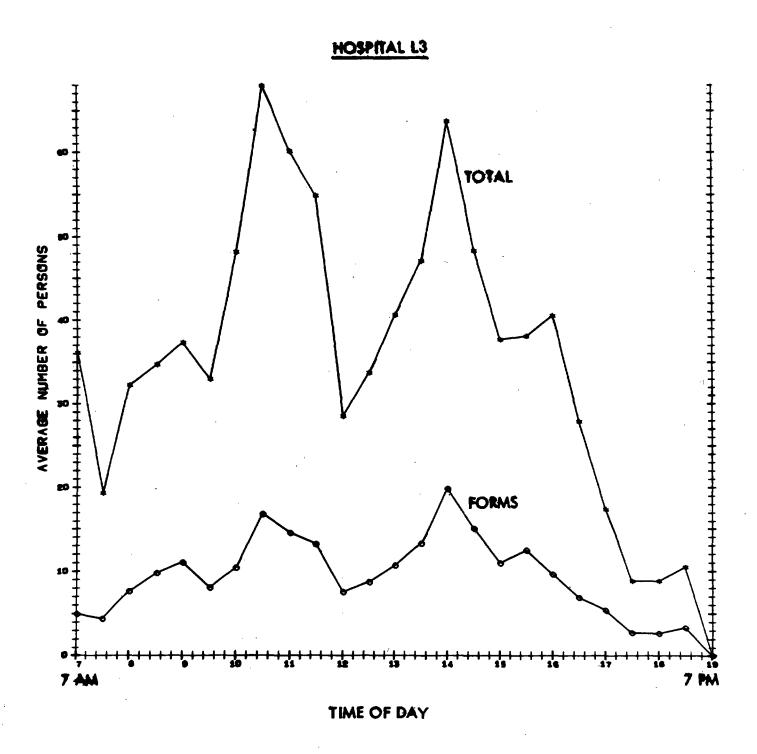


Fig. B-15 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L3

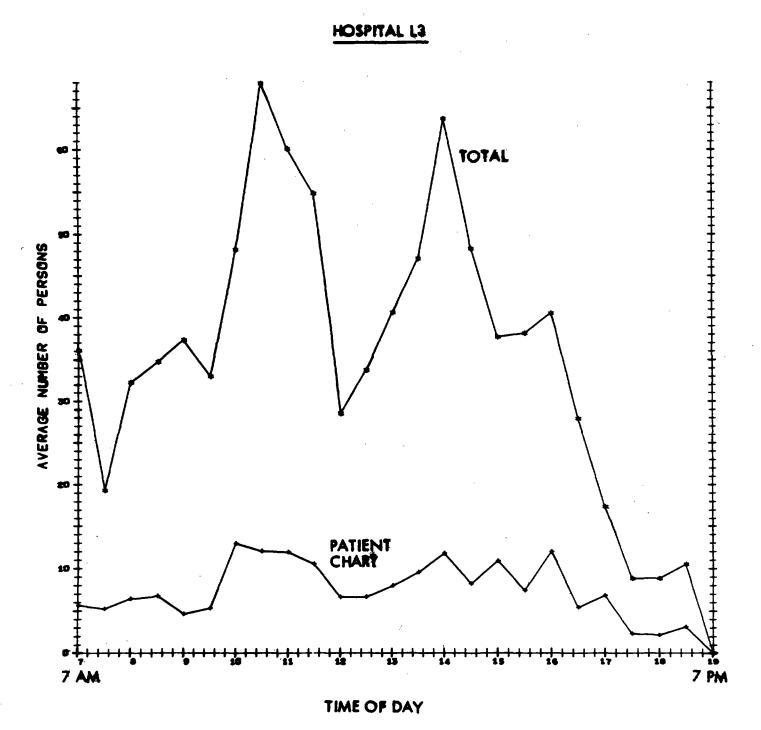


Fig. B-16 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L3

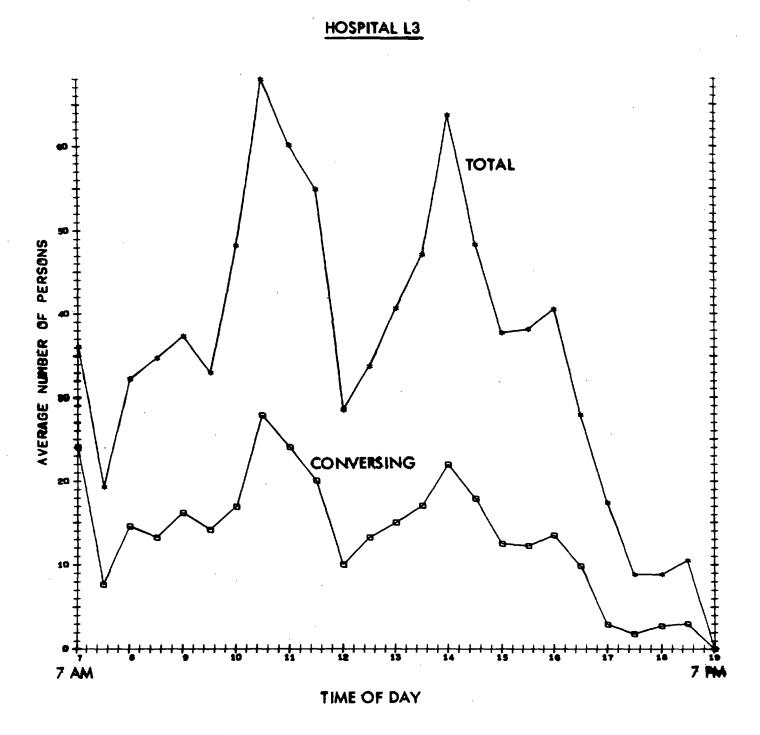


Fig. B-17 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L3

200

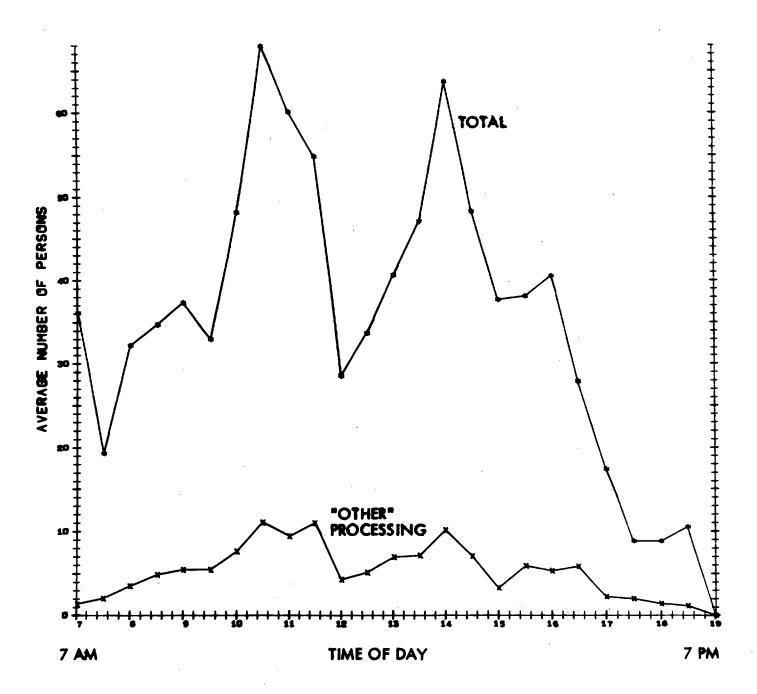


Fig. B-18 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital L3

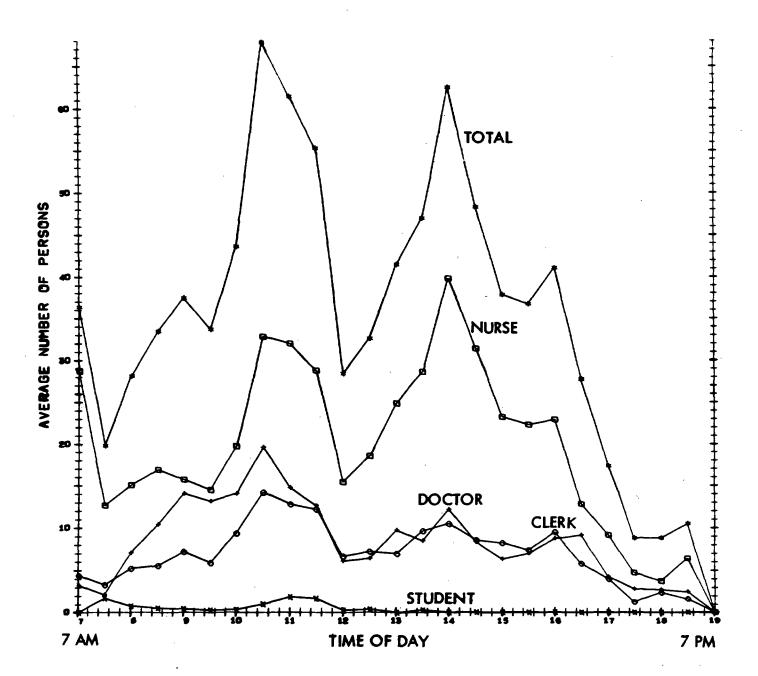


Fig. B-19 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital L3



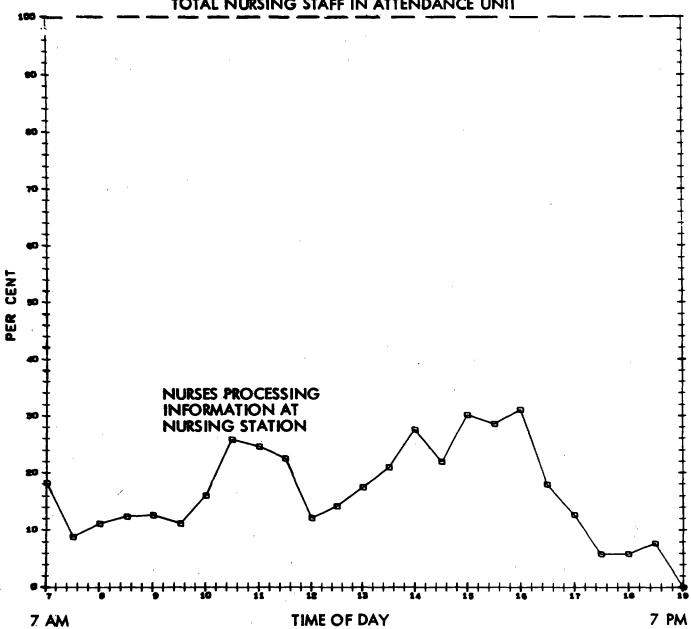


Fig. B-20 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital L3

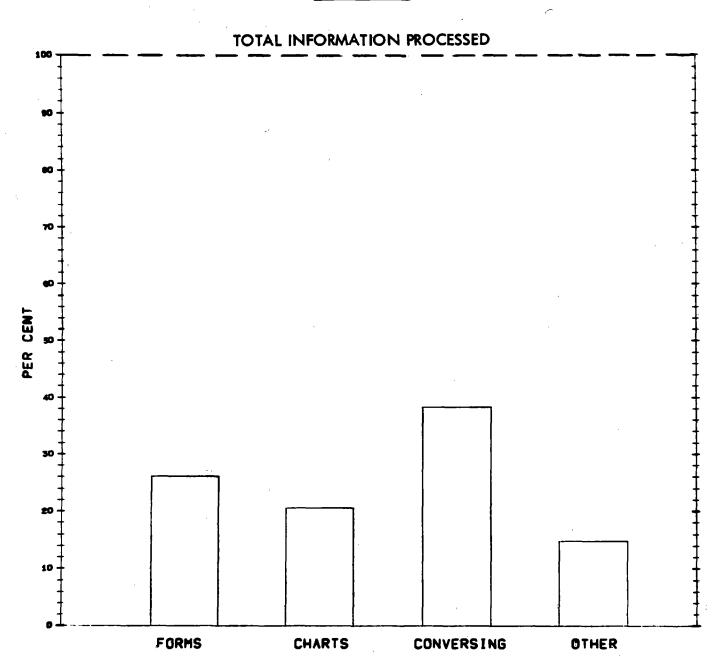


Fig. B-21 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital L3

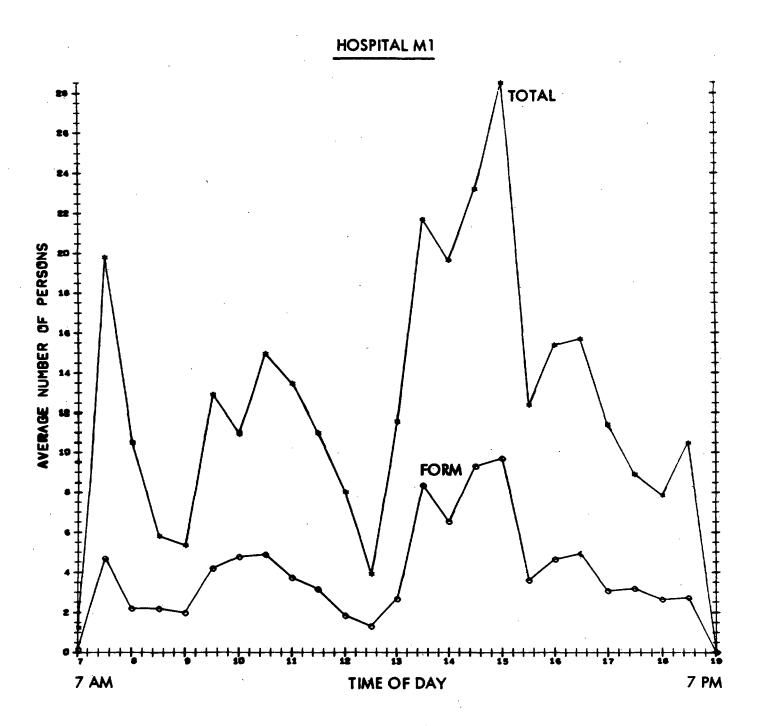


Fig. B-22 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M1

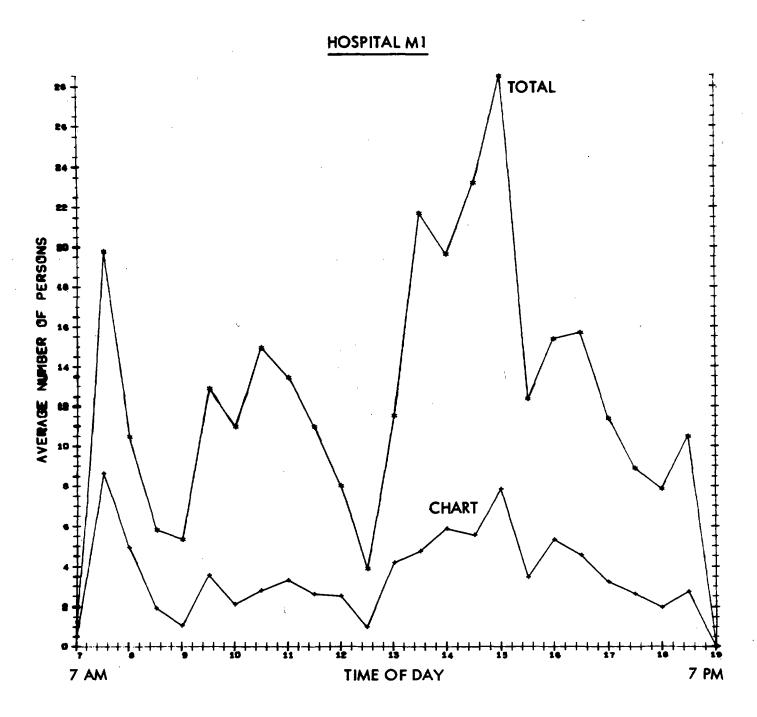


Fig. B-23 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M1

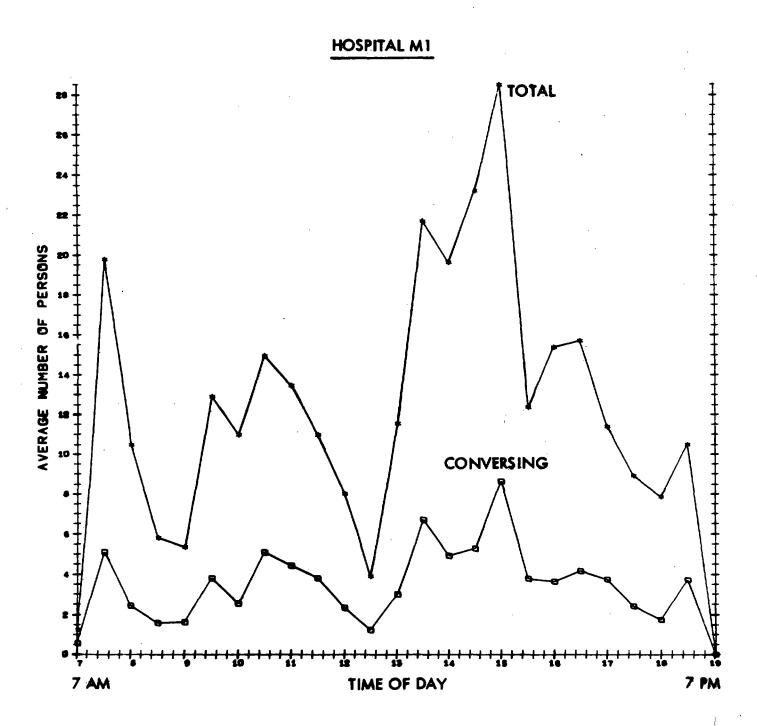


Fig. B-24 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M1

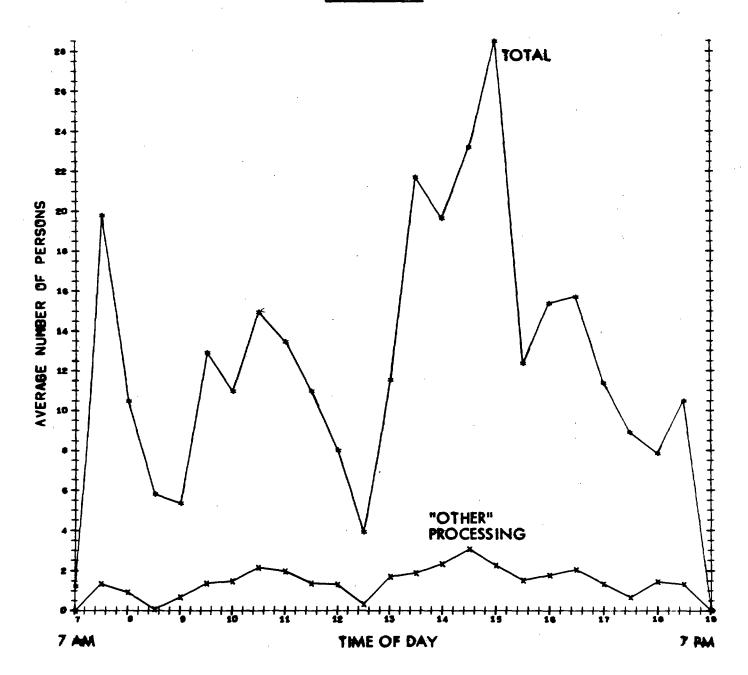


Fig. B-25 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M1

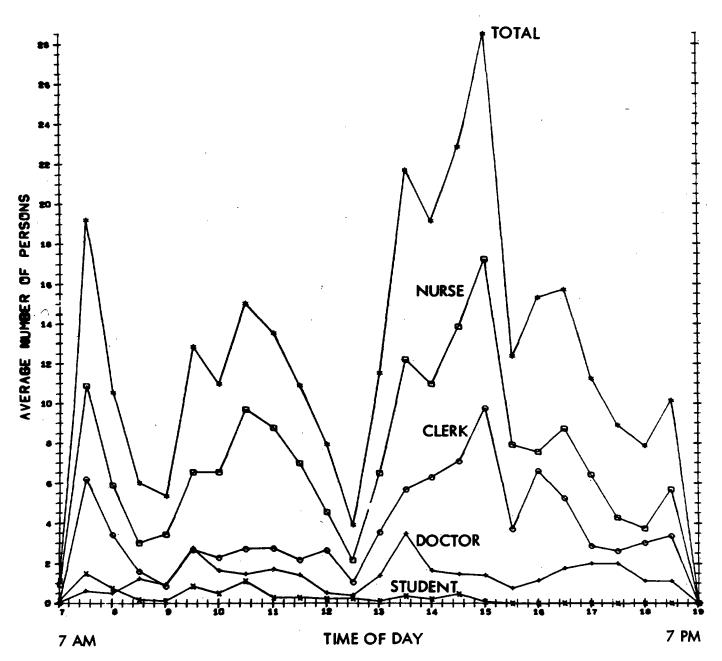


Fig. B-26 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital M1

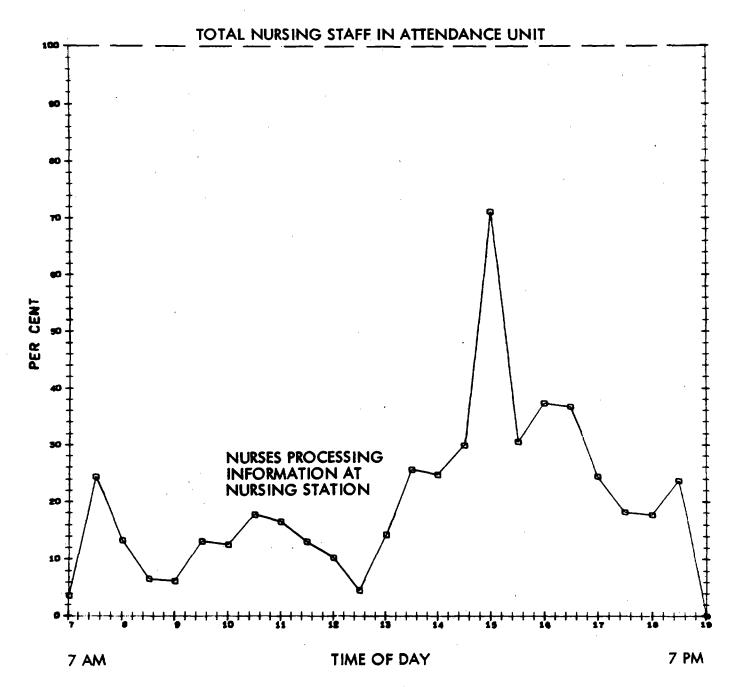


Fig. B-27 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital M1

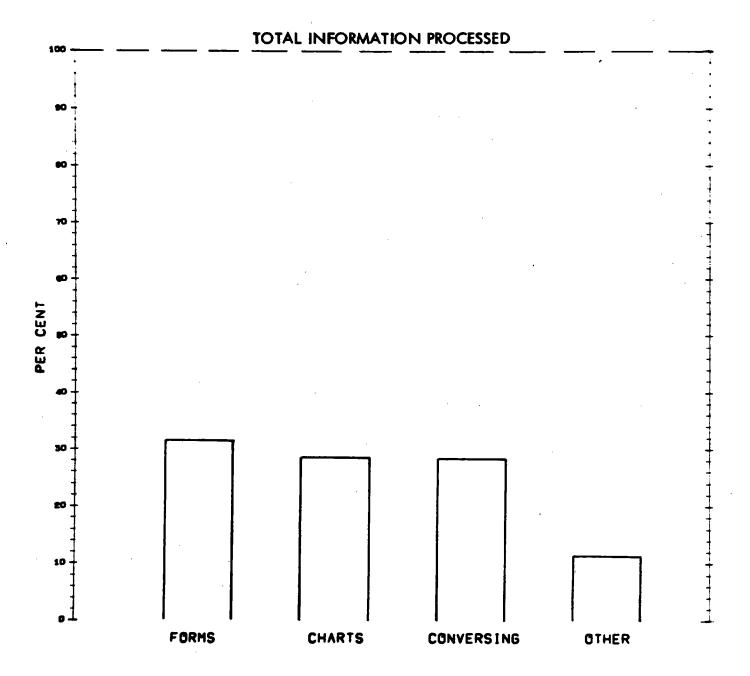


Fig. B-28 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital M1

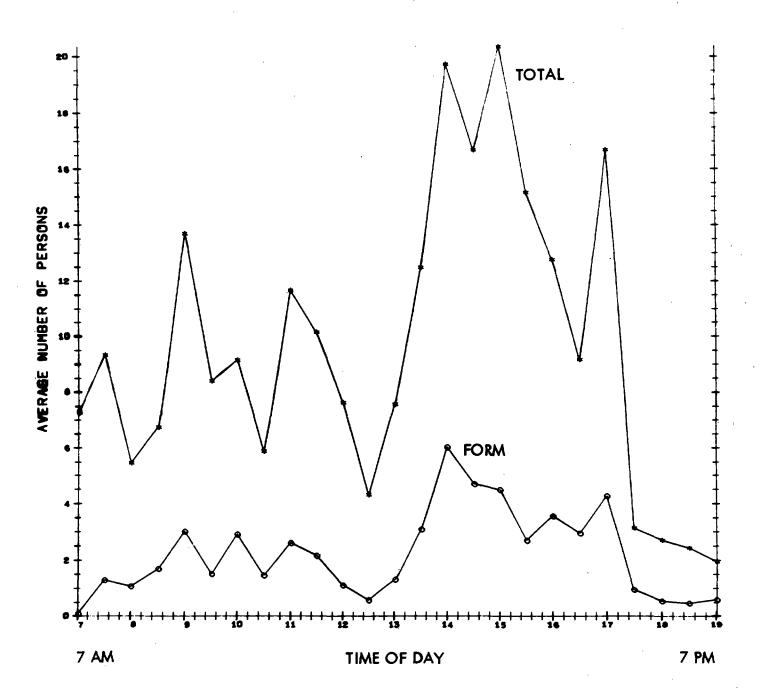


Fig. B-29 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M2

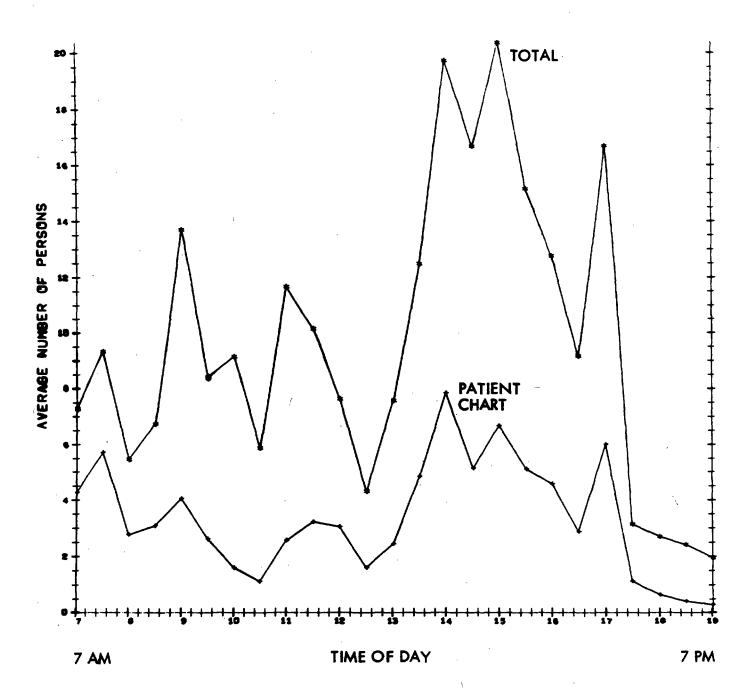


Fig. B-30 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M2

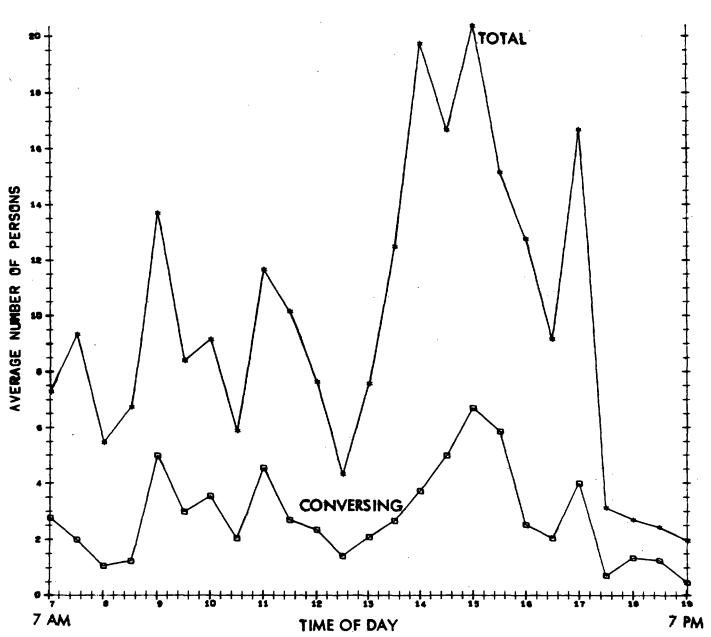


Fig. B-31 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M2

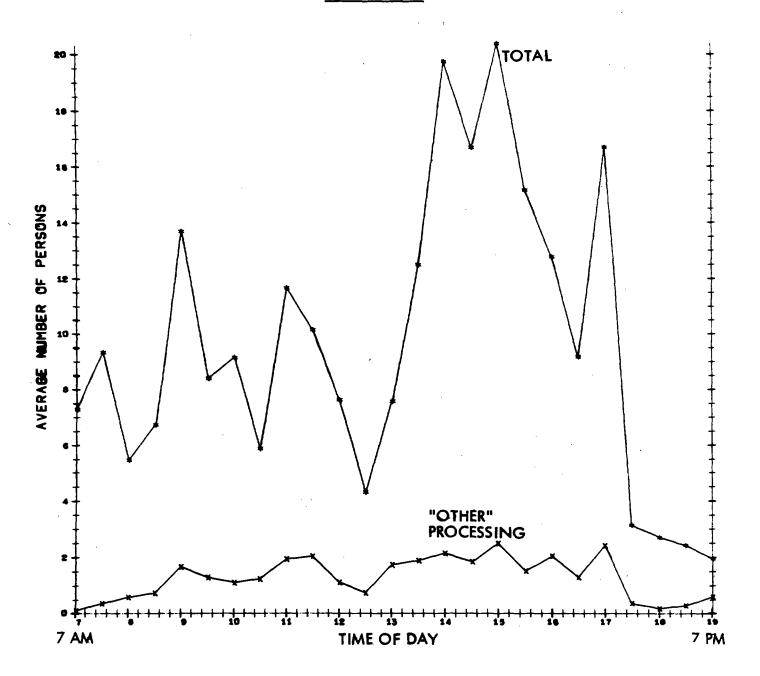


Fig. B-32 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M2

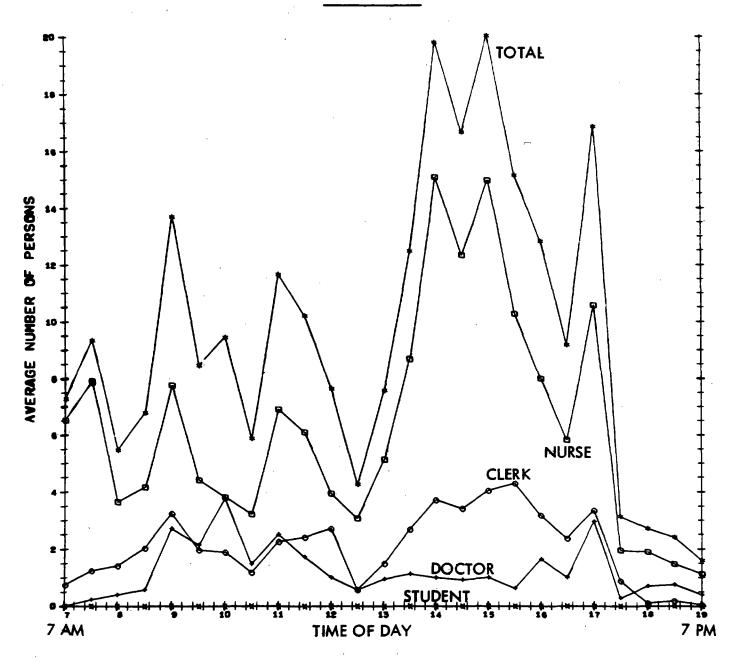


Fig. B-33 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital M2

HOSPITAL M2 TOTAL NURSING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE UNIT

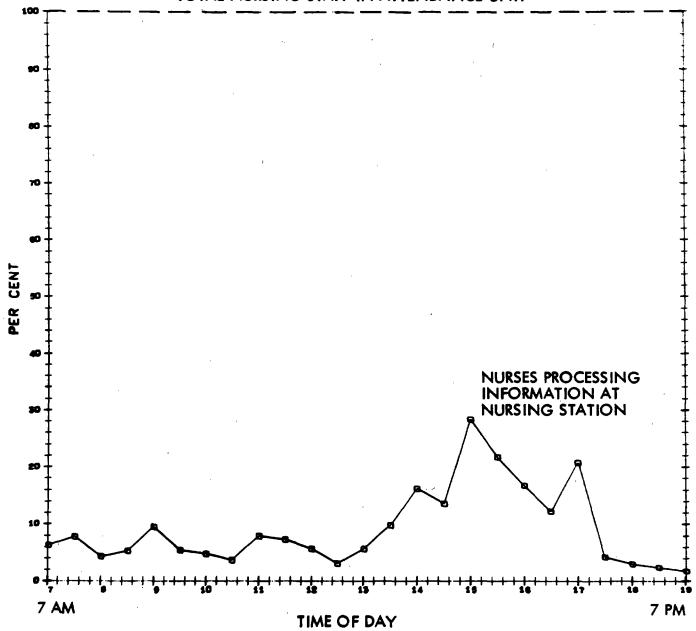


Fig. B-34 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital M2

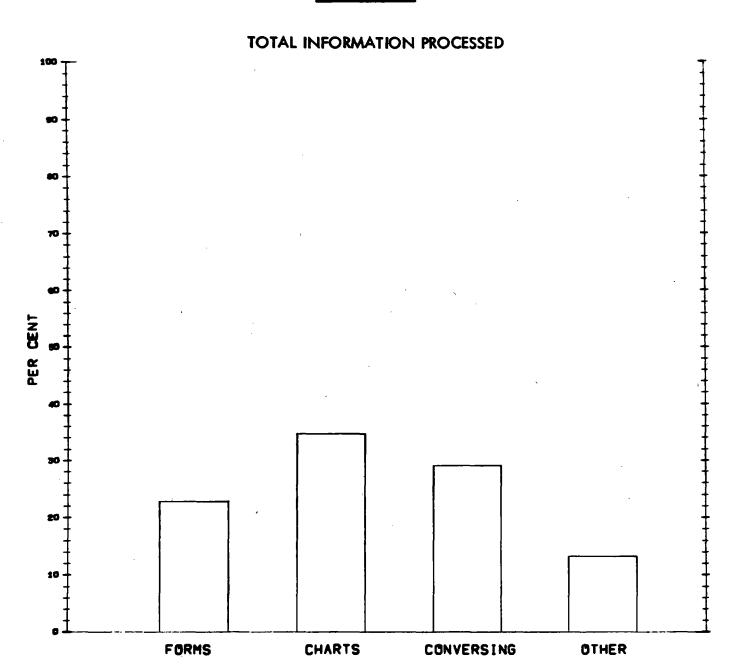


Fig. B-35 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital M2

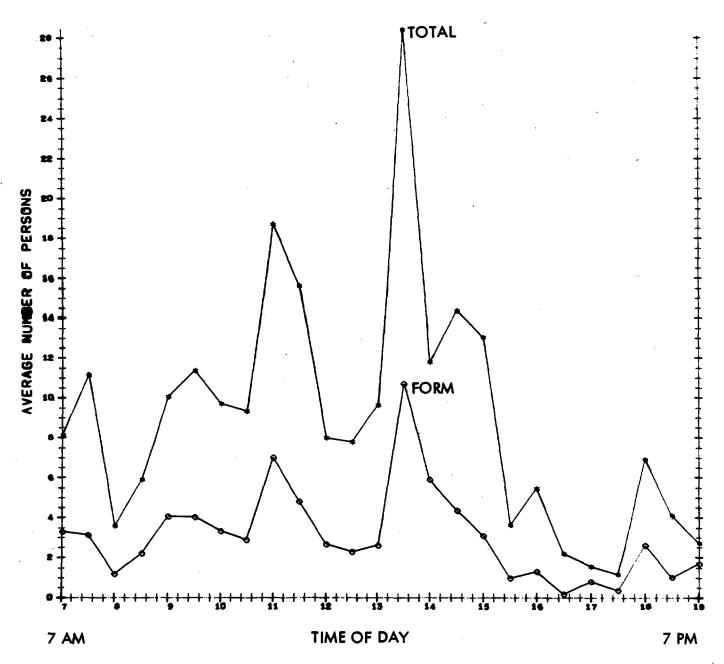


Fig. B-36 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M3

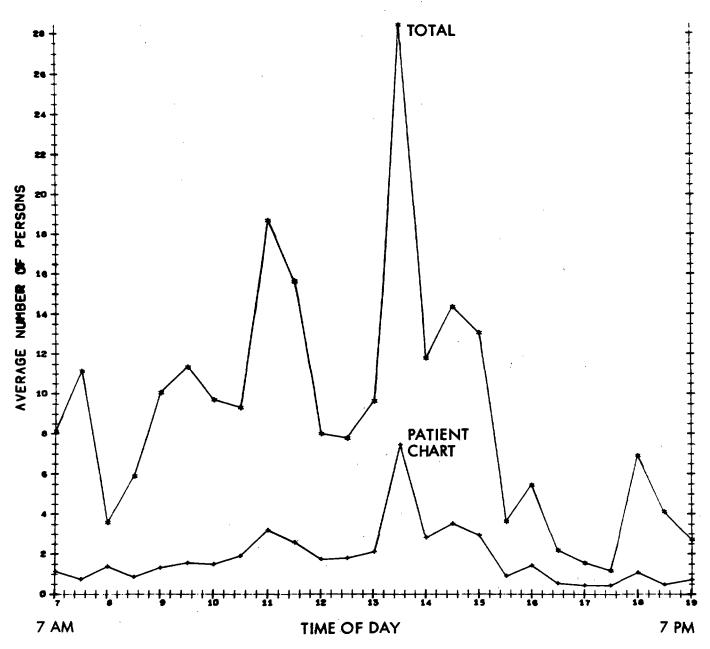


Fig. B-37 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M3

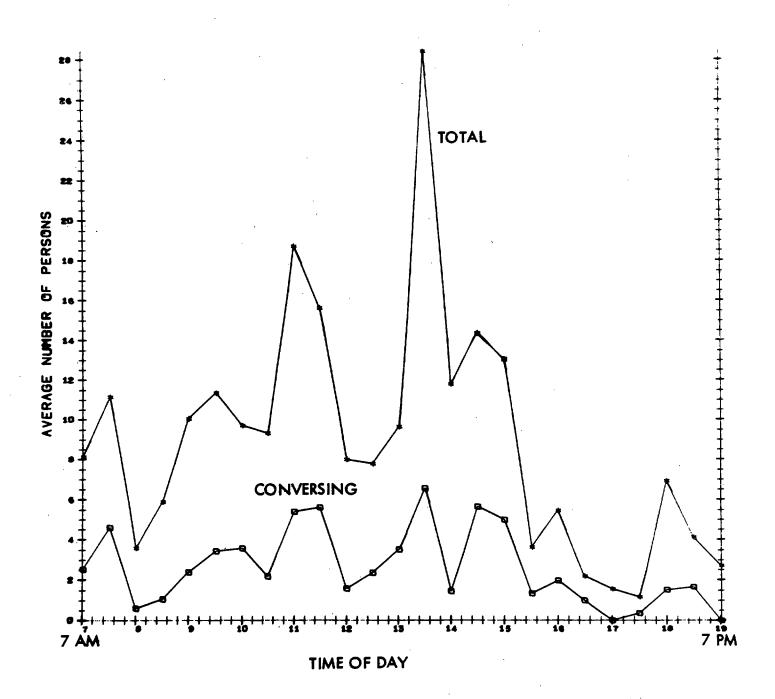


Fig. B-38 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M3

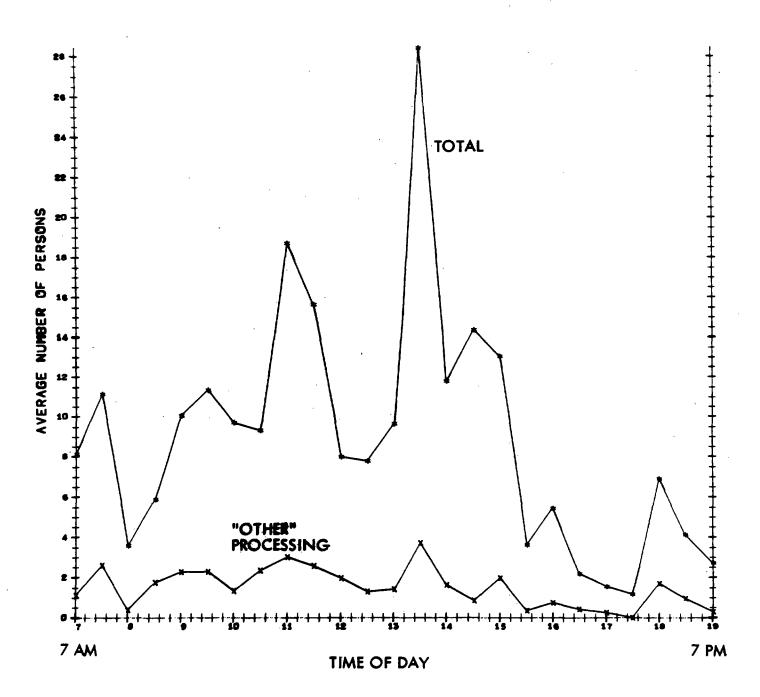


Fig. B-39 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M3

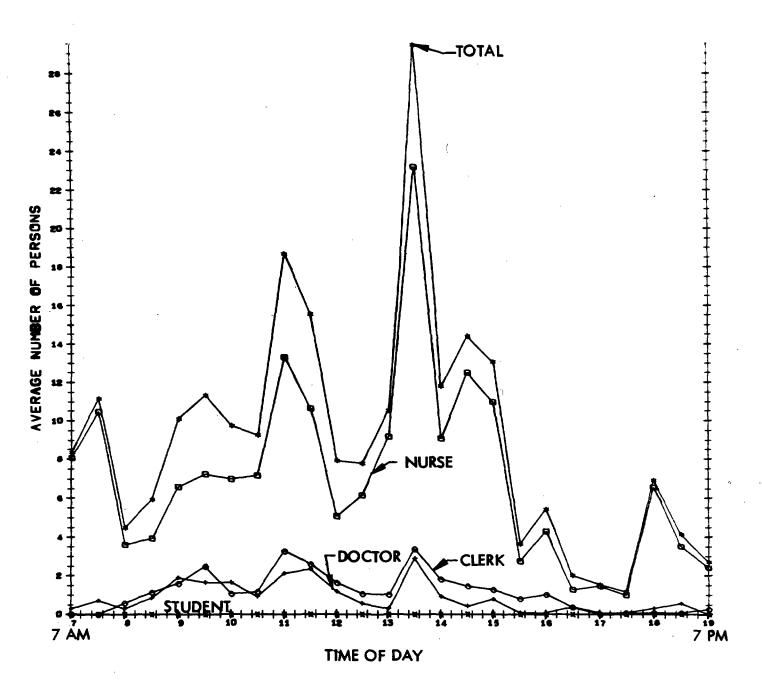


Fig. B-40 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital M3

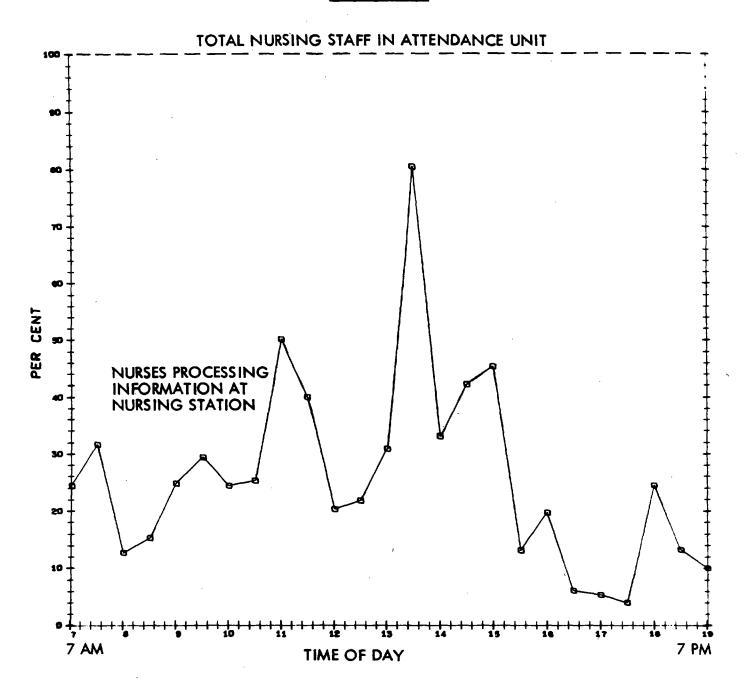


Fig. B-41 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital M3

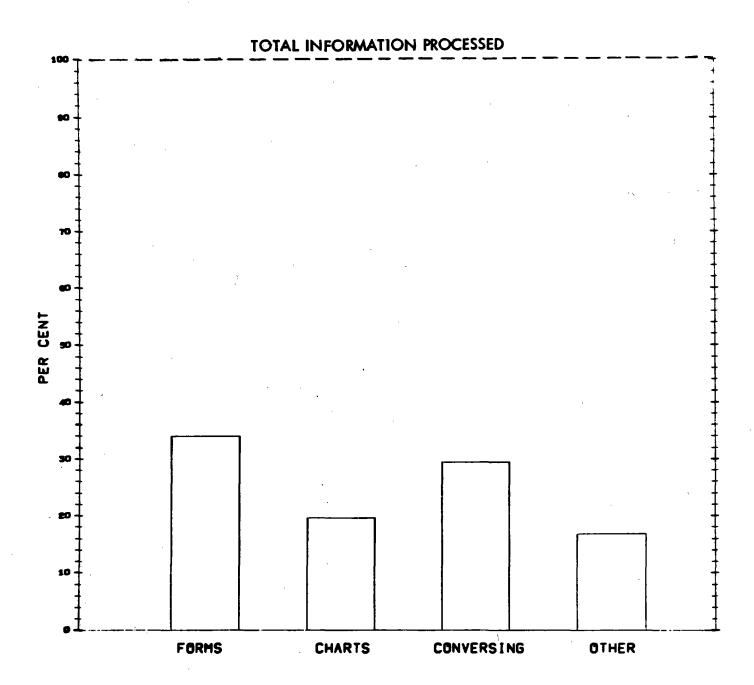


Fig. B-42 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital M3

HOSPITAL S1

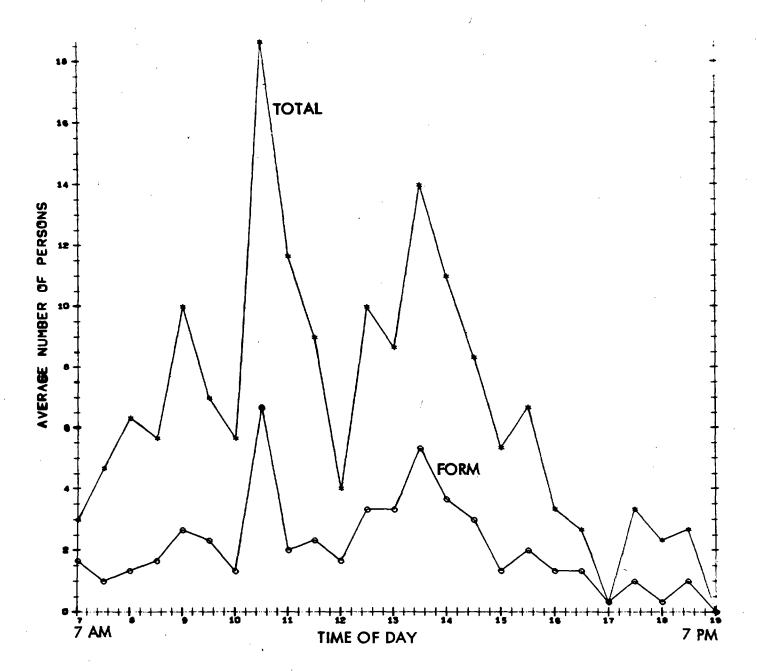


Fig. B-43 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S1

HOSPITAL SI

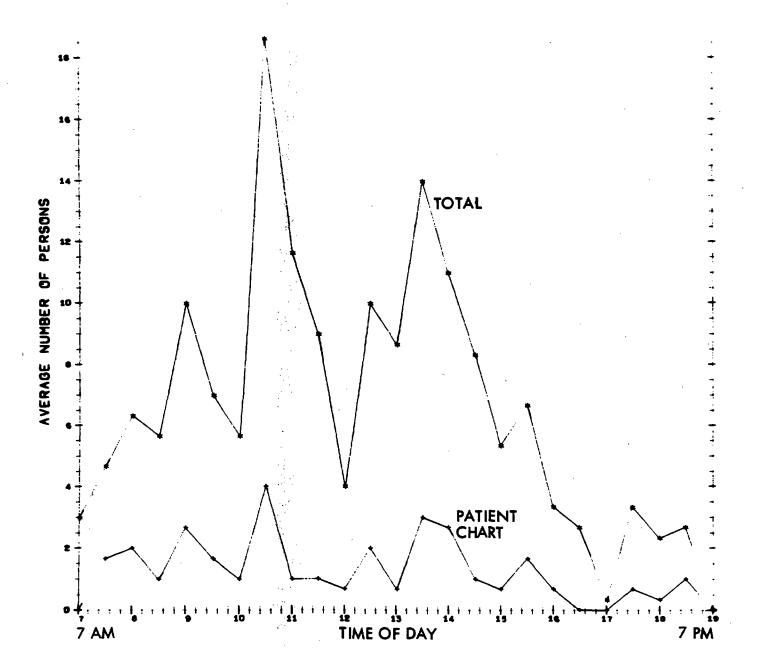
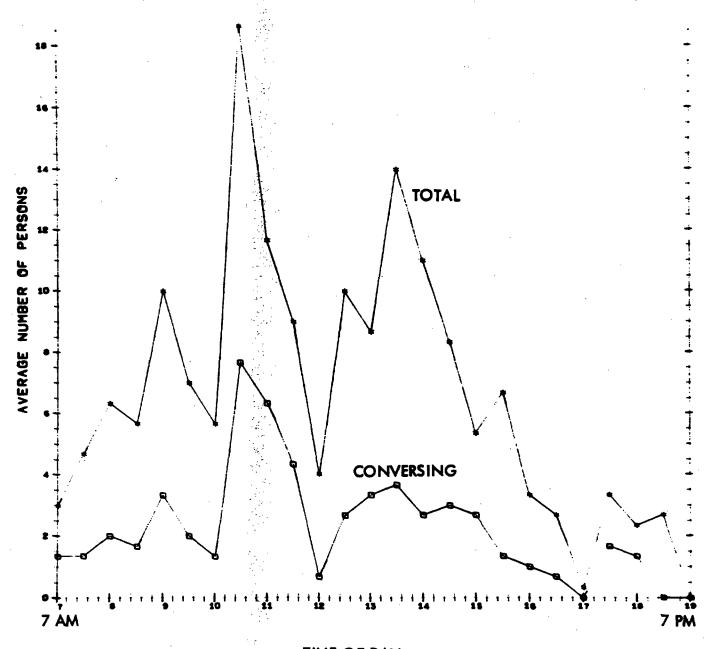


Fig. B-44 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S1

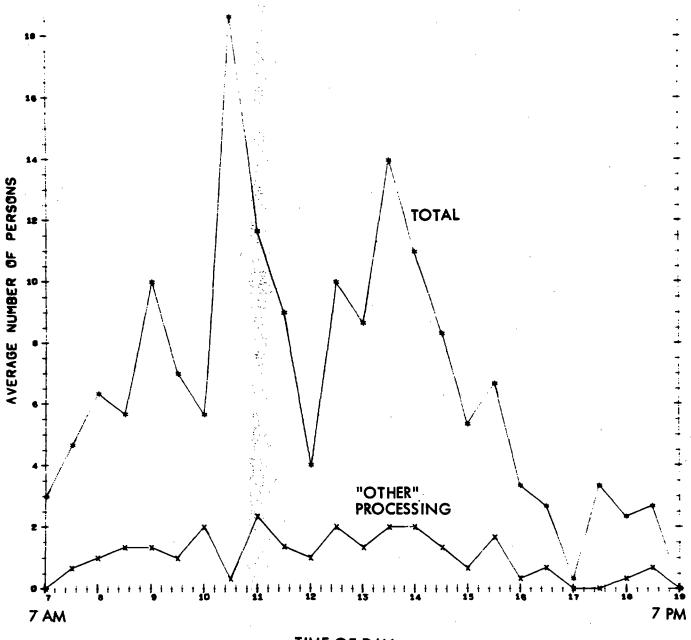
HOSPITAL SI



TIME OF DAY

Fig. B-45 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S1

:



TIME OF DAY

Fig. B-46 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S1

HOSPITAL \$1

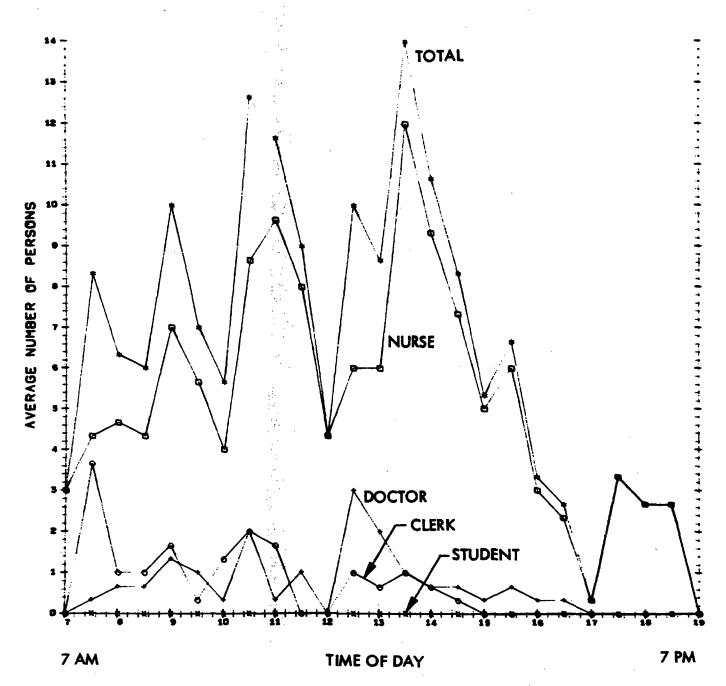
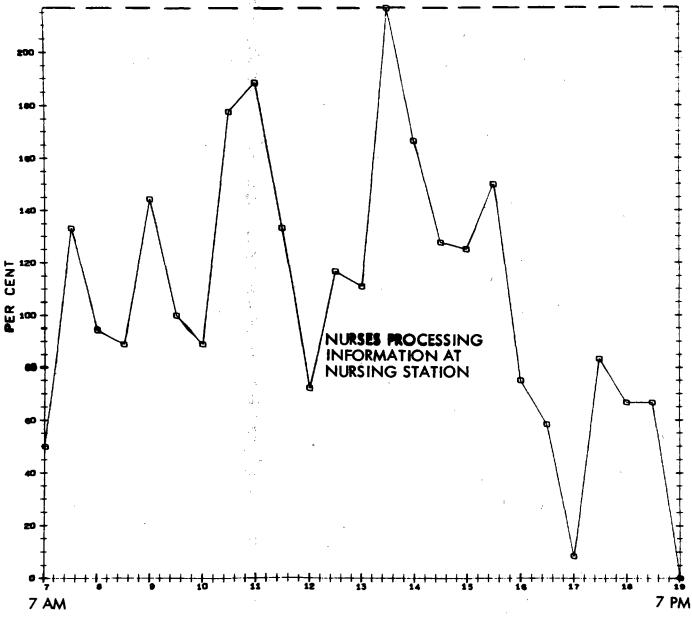


Fig. B-47 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital S1





TIME OF DAY

Fig. B-48 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital S1

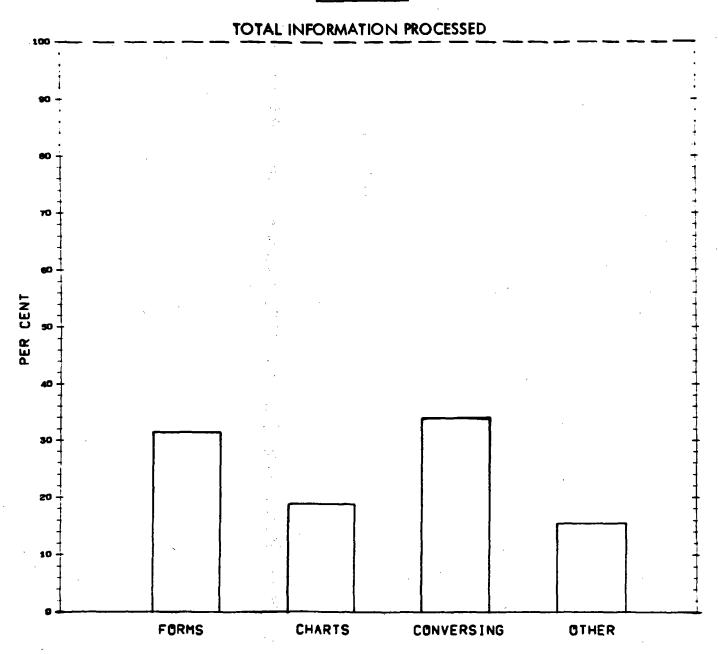


Fig. B-49 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital S1

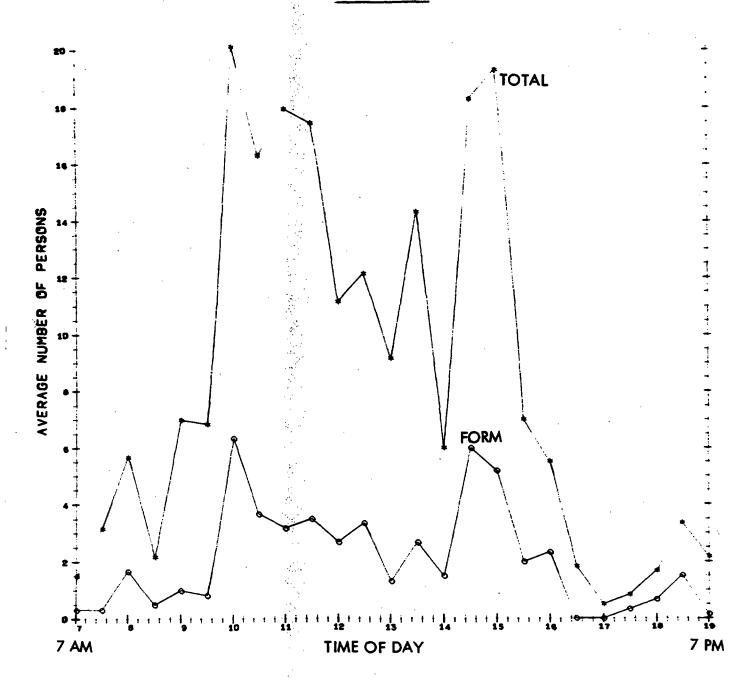


Fig. B-50 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S2

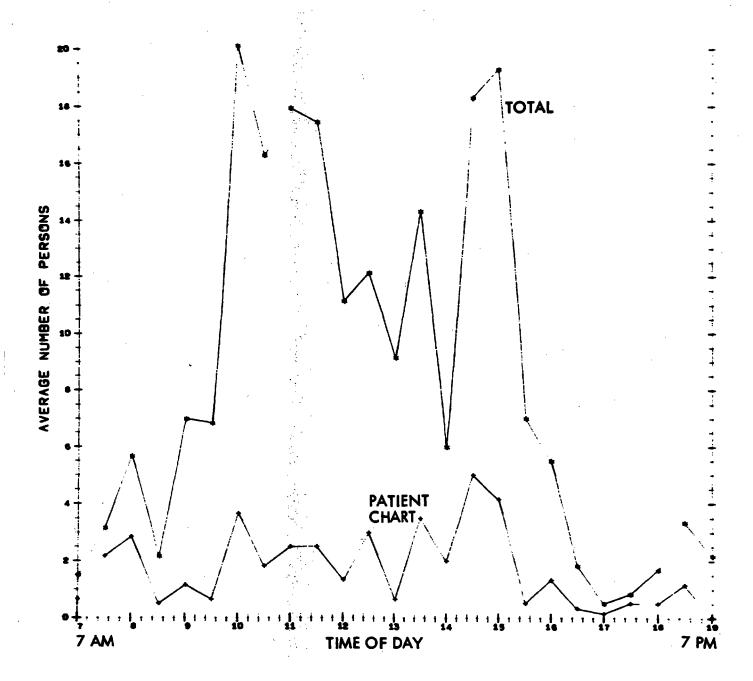


Fig. B-51 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S2

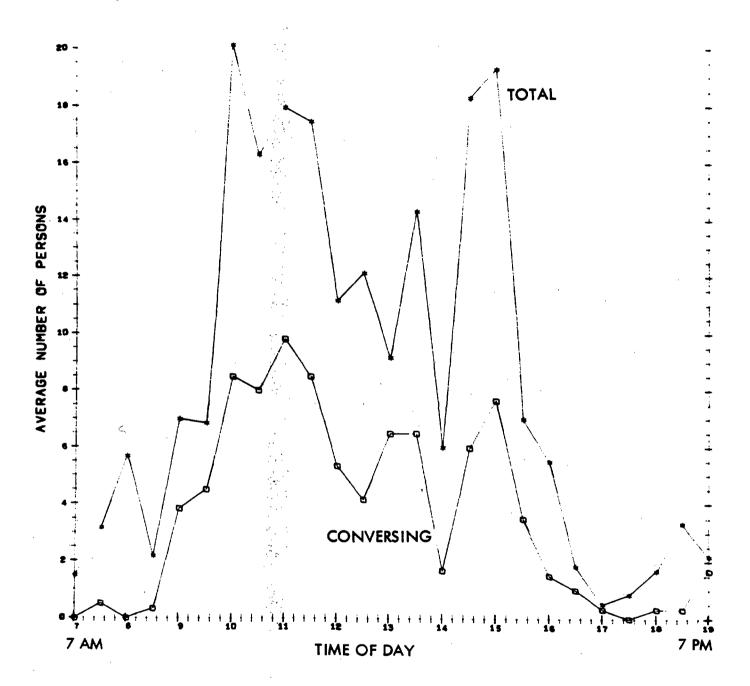


Fig. B-52 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S2

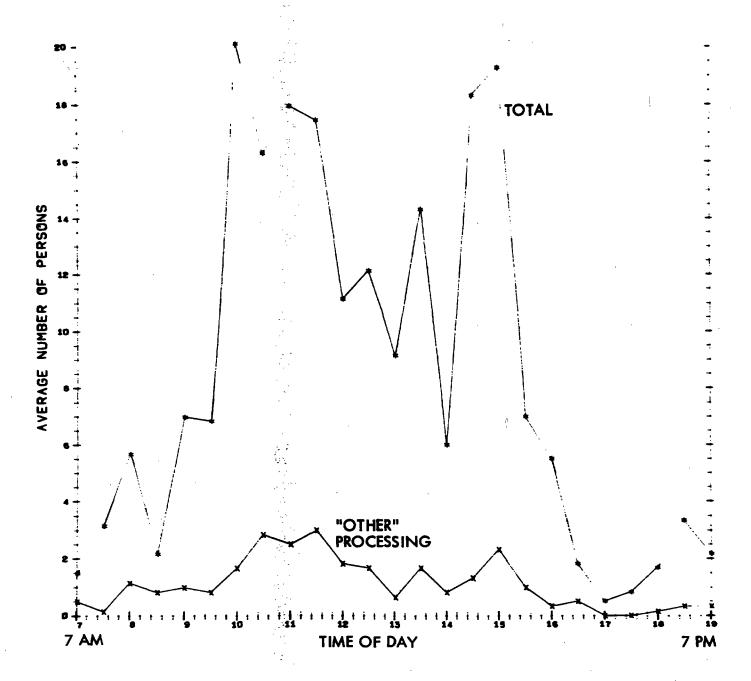


Fig. B-53 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S2

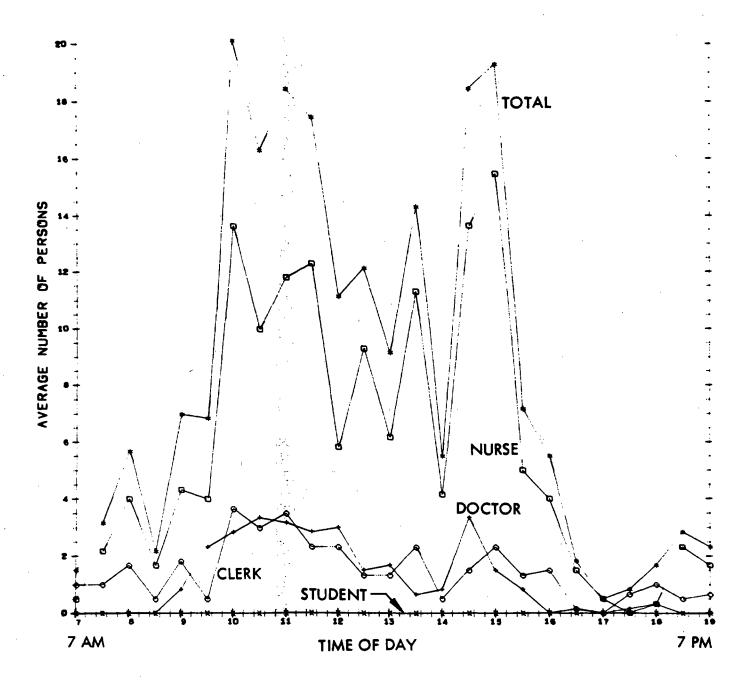


Fig. B-54 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital S2



7 PM

HOSPITAL S2

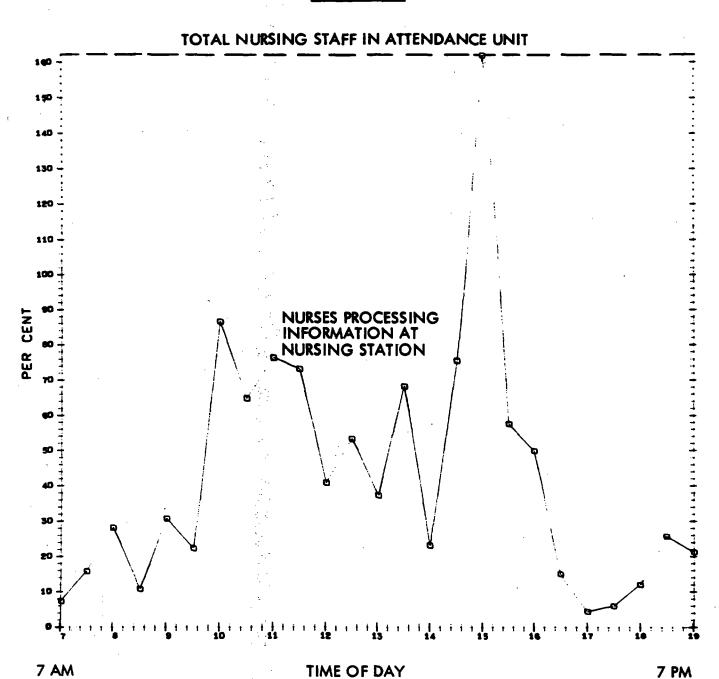


Fig. B-55 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital S2

TOTAL INFORMATION PROCESSED

Fig. B-56 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital S2

CONVERSING

OTHER

CHARTS

FORMS

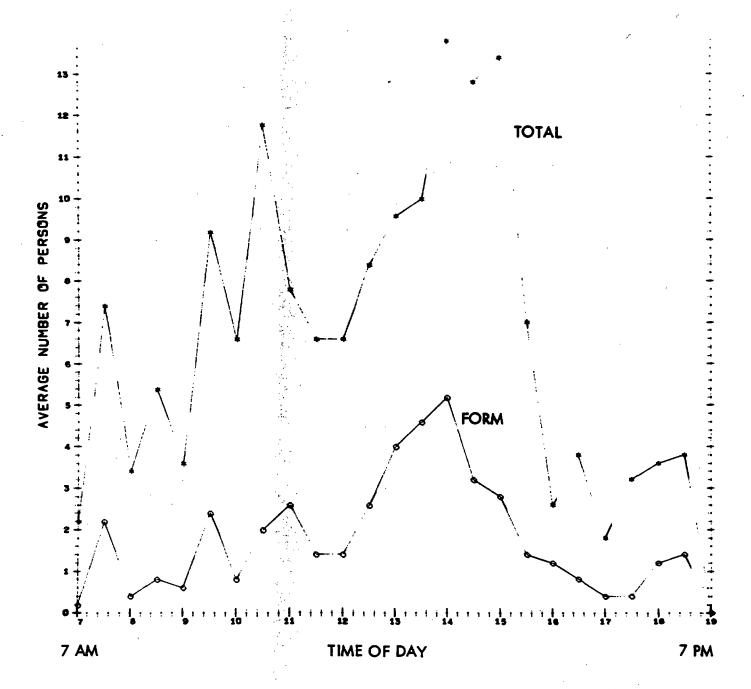


Fig. B-57 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S3

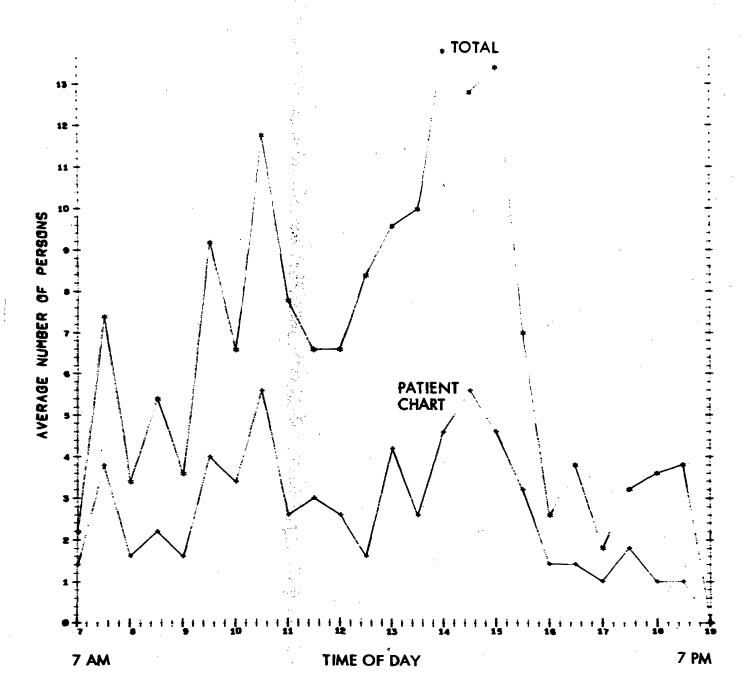


Fig. B-58 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S3

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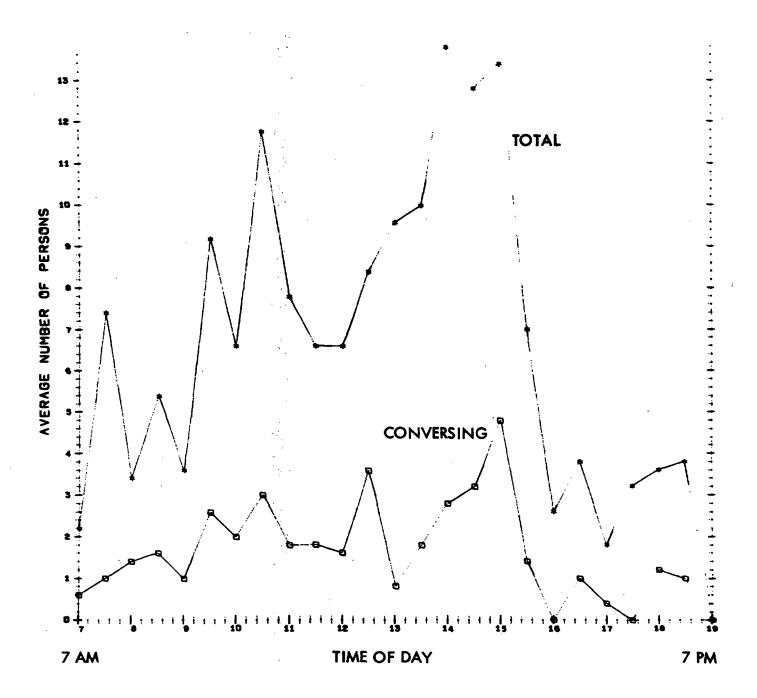


Fig. B-59 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Hospital S3

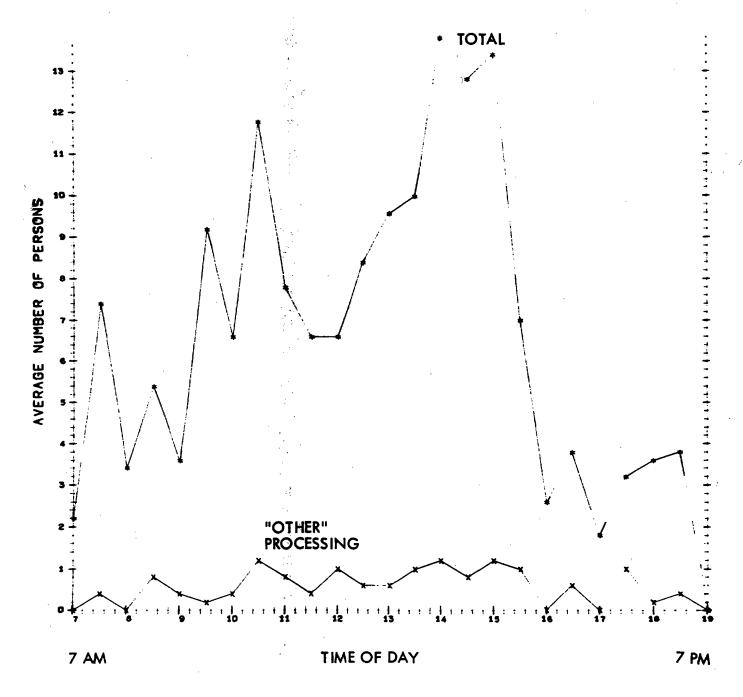


Fig. B-60 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing — Hospital S3 $\,$

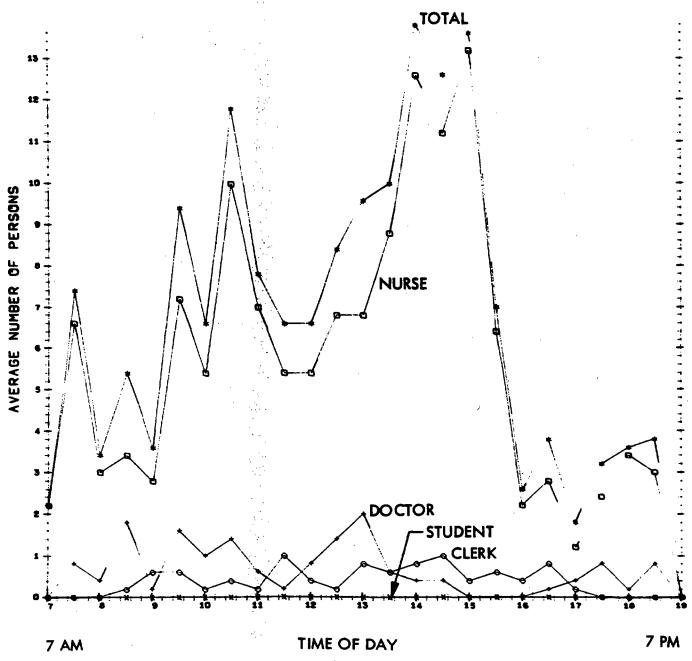


Fig. B-61 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Hospital S3

TOTAL NURSING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE UNIT

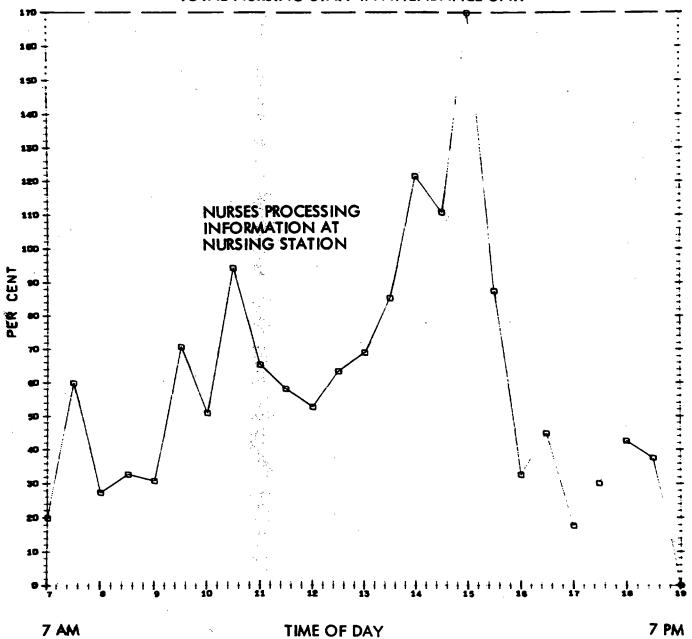


Fig. B-62 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Hospital S3

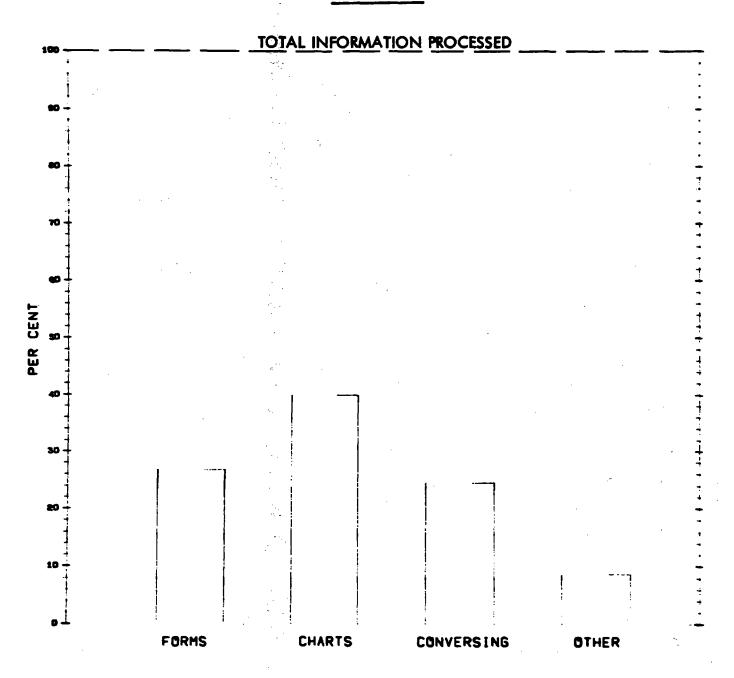


Fig. B-63 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Hospital S3

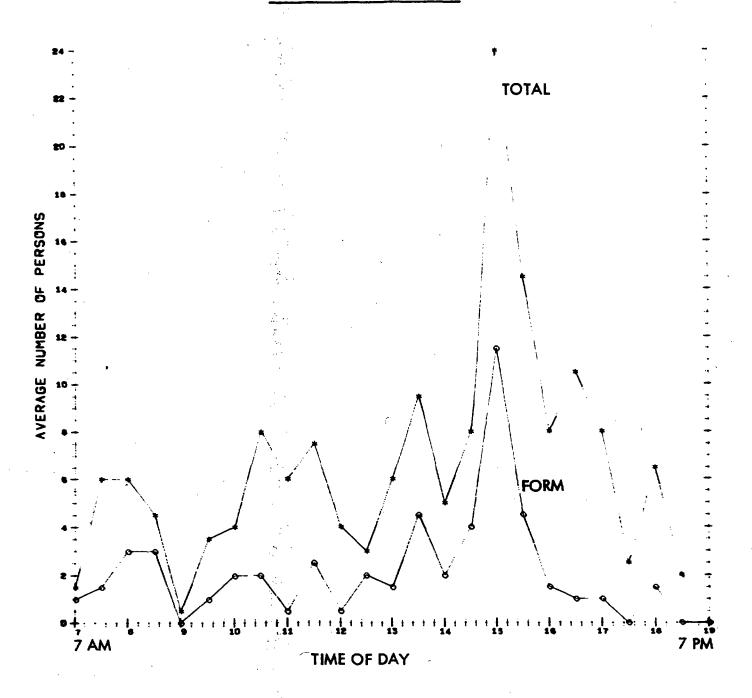


Fig. B-64 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Extended-Care Facility

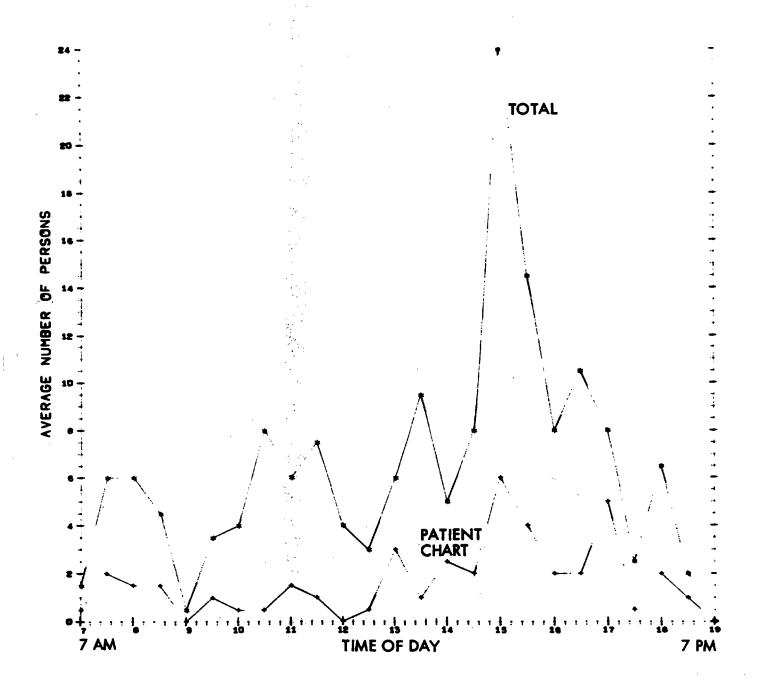


Fig. B-65 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Extended-Care Facility

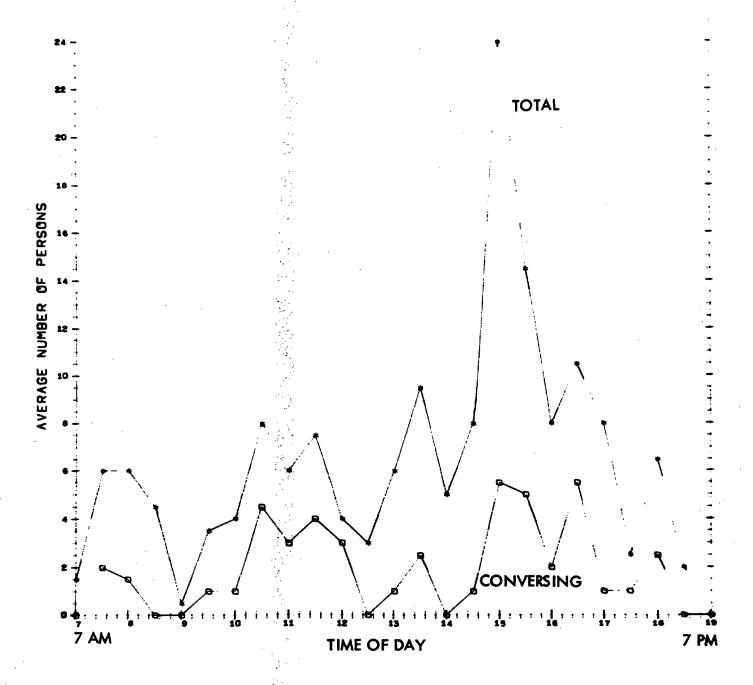


Fig. B-66 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Extended-Care Facility

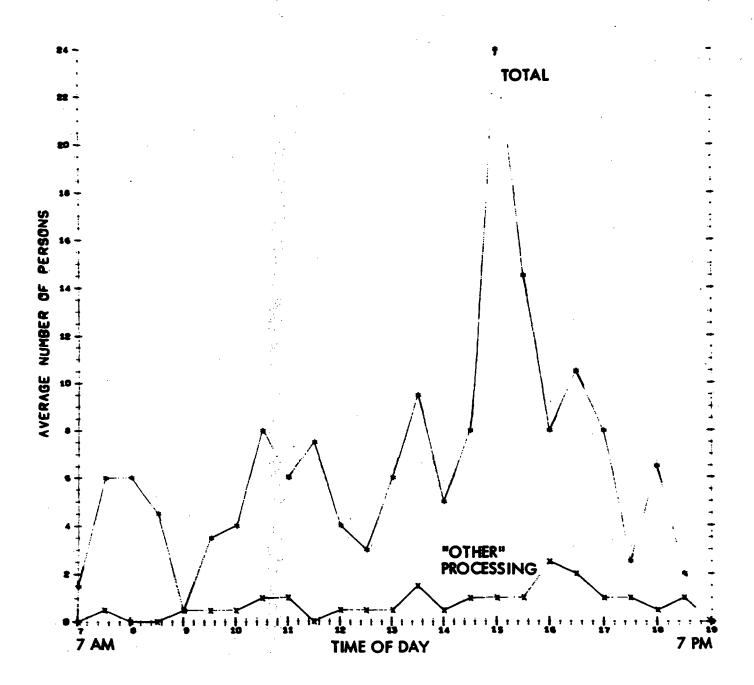


Fig. B-67 Ratio of "Other" processing to Total Information Processing - Extended-Care Facility

EXTENDED-CARE FACILITY TOTAL AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS NURSE CLERK DOCTOR TIME OF DAY **7 AM** 7 PM

Fig. B-68 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Extended-Care Facility

EXTENDED-CARE FACILITY TOTAL NURSING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE UNIT

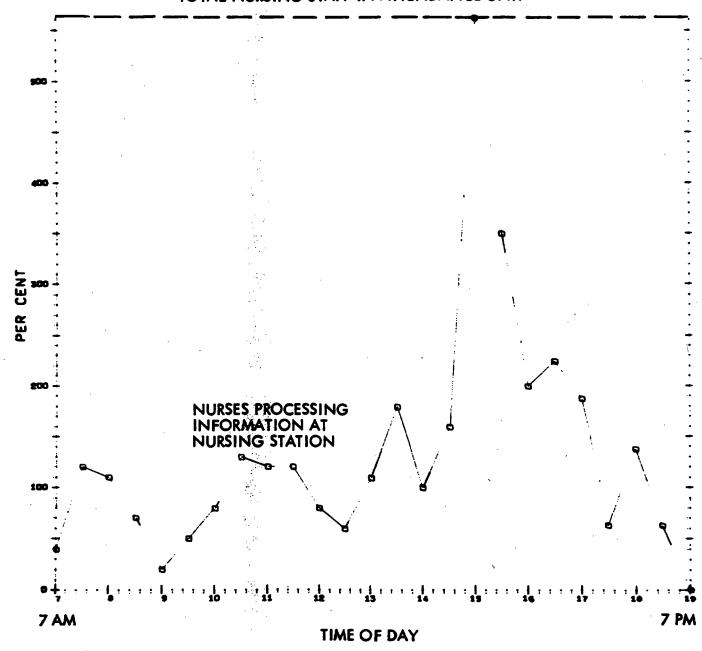


Fig. B-69 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information - Extended-Care Facility

TOTAL INFORMATION PROCESSED

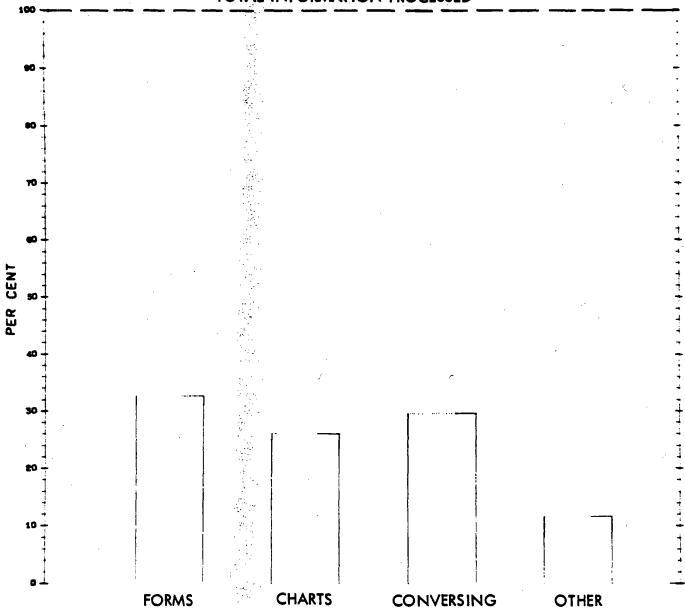


Fig. B-70 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Extended-Care Facility

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Appendix C

NURSING STATION COMMITMENT TO INFORMATION PROCESSING

This appendix serves several purposes. It identifies all the nursing stations observed and presents basic work sampling data collected at those stations. These data are shown by respective hospitals in Tables C-1 through C-9. The last two columns at the right side of the tables show ratios calculated from the data which can be used for gross comparisons among and between nursing stations, either within a given hospital or among hospitals.

It is possible to produce computer plots of the information commerce at each nursing station just as they were produced for the total hospital (See Section 3 and Appendix B of this report). However, computer plots for all 160 nursing stations are not included in this study, although, for illustrative purposes, seven plots were made of the information commerce at each of two stations. These plots are presented in Figs. C-1 through C-14. Figures C-1 through C-7 show the information commerce at a Medical Unit in a medium size hospital, and Figs. C-8 through C-14 show plots for an Intensive-Care Unit at the same hospital.

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Table C-1 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital L1

							Observations	ons						,	Staffing*				
*	Hospital			No. Pers	No. Persons Observed At Stations	ved At S	tations	Ra Observed	Ratios Observed at Stations	ons	Number	Nursing Staff Attendance at		Doctors at Unit-		Combined Combined	Combined		Combined
Nursing Unit	Station Identi-	Lockheed Patlent Ref. No. Census	Patient Census	Proc- essing	Not Proc.	Times Unoccu-	Total (P+NP+A)	P4	ΝP	<	of Times Station	Unit (Av. 1st and 2nd Shifts)			Combined Staff (D+N+C)	Staff (D+N+C) at	Staff Proc.	Combined Staff at	Staff at Station-
1	Tearron			<u> </u>	(NF)	Pied (A)	,				Observed	z	υ	(D)		Ē	Station	6	Percent Processing
TOUR 1						Γ													
Recovery Room	Barnes Par	101	-	277	311	27	615	Şī.	13.	70.	281	3.95	94.	1.54	5.95	2.09	.94	光	감
Burn Unit.	BHE	102	7	259	146	72	17.7	75	.31	.15	281	4.41	0	1.71	6.12	1.14	.77	23	53
Eye - Private	7 McM	103	33	360	116	33	1,87	.73	.193	290	208	1, 37	.83	1.70	6,90	2.18	1.58	2	72
Ent - Private	6 McM	10t	28	0017	178	12	265	19.	.30	.02	192	6.03	.83	2.35	9.21	3.01	2.01	32	99
Eye - Ward	5N McM	105	28	366	189	13	598	99.	.316	.021	215	5.14	.83	2.00	7.97	2.72	1.79	34	65
Ent - Ward	55 McM	106	22	342	202	25	695	9.	.355	.ola3	231	5.11	1.25	2.10	8.76	2.35	1.41	56	99
Eye - Private	L McM	107	33	1,34	124	2	563	.77	.22	.009	192	2,38	1.25	2.09	8.72	2.89	2.22	33	76
Gyn - Private	3 McM	108	20	329	153	18	500	.65	,306	960.	231	5.62	1.25	2.19	9.06	2.08	1.35	25	79
Operating Room	McM OR	110	ļ	365	164	35	564	19.	. 29	.062	231	13.74	.θ3	5.35	19.92	2.29	1.46	11	63
Gyn - Ward	8 Mat	120	31	1,02	110	18	530	.75	. 207	.034	215	5.17	1.55	2.01	8.73	2.38	1.78	27	7.7
Gynecology - Private	7 Mat	130	28	418	91	18	527	.79	172	.03h	192	4.78	.83	1.86	7.47	2.65	5.09	35	78
Obstetrical - Private:	6 Mat	201	23	399	34	16	149	88	.075	.035	192	4.13	1.25	1.61	6.99	2.25	1.98	32	89
Nursery	5 Mat	202	1,7	256	7.7	77	1,38	82,	.162	.253	231	12.49	.83	1.87	18.19	1.41	.25	20	17
Delivery	4 Mat	203	;	288	111	25	6111	19.	.247	111	231	6.87	1.25	5.69	10.81	1.72	1.10	15	79
Obstetrical - Ward	2 Mat	201	32	376	107	17	504	12	212.	140.	192	3.95	.83	1.54	6.32	2.51	1.85	39	73
Male Ward	8171	205	37	159	162	7	128	79	197	900	136	9.58	1.25	3.73	14.56	00.9	4-74	17	42
٠.	MPPst	506	1	167	2113	2	71.5	99	339	900.	192	4.37	0	1.70	6.07	3.85	2.47	63	719
vate & Ward	5 Ren	301	31	550	192	h	74.6	Ω.	. 257	.005	192	5.62	.83	2.18	8.63	3.86	ιγ.	71	18
Psych - Private	1, Ren	302	13	397	93	20	507	77	.183	.039	21/2	3.95	1.25	151	6.71	2.01	1.54	53	76
Psych - Private & Ward	3 Ren	303	31	1,80	116	9	605	.79	.189	,01 l	192	1.75	.83	1.95	7.53	3.10	2.14	11	79
ccu	CCU	304	80	273	101	77	151	98	.229	169	281	4.16	0	1.62	5.78	1.34	.80	22	53
Female - Ward	21.18	305 A & B	38	850	165	28	101/3	æ	158	,027	136	12.28	1.66	1.78	18.72	7.45	6.03	34	80
Private Medicine	3700	307 A & B	33	557	152	179	773	.72	961	082	136	8.12	1.25	3.16	12.53	5.21	3.75	듸	7.1

*D = doctor, N = nurse, C = clerk

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							Observations	ns							Staffing*	*			
	Hospital	<u></u>		No. Pers	No. Persons Observed At Stations	red At St		Rat Observed	Ratios Observed :t Stations		Number	Nursing Staff Attendance at	Staff	Doctors at Unit-			0	Percent	Combined
Nursing Unit		Lockheed Patlent Ref. No. Census		Proc- essing	Not Proc.	w 1	Total (P+NP+A)	ď	NP	<u> </u>	of Times Station Observed	Unit (Av. ist and 2nd Shift	(g)	Est. from D/N		Staff (D+N+C) at	Staff Proc. at	Combined Staff &t	Staff at Station-
in the second	10011011			(-)	(mr.)	(A)		-			7007	z	Ü	(a)	at Unit	Station	Station	Station	rercent Processing
TOUR 2																			
Surgical - Private	12200	101	33	534	986	2	625	.85	133	900	172	2,19	1.25	11.26	13.00	3.60	3.06	27	ا گر
Self Care	12100	707	54	312	109	777	1168	99.	.23	91	191	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical - Private	11100	103	24	944	52	æ	506	BB	102	015	172	99'9	24.1	3.79	11.90	2.89	2.54	27	87
Private - Surgical	11200	101	33	179	96	9	83	-B2	163	B	172	7.28	1.25	41.14	12.67	3.34	2.74	56	82
Private - Medicine	10200	105	33	959	104	2	762	.86	136	200	172	9.78	1.25	5.57	16.60	4.41	3.79	56	98
Medical - Private .	10100	904	27	508	- 72	~	230	.86	134	• 0005	172	9.13	1.25	5.20	15.58	3.41	2.93	27	86
Medical - Private	9100	501	23	519	77	7	597	.86	124	900	172	6.03	1.25	3.43	10.01	3.44	2.95	32	85
Private - Medical 🐑	9200	502	27	969	95	2	795	.87	911.	.002	172	7.08	1.25	4.03	12.36	4-61	10.4	33	87
Uncovered Medicine	8200	503	33	514	90	13	617	.83	345	120	172	11.65	1.66	6.64	19.95	3.51	2.91	17	82
Medical - Private	8100	504	27	413	95	17	525	.78	.18	.032	191	11.16	1.25	2.37	7.78	2.66	2.07	77	77
Surgical - Private	7100	505	23	135	71	6	515	.84	.137	710	172	6.03	1.25	3.43	10.71	2.94	2.46	27	83
Surgical - Private	7200	601	33	1,82	124	6	615	.78	.201	.014	191	5.14	1.25	2,92	2.31	3.17	2.47	3.5	78
Surgical - Private 200	6200	- 602	27	129	102	4	235	8	19	200.	191	4.37	1.25	2.49	8.11	2.78	2.22	77	79
Chest Surg. /Pri.&Ward	2200	603	36	0111	69	77	250	.85	.132	.021	172	99.9	1.25	3.79	11.70	2.96	2.51	25	97
ICU	2200/ICU	109	2	392	911	72	610	19	-239	717	261	4.79	0	2.73	7.52	2.06	1.31	22	.63
Surgical - Male Ward	1200	909 - 509	13	757	199	8	1073	777	185	470	133	9.99	1.25	5,69	16.93	2.29	1.69	13	62.
Meuro MedPrivate	5 Wohl	607	25	050	99	77	260	.80	326	.018	172	6.03	1.25	3.43	10.71	3.19	2.55	62	.80
Neuro Med & Surg. PM	L Wohl	608	23	797	137	2	209	.77	. 225	.008	191	5.20	1.25	2.96	9.41	3.15	2.42	55	76
ICU	Drieke	609	8	330	138	82	550	8	.25	.15	261	3.95	0	2.25	6.20	1.79	1.07	28	8
Neuro/Surg./Pri.&Ward	1 Wohl	919	25	399	131	21	554	.72	.24	.037	191	0.53	1.66	1.86	15.05	2.79	2.00	87	7.1
Icu '		701	8	256	87	95	428	9.	.203	.198	261	9.99	0	5.69	15.86	1.31	.78	88	26
Surgical-Private &Ward	4 3 Bar	702	19	390	98	15	191	.79	.175	:03	191	4.78	1.62	2.72	9.12	2.48	1.95	27	78
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	gjarit.	_					Observations	ons							Staffing*	*	-		
	Hospital	Le Ca		No. Persons Ob	ions Obser	served At Stations	tations	Ra Observed	Ratios Observed at Stations	ons	Number	Nursing Staff Attendance at		Doctors	Est.	Combined	豆		50m bd 1000
Nursing Unit		n Lockheed - Ref. No.	ed Patient	Proc- essing	Not Proc.	Times Unoccu-	Total (P+NP+A)	Δ,	N.	<	of Times Station	Unit (Av. 1st and 2nd Shift	G.		Combined Staff (DHN+C)	Staff (D+N+C)	Staff (Proc.	Combined Staff	Staff at Station -
	Neath	е 6		(a)	(MP)	pied (A)					Observed	×	ь	Rattio (D)		- E	g G	5	Percent Processing
			\vdash																
Womens Med/Surg.	10 S.E.	101	15	194	197	179	870	.567	.226	.205	554	2.0	0	98.	2.86	1.23	69.	613	56
Pediatric	9 8 0	1	+	107	51 6	6	880	27/4	212.	££1.	701	0.0	3, 5	1.29 02-1	6. (3	1.5%	6	٦	20
Mixed		_	+	989	187	32	305	85.	502	.035	700	2.5	1.00	1.93	5.29	2.28 2.87	2.17	27 66	8 ½
Womens Mixed				715	242	27	987	.726	.245	.027	304	1.0	1.8	1.72	6.72	3.23	2.34	18	72
0B/Gyn	€ 6 S.E.	Ш	2	542	213	917	801	919.	. 265	.057	364	2.5	.50	1.07	1.07	2.07	1.39	운	29
у	Del. Pm.			1,05	320	176	106	6171	.355	.195	5514	2.0	0	98.	2.86	1.30	85.	5	77
	4.5		-	247	162	313	722	.302	. 224	.433	554	1.49	0	.64	2.13	.714	.25	37	33
	_		βη 0	232	130	301	663	.349	961.	.454	554	1.49	0	79.	2.13	.65	.22	30	33
	6 S.0.		_	573	161	73	809	, 18	.236	.055	384	2.0	1.0	.86	3.86	1.98	1.40	51	70
Premature Nursery	-	_	+	526	162	588	929	134	239	. 126	554	1.49	0	79.	2.13	70	.23	33	32
Womens Med/Surg.	√ \ •	201	32	577	179	2 5	755	.723	.237	.039	307	0.7	1.0	1.72	6.72	2.38	1.72	35	72
Mens Med/Surg.	36 7 B	4	-	520	152	242	806	E 4	.165	.263	301	0.7	0.1	1.72	6.72	2.23	1.27	33	56
	_	_	-	556	702	3 2	793	18	257	047	307	0, -	0, 0	2.72	8.15	2.52	1.74	2 5	69
ICU	BI	505	-	1,83	182	111	779	89.	.233	.146	304	3.5	0	2.5	7.00	37.7	1 L	7 5	5 63
Mens Med/Surg.	: MP 5 NE	L	_	552	179	27	758	.728	.236	.035	322	1.5	1.0	1.93	7.43	2.27	1.65	2 8	72
Womens Med/Surg.	: MP 5 N		1 34	672	205	59	906	<u>1</u>	. 226	.032	292	0.4	1.0	1.72	6.72	3.34	2.47	611	73
Operating Room		302	-	322	230	871	8	<u>S</u>	.328	112.	391	5.2	1.0	2.33	8.52	1.40	19.	16	45
Mens Med/Surg.	True True	303	-	611	200	3	855	.729	.233	740.	304	4.5	1.0	1.93	7.43	2.67	1.94	75	72
Neuro/Surg. Mixed	№	307	_	308	190	17	545	£(.348	.086	307	0.7	1.0	1.72	6.72	1.63	.92	77.	- 95
Med/Neuro Mixed	 B			5146	211	1,7	801	619	.262	.078	307	0.4	1.0	1.72	6.72	2.49	1.70	37	89
Mens Med/Surg.	2 S.W.		29	514	152	&	216	E-(.212	070.	307	3.5	1.0	1.50	6.00	2.19	1.57	36	7.1
Mens Med/Surg.	2 W			531	183	91	260	8 6(042.	190.	307	3.5	1.0	1.50	6.00	2.34	1.63	39	19
	Emerg. Bu			551	318	35	700	\$ (!	.351	.038	304	3.5	2.0	1.50	7.00	2.85	1.73	୍ର	09
covery Hoom	recovery	500	1	77	52	1 66	707	3	.321	.203	329	7.0	ço.	8.	2.91	.39	.18	17	917
*D = doctor, N = nu	nurse, C =	clerk																	

Table C-2 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital L2

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				1			Observations	ons							Staffing*				
	Kospi tal		;	No, Persons Ot	элэ Орѕег	served At St	Stations	Ra Observed	Ratios Observed at Stations	ons	Number	Nursing Staff Attendance at		Doctors at Unit-	Est. C	Combined	Combined Combined Percent		Combined
Nursing Unit		Lockheed Patient Ref. No. Consus		Proc- essing (P)	Not Proc. (NP)	Times Unoccu- pled	Total (P+NP+A)	ρ,	웊	¥	of Times Station Observed	Unit (Av. 1st and 2nd Shifts)	· [3]	Est. From D/N (Ratio	Staff ((D+N+C)	~ =		Staff Staff at Station	Staff at Station - Percent
						3						2	7	7	1				Frocessing
(CENTER)													-		1		-		}
Emergency Room	E R	101	;	511	125	3	639	æ.		700.	227	1.95	.74	.85	3.54	2.80	2.24	162	80
Medical	WIB	102	25.1	729	ीए	7	870	.83	.16	.001	227	h.51	.93	1.98	7.42	3.82	3.17	22	83
DOO	DO:	103	5.1	122	124	20	995	.74	.219	ηξο.	227	3.28	0	1.14	4.72	2.40	1.77	2,	73
Medical	WLA	104	32.0	672	174	1	924	.81	.188	.001	227	01.4	96.	1,80	6.86	4.06	3.28	53	- 80
Medical	ElA	105	15.0	896	195	9	1169	.82	.166	500	227	7.19	17.	3.16	11.06	5.12	4.19	917	81
Medical	ETB	106	11.8	654	108	33	795	.82	.135	1η0-	227	2.74	.25	1.20	4.19	3.35	2.74	75	81
Surgical	W2B	107	31.1	71.3	155	3	901	.82	.172	.003	227	5.21	19.	2.29	8.14	3.95	3.23	1,8	81
0.9	WZA	108	30.3	611	139	2	755	· 8 0	. 184	900,	227	61,4	77	2.19	7.39	3.30	2.64	771	80
Operating Room	OR	110	1	339	51	3	387	.87	911.	.007	119	20.50	2.00	9.02	31.52	3.22	2.80	10	18
ICU	ICU	120	15.6	561	138	11	710	.79	.19	.015	227	11, 03	.74	6.17	20.91	3.07	2.42	11	78
Surgical	E2B	130	12.3	1,85	116	18	619	92.	.187	.029	227	2.92	.71	1.30	4.93	2.64	2.05	53	77
Surgical	·EZA	20.1	28.8	749	166	7	919	.81	.18	700.	227	6.10	т9.	2.68	9.175	4.03	3.26	777	80
Pediatríc	Peds A	202	16.1	685	157	11	83	8.	.181	.012	222	19.67	.27	2.05	2.43	3.70	2.96	671	80
Pediatric	Peds B	203	13.8	531	182	2	71.8	23	.253	,007	227	3.74	.64	1.64	6.02	3.14	2.29	52	72
Clinical Research Center	CRC B	204	12.0	193	112	25	630	g.	n_{177}	.039	227	2.99	.39	1.31	4.69	2.66	2.07	95	77
Clinical Research Center	CPC A	205	14.9	123	115	28	299	-74	. 203	.049	227	3.27	0	1.43	4.70	2.36	1.74	S.	73
Surgical	E3A	206	14.8	1,69	\$	23	561	æ.	. 122	.oh	227	2.88	39	1,27	4.54	2.36	1.95	77	82
Intensive Nursery	E Nsv	301	8.7	137	88	33	268	.76	.172	058	227	4.53	:13	1.99	6.95	2.35	1.78	33	76
Delivery Rooms	Del.	302	;	226	75	-3	305	11.	2015	:013	119	00.17	.50	1.76	6.26	2.53	1.87	07	73
Gyn	W3B	303	24.5	111	135	2	914	76	.11,8	.002	227	4.31	19	1.89	6.84	4.02	3.37	58	81
Maternity	W3A	304	24.1	581	119	4	704	£.	.169	900.	227	3.12	119.	1.37	5.33	2.26	1.85	175	81
					1							-	+	+	+		1	1	
(in our activity)								1					+	+	+	1	1	+	}
(PAVILION)								1:				+	+,	1	1	 	1;	1	
Medical/Surgical	MIA	707	20.7	291	22	25	387	2	.203	-039	150	3.13	35	.62	07.10	2.46	1.84	8	7.4
Medical/Surgical	NZA	102	21.9	389	86	2	193	8	.184	010	150	3.20	23	79.	777.77	3.12	2.19	2	79
Medical/Surgical	NZB	£3	30.0	388	8	2	493	P2.	-202	010	150	4.38	9	.62	5.72	3.25	2.53	26	77
Medical/Surgical	N3A	101	13.0	319	70	80	397	8	.176	.020	150	2.38	33	77	3.17	2.52	2.01	52	79
ICU	N3C	1005	7.8	7.9	36	77	157	S	.229	.267	101	119	d	27	-76	07.7	.55	1 14	50
Medical/Surgical	N3B	700	20.2	260	76	15	351	- 77	.216	,00,2	150	3.14	64	.62	1,40	2.24	1.65	20	73
*D = doctor, N = nurse, C = clerk	C = clerk																		

< doctor, N = nurse, C = clerk

Table C-3 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital L3

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*D = doctor, N = nurse, C = clerk

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Table C-4 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital M1

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							Observations	ons							Staffing*	*-			
	Hospi tal		;	No. Persons Ob	ons Obser	served At Stations	attons	Ra Observed	Ratios Observed at Stations	ons	Number	Nursing Staff Attendance at		Doctors		Combined Combined Percent	Combined		Combined
Nursing Unit	Station Identi-	Station Lockheed Patient Identi- Ref. No. Census	Umit Patient Census	Proc-	Not Proc.	Times Unoccu-	Total (PHNPHA)	D.	ΝP	4	of Times Station	Unit (Av. 1st and 2nd Shift	S.	Est. from D/N	Staff (D+N+C)	Staff (D+N+C)	Staff Proc.	Combined Staff at	Staff at Station-
	rication				(NF)	pled (A)		-			Opserved	Z	υ	(D)		Station	uo 1	lon	Percent Processing
																_			
Delivery	Del. Ra	101	+	143	150	19	357	.398	.418	.178	202	1.2	0	62.	ь.99	1,11	95.	28	39
)		705		J													_		
(Nursery	Nsy	403		202	134	3148	- 189	. 29	.19	.51	633	(3.5	0	99	4.16	.53	.15	12	28
		ካሪካ			,										_				
Maternity	2 C	105	38	277	107	1,2	J ₁ 26	.650	. 251	860.	171	1, 2	1.4	.79	6.39	2.24	1.45	35	64
Medical/Surgical	2 A	1,06	42	375	159	28	562	299.	. 282	6 7 0.	208	7.5	1.4	1.42	10.32	2.56	1.68	24	65
Geriatrics/Med/Surg.	2 B	501	37	353	180	32	565	.621	.318	.056	208	7.7	7	3.46	9.86	2.56	1.58	26	62
Surgical	1 B	502	1.2	1,31	169	56	979	.688	. 269	140.	208	6.3	1.4	1.19	8.89	2.88	1.95	32	29
(res-ccu	100-ce	503	13	072 —	347	186	573	4	52.	.32	Lh2	15.6	7:1	99:1	8:0	.83	36	0.	-
Medical/Surgical	4	707	Ę	313	יוייר	ជ	605	613	282	,lot	207	4.6	1-7-	1.06	8.06	2.2	1.3	27 /	8
Medical/Surgical) C	. 601	38	353	13)		520	879	257	.063	208	5.6	٦.٢	1.06	8.06	2.34	1.56	53	99
Pediatric	Peds	602	20	235	198	1.8	1,81	1,88	114	.099	208	5.6	.7	1.06	7.36	2.08	1.01	28	64
Medical/Surgical	G R	603	33	31.7	125	36	1,78	.663	.261	.075	208	6.3	1.4	1.19	8.89	2.12	1.39	23	65
Emergency	田田	109	;	231	155	1,7	1,36	536	.355	308	207	5.6	1.44	3.06	8.06	1,88	66.	22	52
Operating Room	O R	605	:	193	160	- 22	125	151	376	.169	233	9.5	5.	1.80	11.80	1.41	. 63	.11	777
Recovery Room	R R	909		By L	69	125	279	304	242	1448	233	2.0	0	.38	2.38	99.	.19	27	28
*II = Acctor N :: n	משאנוע ::	الم ال																	

*D = doctor, N = nurse, C = clerk

Table C-5 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital M2

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	-							Observations	lons	<u> </u>						Staffing*	*			
	EOH	Hospital			No. Persons O	ons Obsez	bserved At Stations	tations	RE Observed	Ratios Observed at Stations	ons	Number	Nursing Staff Attendance at		Doctors at Unit-	Est.	Jombined	Combined	Combined Combined Percent Combined	Combined
Nursing Unit	Sta	tion L nti- R	ockheed ef. No.	Station Lockheed Patient Identi- Ref. No. Census	Proc- essing	Not Proc.	Times Unoccu-	Total (P+NP+A)	д	NP	¥	of Times Station	Unit (Av. ist and 2nd Shifts)	. 1st Shifts)	Est. from D/N	Staff (D+N+C)	Starr (D+N+C)	Proc.	Combined Staff at	Staff Station-
•	g	fication			 E		Pied (A)) -	, 1			Observed	×	C	(a)		E C	Station	Station	Fercent Processing
	_	ŀ																		
Emergency	E	В	107	-	177	29	128	268	14.	308	.477	221	1.7	0	.19	1.89	.62	.25	32	07
Operating Room	0	В	705	:	185	38	62	285	79.	.13	.23	22h	4.2	.50	.50	5.20	66.	.63	19	63
Post Partum	A.	РР	103	22	31.7	88	39	1717	.713	.19	.089	224	3.4	.70	01.	7.0	1.80	1.27	9	70
Nursery	Nu	Nursery	707	37	158	70	100	328	847.	.213	304	22h	1.9	5	.22	2.62	1.01	84.	82	77
Delivery Room	Q	D R	405	:	106	115	118	569	.39	.167	.438	224	2.9	0	.34	3.24	19.	.26	8	39
Surgical	3	3 Annex	904	1,7	157	18	11	546	.83	.142	.020	111	8.1	.70	.97	9.77	3.02	2.50	£	91
Intensive Care Unit	П	ICU	501	12	381	185	19	585	59.	316	032	193	5.4	.70	19.	6.74	2.93	1.90	63	79
Surgical	. Y. 2	2 Annex	502	33	395	123	20	538	.73	. 228	.037	193	6.7	. 70	&	8.20	2.68	1.95	32	72
(Pediatrics	Pe	Pedi	503	12.)	6,70	,,,	7,72	900	7	91.	,		1	70	g	. 01	1,50	ין דר ר	1.8	70
(Medical		1 Annex	504	l ₁ 2)	263	20	107	200	7).	.H.	77.	777		2	?	7.1]		0.7	!
Medical	-7	Main	505	29	329	140	29	198	99.	. 28	950	224	1.6	.70	.55	5.85	2.09	1.37	35	65
Medical/Ortho	3	3 Main	109	37	177	152	12	611	7/	.237	910.	177	3.3	.70	.39	11-39	5,37	3.86	1 22	70
Surgical		2 Main	602	35	4	107	ಜ	538	-76	.197	.037	193	6.3	.70	.75	7.75	2.68	2.03	3/1	73
*D = doctor, N = nurse, C = clerk	mse, C	= clerk														:				

Table C-6 Work Sampling Summary --Hospital M3

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	nt Combined	Unit (Av. 1st Est, Combined Stair Combined staff at and 2nd Shifts) from D/M (DwH+C) at at at at	on Processing		.7 67	29 99	19 61
	d Perce	Staf	Stat1		1 17	9	77
	Combine	Proc.	Station		.98	.79	19
t o	Combined	D+N+C)	Station		1.45	1.26	1.00
Staffing*	Est.	Combined Staff (D+N+C)	at Unit		1.2h	1.90	2 06
	Doctors at Unit-	Est. from D/N	(D)		.13	.20	.22
	Staff ce at	Shifts)	υ		.11	.11	7
	Nursing Attendan	Unit (Av	×		1.0	1.59	1.73
	Number		Observed		160	160	160
	ons	4			971.	741.	266
	Ratios Observed at Stations	NP -			02.	218	911
впо	Ra Observed	Д	-		88.	.63	19
Observations	ations	Total (P+NP+A)			263	238	218
	bserved At Stations	Times Unoccu-	pled (A)		ĸ	35	28
	ons Obser	Not Proc.	(NP)		53	52	56
	No. Persons Ob	Proc- Not	(4)		179	151	134
	:	Unit Patient Census			9	18	10
		Lockheed Ref. No.			5	102	103
	Hospi tal	Station Lockheed Unit Pro Identi- Ref. No. Census	rication		First	Second	Third
A Francisco	diries .	Nursing Unit		5,	Medical/Surgical	Medical/Surgical	Medical/Surgical

0 = doctor, N = ginumes, C = cler

Table C-7 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital S1 271

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Table C-8 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital S2

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•		Combined	Staff at Station- Percent	Processing	69	7.1	- 1,1,1	 	Z)	17	
		Percent		oration	75	36	82		80	81	
		Combined Combined Percent	Staff Proc.	oration	1.39	1.58	30		.01	90.	
	*	Combined	Staff (D+N+C) at	Station	2.00	2.21	, [Q		.11	.34	
·	Staffing*	Est.		at onn	5.57	6.08	215	_ / J	1.73	2.44	
		Doctors at Unit-	Est. from D/N Ratio	<u>a</u>	5.	8.	27	5	- 26	.37	
		Nursing Staff Attendance at	Unit (Av. 1st and 2nd Shifts)	ຍ	.71	.81		}	0	0	
	,	Nursing Staff Attendance at	Unit (A	×	4.10	4.47	(; AR	(2.00	1.47	2.07	
		Number	of Times Station Observed	-	318	318	318	318	318	318	
		ions	⋖		1148	.151	.151	.951	. 881	047.	
·		Ratios Observed at Stations	ά		.153	.132	.140	960.	.021	.074	
	tons	Observed	ρı		769.	-716	. Lo8	.012	760.	.186	
	Observations	tations	Total (P+NP+A)		747	828	514	388	389	1719	
		Ubserved At Stations	Times Unoccu-	€	1	125	232	369	31,3	310	
		sons Obse	Not (NP)		11,	977	72	77	8	31	
		No. Persons O	Proc- essing (P)		25	593	210	72	38	78	
		:	Lockheed Patient Ref. No. Census		2	2	g 2)		' '		
	<u> </u>		Lockheed Ref. No.		868	69	019	707	702		1000
		Hospital	Station Identi- fication	_	Hourth	FREE	(Second	(Floor	First D Floor	ш	0.00
in Patricke, kara et en 1990 i Siephyspillus pekar	misji.	*říje	ំបទ ឲ្យជ	-a. (Pod /	/Surg	& Gyn	Ž.	Farrency & Gentral Sup	Operating Rm. & Rec. Rm	2
			Nursing Unit		Mana Mad/Surg/Pad	Womens Med/Surg	(Obstetrics & Gyn	(Nursery	A Du a du a du a du a	Operating	L.A.

*D = doctor, N = nurse, C = clerk

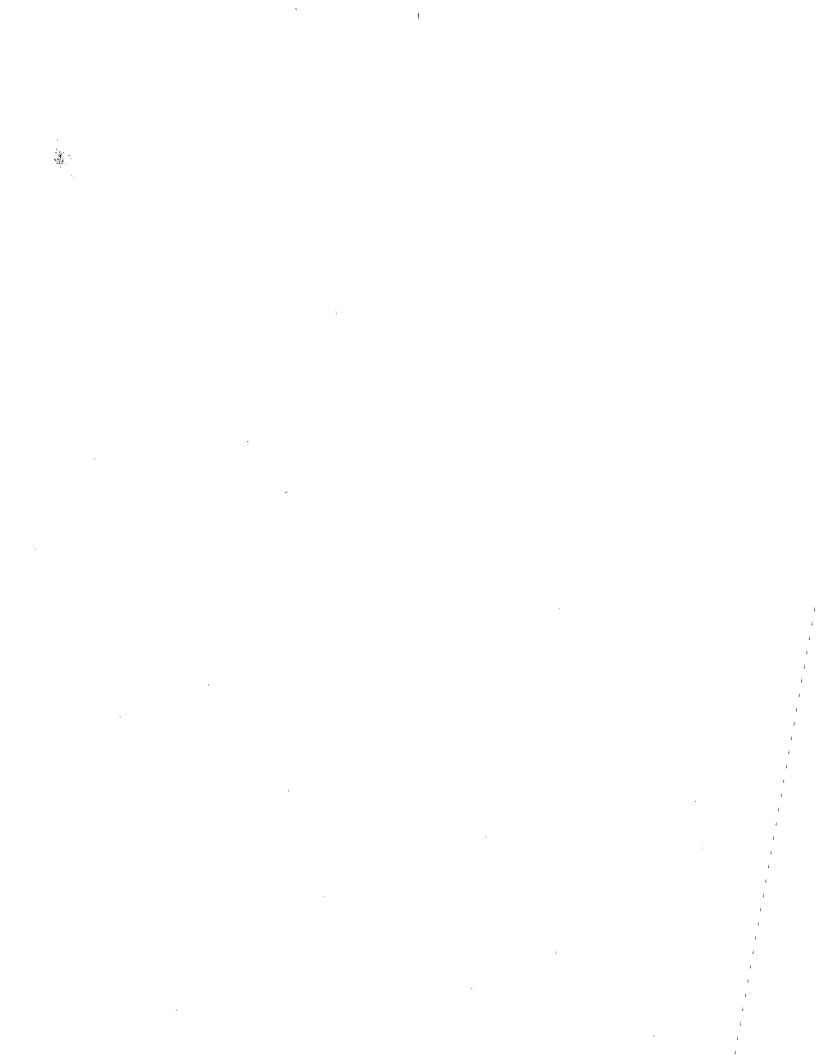
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Table C-9 Work Sampling Summary – Hospital S3

No. Persons Observed At Stations No. Persons Observed At Stations Not Proc- Not Unccur- Protal Proc Unccur- Print Protal Proc Unccur- Print Prin	Lockheed Pat. Ref. No. Cen.	_=			J	Observations	Suc						U 2	Staffing*				
Station Lockheed Unit Proc- Not Times Total Identi- Ref. No. Census (PP) (NP) Pied (P+NP+A) Pied (NP) Pied (P+NP+A) Pied (NP) Pied	Lockheed Pat. Ref. No. Cen.	<u> </u>	o. Person	ß Observ€	ad At St		Ra Observed	Ratios Observed at Stations	ons	Number	Nursing Staff Attendance at	taff Do	Doctors at Unit-	Est. C	ombined (Complined	Percent	Combined
Tication (F) (NP) pied (A) (NP) c (A) (NP) pied (A)		1t 1ent eg	roc-	Not		Total P+NP+A)	4	ΝP	¥	of Times Station	Unit (Av. 1st Est. Combined Stail and 2nd Shifts) from D/N (D-N+C) at	1st hifts) fr	Est. C	Staff (D+N+C)	Stair Proc. at	Staff at	(D+N+C) Proc. Staff Station—at at at
0 R 101 57 42 147 246 E R 102 160 50 90 300		}		(NP)				* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Observed	×	5	(D)	t Unit S	tation	Station	Station	Percent Processing
6 R 102 57 42 147 246			-	-		_					-	 	_					
E R 102 - 160 50 90 300		!	57	1,2	147	246	.23	.170	.597	252	2.63	-07	.34	3.04	.39	.08	12	50
	102		160	50	90	30	:53	.166	30	252	1.20	.07	.15	1.42	.83	:43	58	51
<u>IGU/CGU</u> ACU 103 2 161 37 86 284 56	103		191	37	98	287	55.	-11	30	252	1.26	.07	.16	1.19	.78	.13	52	55
Medical S W 10h 15 242 53 70 365 .66	10h	15	242	53	70	365	8.	.145	.19	252	1.76	-07	.22	2 05	1.17	777	53	90
Surgical N W 105 15 363 50 39 452 80	105	15	363	50	39	152	8	F.	980.	252	2.26	.07	.29	2.62 1.24	1.24	-66	17	80

*D = doctor, N = marse, C = clerk



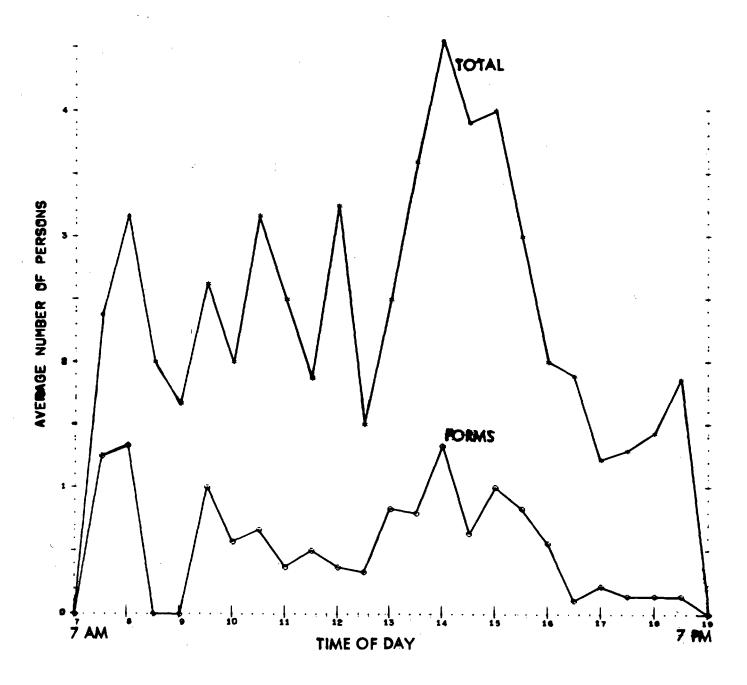


Fig. C-1 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Medical Unit Nursing Station

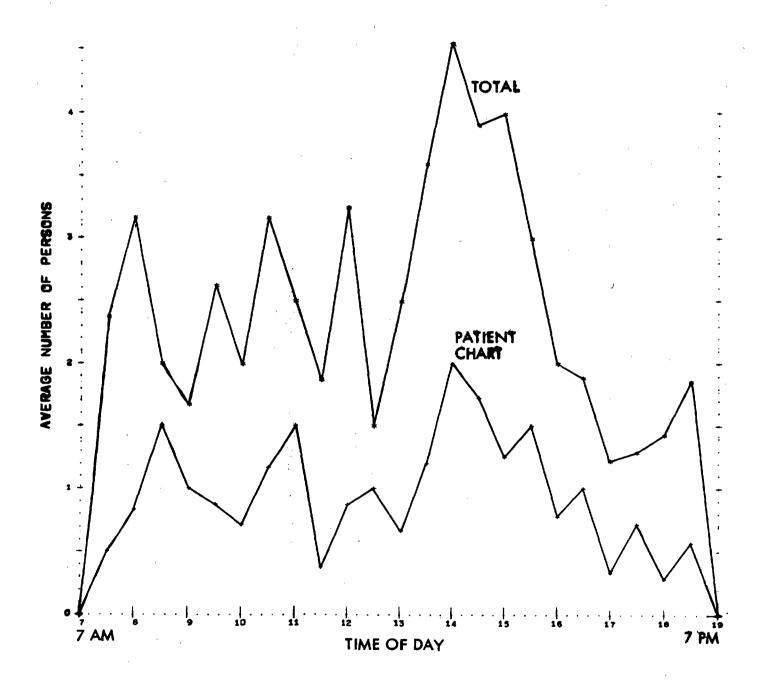


Fig. C-2 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Medical Unit Nursing Station

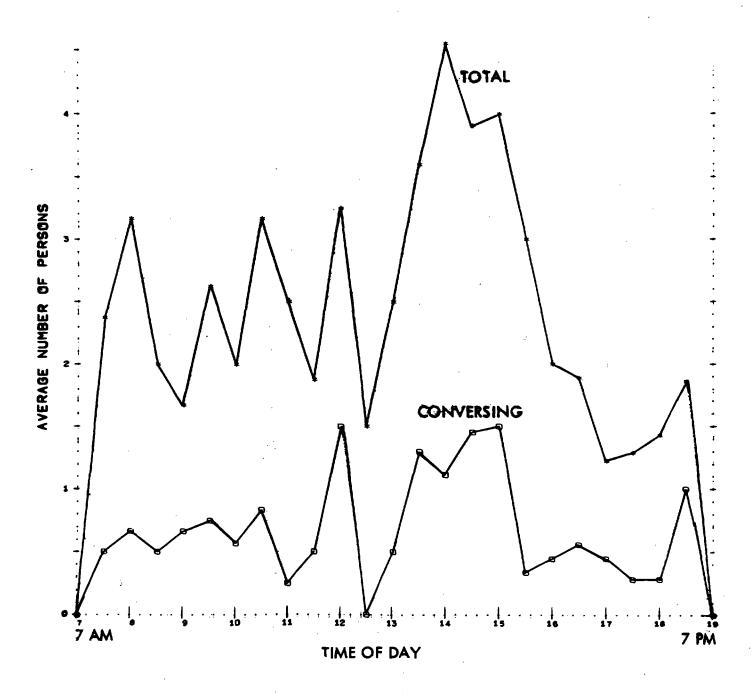


Fig. C-3 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Medical Unit Nursing Station

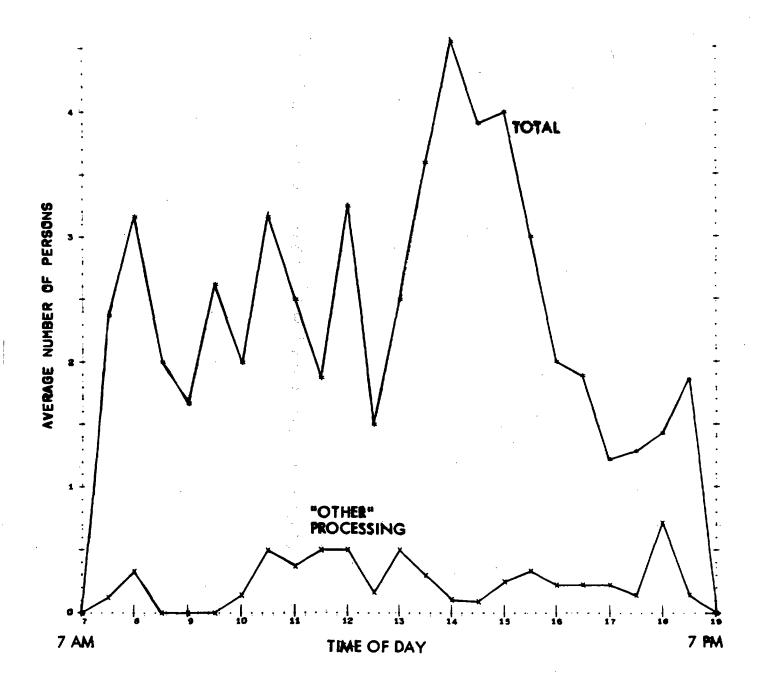


Fig. C-4 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Medical Unit Nursing Station

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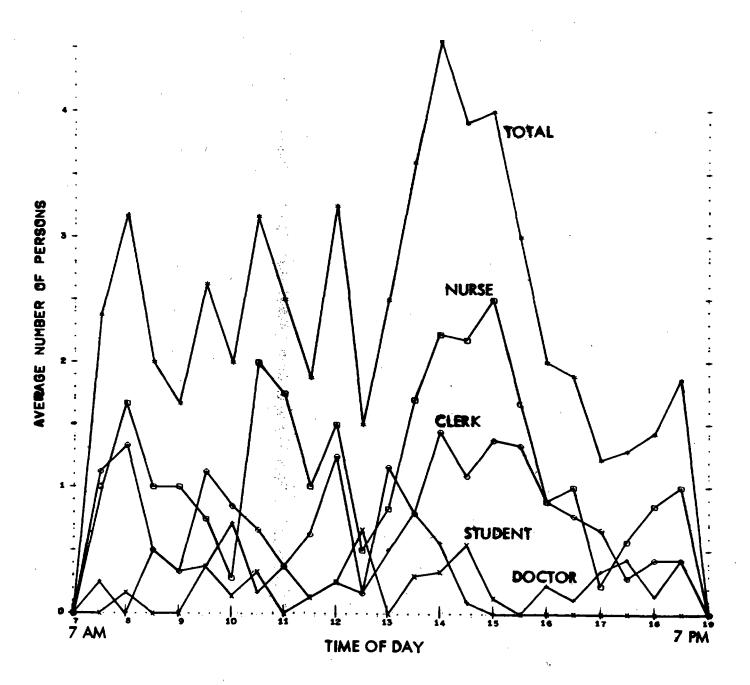


Fig. C-5 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Medical Unit Nursing Station

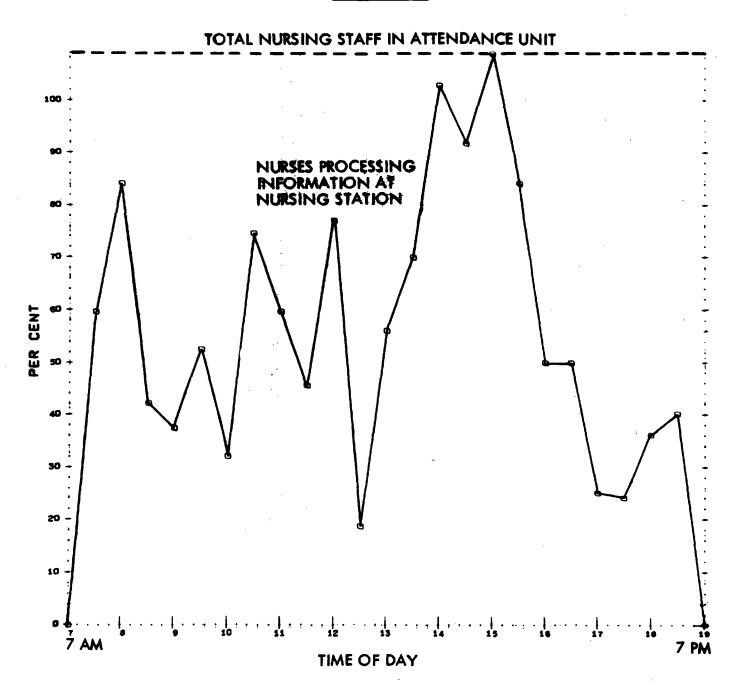


Fig. C-6 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information — Medical Unit Nursing Station

TOTAL INFORMATION PROCESSED

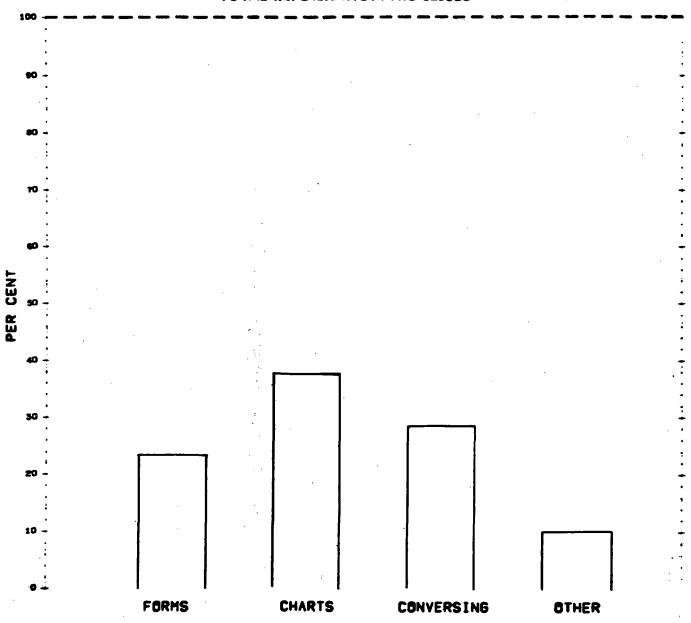


Fig. C-7 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Medical Unit Nursing Station

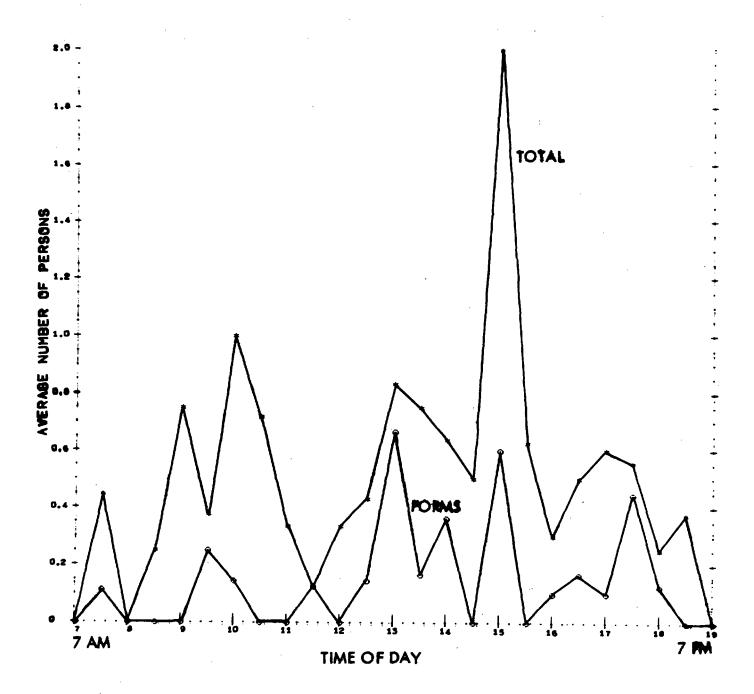


Fig. C-8 Ratio of Forms Processing to Total Information Processing - Intensive Care Unit Nursing Station

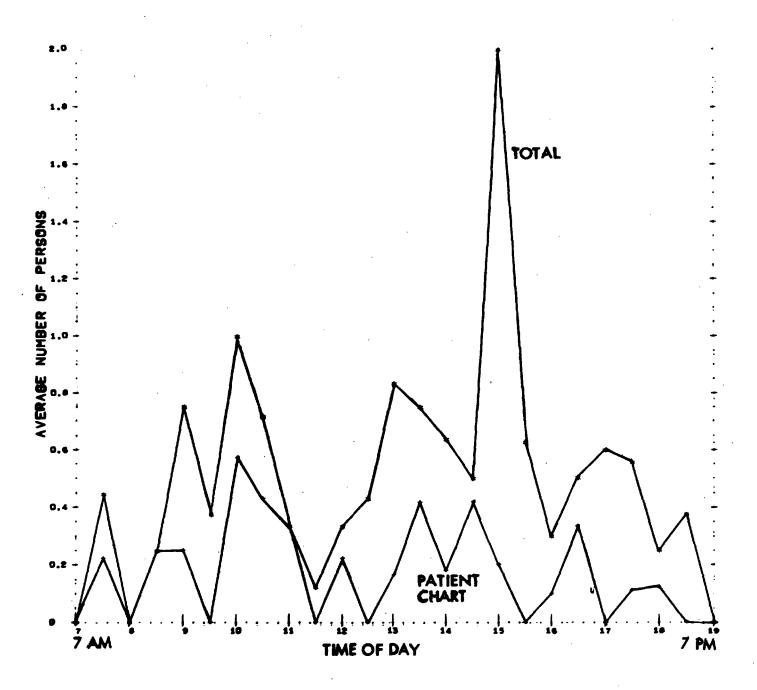


Fig. C-9 Ratio of Chart Processing to Total Information Processing - Intensive Care Unit Nursing Station

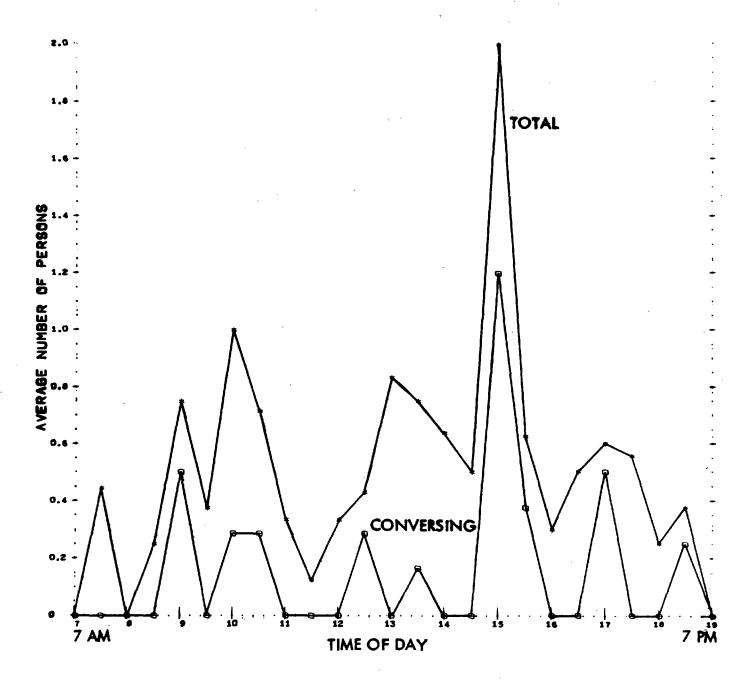


Fig. C-10 Ratio of Conversing to Total Information Processing - Intensive Care Unit Nursing Station

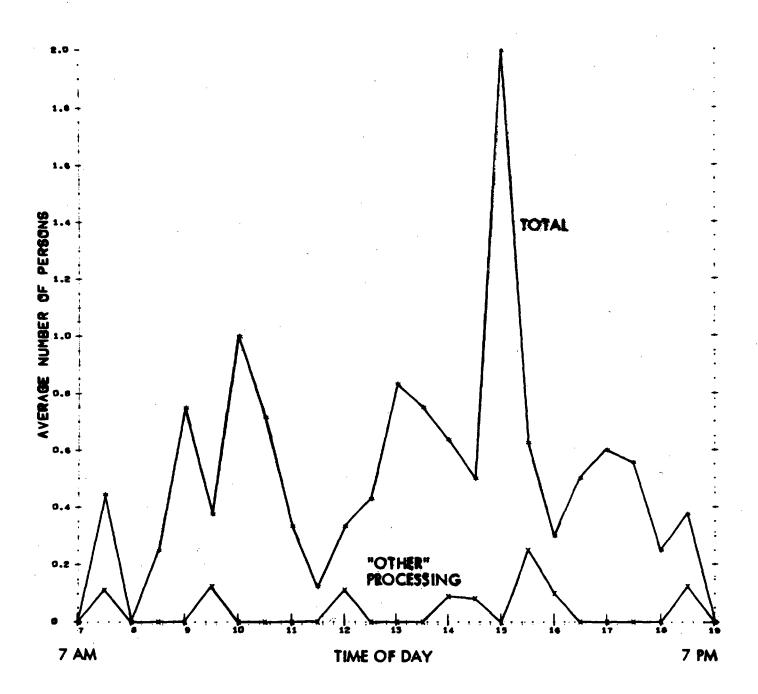


Fig. C-11 Ratio of "Other" Processing to Total Information Processing - Intensive Care Unit Nursing Station

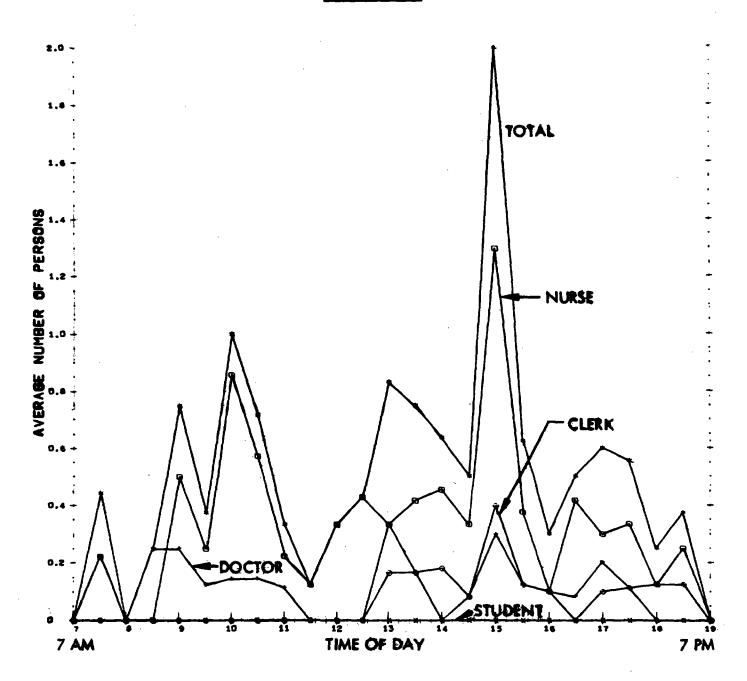


Fig. C-12 Comparison by Skill Levels of Personnel Processing to Total Information Being Processed - Intensive Care Unit Nursing Station

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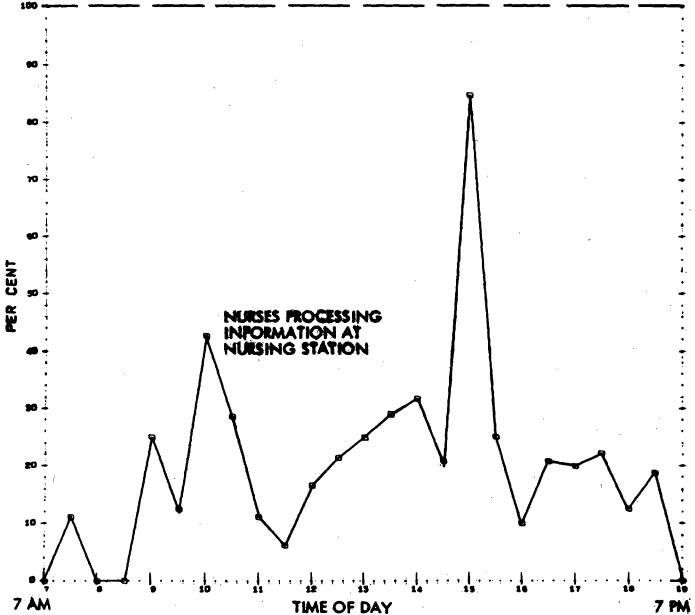


Fig. C-13 Percentage of Nursing Staff Processing Information – Intensive Care Unit Nursing Station

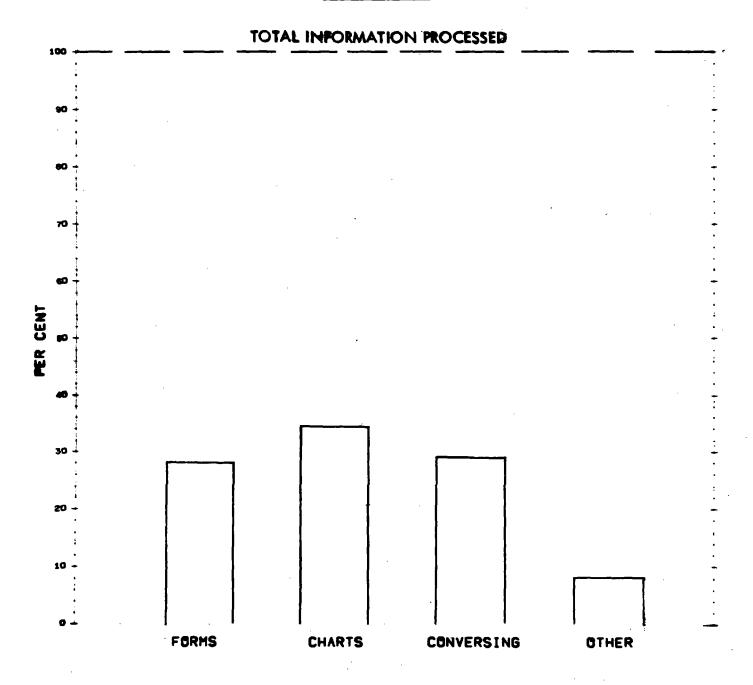


Fig. C-14 Relative Percentages of Types of Information Processed - Intensive Care Unit Nursing Station

Appendix D FORMS PROCESSING FLOW CHARTS

The flow process charts in this appendix are representative for the forms used in the hospitals studied. All the forms are not necessarily used in any particular hospital; however, the needs of any hospital ranging in size from under 100 beds to over 300 beds can be accommodated by the forms represented here. These flow process charts indicate the handling of the form within the nursing station and the time required for such processing.

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NO. 2e - 2f LOCKHEED MISSILES & SPACE COMPANY PAGE 2 OF 2 **FLOW PROCESS CHART** PRESENT PROPOSED DIFFERENCE Eight Hour and Twenty-Four Intake and HO. TIME HO. TIME BO. TIME O OPERATIONS Output Pecord MAN OR MATERIAL - TRANSPORTATIONS | IMSPECTIONS At Mursin: Station CHART BEGINS D PELATS At Nursin Station CHART ENDS V STORAGES CHARTED BY DATE DISTANCE TRAVELLED CAMPIO (PATE ----ments ====== -PIARLOTT CLIMINATE DETAILS OF (PRESENT) METHOD DETAILS OF (PRESENT PROPOSED) METHOD 114 1111 1 Delay during Patient's Dolay until end of stay Eight Hour Shift OODO $\emptyset \Diamond \Box \Box \nabla$ 54 Nurse repeats Steps 13 Form with Patient's through 17 as described Chart sent to Medical 4 above Records when we ignt leaves. $\bigcirc \bigcirc \square \bigcirc \bigcirc$ $\bigcirc \bigcirc \Box \bigcirc \nabla$ 6 Delay until events which $\bigcirc \bigcirc \Box \bigcirc \bigcirc$ require recording occur OODD8. Hrs $\emptyset \Diamond \Box \Box \Box \nabla$ 4.5 • Nurse repeats steps 7 D-1.7 through 11 as described N - 11.7 above OODD24 Hrs 10 , Delay until end of $\bigcirc \Diamond \Box \Box \nabla$ D-1.7 Eight Hour Shift N -21.3 $\emptyset \Diamond \Box \Box \Box \nabla$ OODO1.5 13 Nurse totals columns on Form at end of eight Φ₽□□▽ 14 hour shift Φ₽□□▽ Ø⊅□D▽ 1.5 16 Nurse transcribes eight hour totals to twenty- $00\square\square$ " four record in patient 17 ΦΦ□D▽ OODD18 $\mathfrak{A} \square \square \square \square$ OOD1.7 19 19 Nurse discards Form after rosting totals to $\mathbb{O} \mathbb{O} \square \mathbb{O} \triangle$ 20 Form in Patient's Ca 5.4 22 22 Nurse totals three $\emptyset \Diamond \Box \Box \nabla$ columns of eight hour 23 entries for a 24 hour total on Form 25 Cycle reneated daily untilDoctor cancels ss InTake and Output order

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Appendix E HOSPITAL COMMITMENT TO COMPUTER USAGE

Details of the survey made of computer-assisted hospital information systems are given in this appendix. The survey covers installations at six different hospitals.

Appendix E

HOSPITAL COMMITMENTS TO COMPUTER USAGE

E.1 HOSPITAL A

E.1.1 Background

This short term 247-bed children's general hospital provides inpatient, outpatient, and emergency services for infants, children, and adolescents. It reports 14,501 admissions annually, an average census of 214 patients or approximately 86.6 percent occupancy. Of the 570 personnel employed, approximately 150 are assigned to the nursing service.

Since this is the only pediatric hospital in its city, it is involved in the provision of care to the majority of the sick or injured children. This is reflected in the high admission rate for a hospital of its size, and in the high utilization of the emergency room.

This hospital is approved by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, and a also for pediatric internships and residencies by the American Medical Association. It maintains a pathology laboratory, pharmacy, physical therapy service, premature nursery, outpatient department, emergency room, postoperative recovery room, social work department and auxiliary as adjuncts to the general medical and surgical services for all types of problems presented by infants through teenage.

E.1.2 Background of the System Development

In 1961, Hospital A and IBM Advanced Systems Development Division collaborated in a work sampling study of information processing by nurses. The outcome of this



collaboration effort was an assumption that a significant portion of the nurses clerical activity* could be automated.

As a result of this study, an IBM Control System (1710) was installed in the lower floor of the hospital. This system consists of a 1711 Converter, a 1712 Multiplexer, and 1311 random access storage units linked to an IBM 1620 computer. The system operates from stored program control. Fifteen input devices (1053 and 1092) are in use at the present time.

E.1.3 Features of the System

A major feature of the system is the "audit trail," which prints out a daily program utilization list. This list provides the EDP department with a daily summary of the frequency that programs are requested. In addition, printouts of all admitting laboratory tests performed by the autoanalyzers are provided for all newly admitted patients. Other programs include input processing of admitting/census, laboratory tests, ordering, conversion tables (weights from pounds to kilograms), monthly scheduling of nursing personnel, bi-weekly scheduling of all student nurses from the six different diploma programs, a listing of patients by units and by physician, patient condition reports, and dietary lists from each floor kitchen.

Data processing personnel include two systems analysts, eight programmers, and two keypunch operators.

Nursing station features of the system include the following:

• Laboratory Test Requests, which include an identifying number for use in the manual reporting that completes the cycle, and the manual input of "hold meal" instructions during fasting tests.

^{*} The nursing staff was defined as inclusive of head nurses, registered nurses, ward secretary, licensed practical nurses, and students of professional and licensed practical nursing.

Clerical activities were considered as functions of "information acquisition, original recording, referencing, oral exchange, transmittal, and maintenance."

- <u>Diet Kitchen Listings</u> for the three meals served, including NPO, hold diets, and identification of isolation patients by "C" (contagious) and "I" (infectious).
- Admitting/Census for the entire hospital and for each floor. This includes condition reports (satisfactory, critical, poor, and serious) available by days, afternoons, or nights. Discharge reports automatically* cancel special diets.

E.1.4 Appraisal of the System

In view of the numerous system modifications resulting from programming constraints and hardware capabilities, this system is performing limited services for the information handling requirements. However, there are plans to implement a number of programs, particularly in the areas of staffing and patient master records.

Innovations. As a result of a recent evaluation of the system, staffing patterns will be changed. A new position has been created, that of clerk-manager, who essentially consolidates the functions previously performed by the ward secretary, unit manager, and other nonnurse concepts at the nursing station. In general, the clerk-manager processes information at the terminal and provides assistance to parents who require information about hospital policies. In addition, the clerk manager coordinates many of the interfaces between dietary, laboratory, radiology, and other departments.

Shift Differences. Descriptions of the on-going programs indicate that there are differences in information processing between the days, evening, and night shifts.

E.1.5 Perceived Advantages and Limitations of the System

Users who responded to questions related to the impact of the system indicated that they had adapted themselves to the available functions. Day staff nurses appeared to rely on the unit clerks and clerk-managers for assistance in the use of the terminals.

^{*}Lockheed Missiles & Space Company, Documentation of Sample Observations, LMSC-689260, Sunnyvale, Calif., 18 Mar 1969 (Special report to Project Officer, National Center for Health Services Research and Development)



Their responses were less consistent in relation to involvement of the personnel in the operation. Most felt that there were no problems with maintenance of the equipment, although a clerk-manager stated she would call to tell the IBM maintenance man if machine ribbons required changing.

A significant comment related to state-of-the-art was elicited from a head nurse who stated that in the early stages the medication system was too complicated and thus discarded. Others referred to the medication system as a possible source of error that required more detailed programming than envisioned at the outset. A corollary to the medication system is the formula system for bottle-fed infants. This, too, appeared to have implementation problems, but an 8-hour printout of formulas due is being provided and used. Discarded from the formula system were printouts of formulas due for the next hour (due to lack of use of more frequent hard copy printout). The major value of the system at the present time is the patient locator service provided by the admitting/census report program. Slow response time, however, appears to be a major limitation of the system configuration.

Nurses interviewed indicated that the system has required duplication of laboratory test requests and dietary updating, and has thus required more time. Reduction of paperwork appears to have been minimal. "Stat" work must still be telephoned in, and hold diets must still be manually coded into the system by the night nurse. There may be a value in terms of locating laboratory orders, but in general the system does not reduce the information processing requirement at the nursing station.

An interesting comment related to the potential of the system was obtained from an interview. "A profile of the patient would be nice — using the machine completely instead of charting."

This, in summary, reflects the system potential which appears to be the outstanding feature of the existing service at Hospital A. With the exception of a printout of results obtained from the autoanalyzer, the entire patient's master record is in manual form.

E.2 HOSPITAL B

E.2.1 Background

This long-established hospital, founded in 1822, performs inpatient, outpatient, day care, educational, and research functions related to psychiatric patients. For the year 1966-67, it reported a total of 967 persons treated, averaged 545 admits, and 502 discharges. Forty-eight persons were identified as "stationary." The daily average in-residence population was reported as 391.1, and the maximum daily census for the year was 401 individuals. Approximately one-third of these patients are teenage patients.

This hospital provides residency training for physicians specializing in general psychiatry, child psychiatry, and clinical neurology. In addition, special programs are provided for nursing supervisors, nursing instructors and charge nurses, and student nurses from 11 undergraduate programs. The 276 personnel of the nursing staff possess varying backgrounds, ranging from supervisor to psychiatric aides, and represents about one-half of the total hospital staff.

E. 2. 2 Background of the System Development

For the past three years (1965-68), Hospital B has achieved recognition through the development of its computer project. The National Institute of Mental Health funded the development of a "complete communication system" with the goal of utilizing a central computer with input/output terminals. Batch-processed nursing notes and other entries to the patient record were the main source of data during the early research phase.

At present, a million-dollar grant from Travelers Insurance Company is expected to assist in the provision of Bunker-Ramo terminals for on-line retrieval of logistic information and psychological evaluations of patient status. The off-line Automated Nursing Note is still in use and is also being tried at two state hospitals as well as the



psychiatric floors of two general hospitals in the vicinity of Hospital B. Further plans include the use of the Automated Nursing Note by the U.S. Army at Walter Reed General Hospital. A factor which greatly assisted the increasing acceptance of the mark-sense form is the approval of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of the signed printout summary of patient behaviors, which is available every 24 hours through batch processing.

E. 2.3 Appraisal of the System

For a period of almost a year, the users were required to perform double charting. During this period revisions were frequently accomplished in order to provide a form which ultimately employed a common terminology and approached the description of patient behavior. A detailed explanation of computers and data processing techniques were ultimately required for optimal system use by the staff.

Factors involved in development and use of the mark-sense forms were as follows:

- Observer reliability
- Length of time needed to complete the forms
- Development of a common data base
- Training and evaluation of the nursing staff

The optical scanning device, equipped with fiber optics and punch operation, will also accept addressograph and multigraph imprints. It is programmed to reject forms if they are incomplete in any way.

E. 2.4 Perceived Advantages and Disadvantages of the System

Other than the automated notes, there are no other system requirements processed through the computer. Thus the test requests, medications, and census listing found in other systems are omitted at Hospital B.

On the other hand, the education of the personnel through this developmental system is providing users with a deeper understanding of the computer's potential.

The mark-sense form itself is considered to be an excellent means of achieving immediate recall of numerous categories of information often omitted from the record of a psychiatric patient. In a brief time period, one may review words and phrases* related to any of the following 15 representative parameters of behavior:

- Personal habits
- Social behavior
- Verbalization
- Appearance
- Social interaction
- Intellectual behavior
- Sleeping and eating habits
- Mood
- Unit relationship
- Attitude
- Vital signs
- Activities
- Privileges
- Treatments
- Somatic difficulties

Descriptions of miscellaneous behavior characteristics may also be provided.

^{*}Lockheed Missiles & Space Company, <u>Documentation of Sample Observations</u>, LMSC-689260, Sunnyvale, Calif., 17 Mar 1969 (special report to Project Officer, National Center for Health Services Research and Development).

E.3 HOSPITAL C

E.3.1 Background

This short and long term 3,000-bed hospital provides inpatient, outpatient, and emergency service for citizens of a major city and any other individual requiring care. The annual admitting rate reported is 104,638 and there is an average occupancy of 2,224 (or about 78 percent). Of the 5,608 personnel employed, approximately 2,900 are assigned to nursing service.

Since the services of this hospital are provided for anyone who seeks care regardless of ability to pay, the problems of county responsibility for continuing care impinge upon the services provided. Tracking of the care provided to the patients followed by their referral to other agencies has significant implications for data processing of the hospital records.

The hospital is certified by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospitals, and, in collaboration with a major university, conducts an internship and residency program approved by the American Medical Association. Clarification of the organizational structure of county health services may be found in previously supplied preliminary documentation.* It may be noted that these include an extensive rehabilitation program and will provide a modern, automated hospital information system when another hospital is constructed in a depressed region of the city about 1971.

E.3.2 Background of the System Development

In 1968, Hospital C conducted a nursing system feasibility study. Rules were established, as specified by the Hospital Computer Center, to designate the system and subsystems of the nursing department. The rules document the program, file, report, and procedures within the nursing system*.

^{*}See reference p. E-4.

At about the same time, two computer projects were in process of evolution: (1) A county hospital system using an IBM 360/40 on lease; (2) a university drug utilization study using an IBM 360/40 on a rental basis. Descriptions of the system designs* are to be completed.

This EDP system is being developed in three stages. The first stage, now in progress, is an on-line admitting program. At present, it contains two million names in patient files. A DOS/indexed sequential file retrieval system has been tested. Data cells and "Faster Coding" (Gentry) will be used. The hardware is IBM 360/40 with a 128K CPU and a series of remote terminals being installed in admitting and pharmacy. These terminals will be IBM 2260 CRT's and 2740 printers.

The concept of the data bank of patient files is evolving and both vertical and parallel modules will be used. Thus, not only will data abstracts be available at Hospital C, but also to other hospitals in the country.

In stage two, all service areas of Hospital C will be on-line with direct communication to a larger CPU with more random access storage.

The third stage will be the completion of the total system including all nine county hospitals.

E.3.3 Features of the System

<u>Printouts.</u> At the university pilot unit, printouts are generated on request for census, diet census by room, and medication cards, as follows:

- Census Including identification data, admitting data, file number, age, sex, race, service, condition*.
- <u>Diet Census by Room</u> Including color coding by service every four hours when meals are served between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.*

^{*}See reference p. E-4.

 Medication Cards - Including name of patient, patient file number, drug, dose, route, frequency and expiration date*. Kardex inserts are also provided for use of nurses.

Also in process is an experimental development of gummed-back medication tickets to be used in liew of medication cards and provided with a printout of the order for the chart.

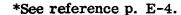
At Hospital C, printouts are generated for ward reports describing the movement of patients for a 24-hr period*. This is updated manually by clerk on nursing service (using red ballpoint pen) at any time of day. These are picked up periodically throughout the day for computer update.

Nursing Systems Coordination. A course is being conducted by the Nursing Systems Coordinator assigned by nursing service to the project. The curriculum includes basic terminology and discussion of approaches to computer usage appropriate to nursing.

In addition, the role is one of clarifying the decision-making responsibility of the RN* in relation to drug administration. In essence, the RN is serving as a resource person to other nursing team members, as well as to the data processing and research personnel.

E.3.4 Appraisal of the System

There are two distinct projects underway at Hospital C. On the 80-bed pilot unit, a clerk performs data processing inputs. This experimental project is being conducted on a Medical Surgical Unit under a Public Health Service Drug Study grant. There has been a reduction of paper handling in relation to the delivery of medications only — since hand copying of the Kardex and nurses notes relative to medications and medicine tickets are no long necessary. During the study phase, parallel record keeping has been required and increased staffing has been provided on the pilot ward





only. The record keeping thus far appears to have affected only the functions of the ward clerk whose responsibilities are directed to terminal operations and processing of physicians medication and diet orders. According to the interviewees, the ward clerk (or terminal operator) is the primary interface for inputs and outputs on medications, diet lists, and end-of-shift reports. In general, information processing by nurses has not been affected markedly at this point.

The developing system is seen by all interviewees as one that all personnel are encouraged to become more accurate in reporting.

E.3.5 Perceived Advantages and Disadvantages of the System

Users who have been working with the system feel that they need a high-speed printer. In addition, some suggest that data processing background is important to participation in the project. In that nurses discuss problems directly with programmers, a system is developing which will have practical use and is presumably patient-care oriented. This factor was strongly emphasized by all interviewees at Hospital C ("Computer people and nursing staff worked together from the very beginning.").

In summary, attitudes of "cooperation, thoughtfulness, creativeness and feelings of accomplishment" have been developed and prevail on the pilot unit at the university and the data processing group at the county hospital.

E.4 HOSPITAL D

E.4.1 Background

This 200-bed hospital, opened in Mar 1968, admits approximately 8,933 patients annually. It reports an average daily census of 189 patients and an estimated 87.08 percent occupancy, with a large emergency outpatient service. Of the 466 personnel employed, 227 are assigned to mursing service.

E.4.2 Background of the System Development

In collaboration with the Medelco Company, Hospital D's staff began to test the system in 1964 while still in their old hospital. As the requirements were established, nurses, Flexowriter operators, and clerks were provided with information on the use of the system and were involved in its development. Thus, when the new hospital was opened with the terminals installed, all personnel were thoroughly familiar with its operation. The acceptance date of the system was July 1, 1968 (on a five year lease). Clerks were trained to perform the flexowriter function.

E.4.3 Features of the System

The Medelco system is a data collection system utilizing edge-punched cards, card readers, printers, and a solid state specially designed computer. Source cards contain patient identification data prepared by Flexowriter (one for every newly admitted patient), and requests for medications, laboratory tests, and other hospital services. These are all stored at the nursing station. As services are requested (by written request of the physician), cards are selected by the clerk who sequentially inserts them into the card reader. The message is disseminated to the receiving department and printed out within 25 seconds or less. An arrow on the cards indicates the correct position of the edge punch for its interpretation by the computer.

Although there are approximately 5,000 cards filed in logical sequence at each nursing station, the personnel appear to have adapted to this system quite comfortably. This



is no doubt due to their involvement in its development. The cost figures are not available; however, when the interfacing device is perfected and a larger memory can be provided, it is felt that this will be an economical system.

An additional feature of the system as it was demonstrated at Hospital D was soundproofing of the printers accomplished by placing them in boxes lined with carpet material.

Telephone calls for service as well as messenger services have been markedly reduced. Plans for expansion include tying in a 100-bed extended-care facility to the memory.

E.4.4 Appraisal of the System

There are limitations to the flexibility of the system, particularly in relation to reporting on the patient's progress. Thus, it is management-oriented and as such has a definite value in reducing the tedious clerical activities associated with processing orders.

E.4.5 Perceived Advantages and Disadvantages of the System

The system is an attempt to minimize clerical activities (tests and supplies) at nursing stations. As such, it is successful. It is not directed to the problem of the patient's chart, and therefore is extremely limited in the service provided. There are plans to expand Medelco's system, but work in this area was not evident.

E.5 HOSPITAL E

E.5.1 Background

This 352-bed hospital provides impatient, outpatient, and emergency service. The annual admitting rate is 12,245 patients per year, an average census of 254, and an estimated 81.4 percent occupancy. Of the 686 personnel employed, 250 are assigned to nursing service.



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E.5.2 Background of the System Development

The development of a computer system began as a joint research project with a major university and was ultimately to include five hospitals on a shared basis. Hypotheses were established in order to test the validity of the approach being used. The assumptions were that a base must be established with source data derived from the patient, thus necessitating a series of new formats for data collection.

A design for a proposed computer-assisted total hospital system was prepared in 1966*. The concept of the sequential doctor's and nurse's updates was feasible with the capability of the Control Data Corporation's Digiscribe. The formatting of displays was developed with committees of physicians and nurses working as teams.

E.5.3 Features of the System

The Digiscribe terminal was located at the center of a T-shaped desk, with peripheral equipment adjacent to the area in a completely separate room. The pilot unit is in the coronary care area and includes a panel of closed-circuit television screens and electrocardiograph oscilloscope monitors. Thus, a unique feature of the system was that it combined the capability of visual observation of all patients and their cardiac status with on-line reporting of specific observations about them through the use of the Digiscribe cathode ray tube terminal.

Significant to the Hospital E information system was the fact that hypotheses were being tested* and the user requirements were being established by the physicians and nurses on the pilot unit. These individuals met at weekly intervals with a view toward organizing displays of descriptive terminology as related to the functions identified in the preliminary documentation.* A problem orientation was being used, such as "pain," "anatomical location," "nature of," etc. Specifically, the groups were organized as committees identified as follows:

- Pilot Station Medical Research Committee
- Pilot Station Nursing Research Committee

^{*}See reference p. E-4.

The Medical Research Committees included both nurses and physicians, and were working on subtopics entitled:

- Research
- Observations
 - Progress notes
 - Nursing notes
 - History and physical
- Physician orders
- Problem-oriented chart
- Emergency room

The Nursing Research Committees worked on the following:

- Joint Hospital reporting requirements (another nearby hospital was also represented on this committee)
- Fluids and emotional problems
 - Input and output
 - Expectoration
 - Cough
 - Mental/emotional status
- Symptoms and medications

The pilot 26-bed unit on which the automation effort was developed included a number of other experimental features such as drapes, carpets, beds, and monitors.

A clerk was employed to perform the tasks of transcribing many of the manual requirements of the system. In addition, a pilot nursing notes form developed for ultimate computer application was in use in manual form.*

^{*}See reference p. E-4.

E.5.4 Appraisal of the System

The use of a research approach with problem orientation appeared to have provided a sound basis for the development of excellent working relationships between physicians and nurses. In this project, a realistic and practical concept for optimizing the computer capability had been partially implemented. Economic and other considerations severely limited those working on system development. As a result, the project was to be transferred to another area of the country.

E.5.5 Perceived Advantages and Disadvantages of the System

Users were attempting to resolve the problem of organizing data through a highly acceptable plan. Due to the lack of commitment at the administrative level, there were severe limitations placed upon the continuation and expansion of the system.

E.6 HOSPITAL F

E.6.1 Background

This 58-bed hospital provides comprehensive care and rehabilitation for patients whose mobility and respiratory state is impaired due to long term disabilities from injury or illness. The average length of stay is 30 days. Supported by a grant from the Public Health Service, the staff is involved in an evaluation of computer systems for hospital use. Despite obvious dissimilarities, there are similarities between the long and short term hospitals in relation to admitting, patient-care management, and discharge. Using this rationale, Hospital F is attempting to pursue system development in terms of the process of patient care, clinical research, and hospital management.

E.6.2 Features of the System

The Hospital F Information System is supported by batch programs which provide daily, weekly, and monthly reports. It is being used primarily to test hypotheses related to:

- Obtaining current patient information from a data bank
- Collecting data for shift reports
- Updating information
- Switching messages between terminals to log laboratory test requests and reports

The system is operating through a university teleprocessing facility. Terminals are operating in a conversational mode to enter, display, modify, or delete records in Hospital F subfiles. Using the query technique, calculations and reports are also provided as requested.

A user guide* and attention to the problem of reliability and/or system failure appeared to be significant features. Of particular interest is the fact that users are not required to enter data, since this activity was seen to be a frustrating factor. Terminal operators were involved in the evolutionary phase of this hospital information system.

There is a real awareness of the pitfall of becoming completely dependent upon the computer for patient-care data. For example, manual backup is continued until the printout of the shift report has been received.

The activity plan (printout) provided includes the time, location, comment, by whom, and position of the patient, and is a Kardex insert for patient care at the present time.*

^{*}See reference p. E-4.

Continuing research conducted by the system staff of Hospital F is directed toward the following:

- Collection of cost information
- Time involved in collecting test results
- Telephone calls
- Frequency of appointment cancellations

These data, collected before the system is operational, will be compared with the measurements performed after the system has been introduced. In general, the system is still developing. There is a realistic awareness that:

- Many seemingly small considerations may determine success or failure regardless of technical feasibility
- Customizing of the system to user requirements will forestall its rejection

E.6.3 Perceived Advantages and Disadvantages of the System

The activity plan printout appeared to have been well planned and adapted to the therapy program of individual patients. Other ongoing services were not as readily perceived as reducing information handling at the nursing station. This may be attributed to the developmental nature of the system at Hospital F.

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Appendix F

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TERMINALS USED FOR LABORATORY TEST REPORTING

This appendix provides additional insight into the factors underlying selection of the Video Matrix Terminal for use in the total hospital information system described in Section 7 of the report.

Appendix F

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TERMINALS FOR LABORATORY TEST REPORTING

F.1 BACKGROUND

Laboratory test reporting is an important area for any hospital information system, although it is only peripherally associated with nursing station functions. The material presented here was extracted from an in-house analytical review of test reporting terminals. A terminal selection approach is presented in terms of a logical framework relating terminals to one another. Some familiarity with the types of terminals is assumed, and only brief descriptions of terminals and functions are included.

The selection of the optimum array of test reporting terminals should be the subject of a requirements study as detailed as this study of nursing stations. Therefore, the present analysis is limited — in scope and depth — to the experience and requirements of the medium-size short term hospital. The laboratories of such hospitals report some 100,000 tests per year or about 400 test results per working day. Reporting techniques, terminal selection, and terminal utility will be considered in the discussion which follows.

F.2 REPORTING TECHNIQUES

The purpose of any laboratory reporting technique is to present accurate information to the physician in a meaningful form. Two methods are commonly used to achieve this purpose:

- Reporting slips are completed in the laboratory and pasted in the patient's chart, usually in the order of receipt at the nursing division.
- Results of laboratory reports are transcribed into the patient's chart, either in the body of the progress narrative or on a consolidated laboratory sheet, by clerks, nurses, or house officers working at the nursing divisions.

In the first method, laboratory report sheets are not consistently posted in the chronological order of sample collection; both the incorrect sequences and physical separation render the slips difficult to interpret and correlate; further, the individual slips are subject to frequent loss. In many institutions, on completion of the patient's stay, the contents of the laboratory slips are transcribed onto a consolidated sheet and the original slips are discarded. In the second reporting method, the slips are transcribed to the chart on receipt at the nursing station. This transcription is performed in an uncontrolled environment, more often by clerks than by any other personnel, and transcriptions are subject to undetected error, primarily because of isolation from the information source.

It is presumed that in an automated hospital information system, the test reports will be computer-consolidated into a single laboratory report sheet or contiguous group of sheets so arranged as to facilitate comprehension.

One can make a good case for replacement of individual report slips with a computer-generated consolidated laboratory sheet. Even at the expense of an additional intra-laboratory transcription, the laboratory data transmission system via computer may represent net improvement in meaningful laboratory reporting. Concentrating all manual transcription in the laboratory is sure to improve accuracy relative to the second of the present methods because of proximity to the information source.

F.3 TERMINAL SELECTION

In the ensuing discussion several types of terminals will be considered as being representative of the variety of available devices. These are briefly defined here to avoid possible ambiguities.

teletypewriter – general purpose alphanumeric device with keyboard input and output via typescript at 100 to 180 words per minute.

Examples include the Telex model 33 and IBM 1052.



video keyboard – a typewriter keyboard associated with a cathode ray tube display capable of presenting alphanumeric characters.

Display rates are typically from 2,000 to 20,000 or more words per minute. Examples are the IBM 2260 and the CCI 300.

video matrix — a cathode ray tube display associated with a keyboard but usually operated directly by selection of words presented on the display screen, the selection mediated by any of several ways, including light pen, photoelectric beam interruption, or touch-sensing faceplates. Examples include the Lockheed Video Matrix and the CDC Digiscribe. This class specifically excludes the IBM Optical Image Terminal because of the limited branching capability associated with filmstrip display storage.

special keyboard — a mixed category, "special" indicating that these terminals are to be used for limited-scope reporting, as opposed to the teletype and video keyboard which can handle any scope of information. In general this class of terminal has three fields explicit or implicit (in addition to function controls) — patient identification, test identification, and reported values. Examples of this terminal include the BSL terminal and the IBM 1092.

mark-sense - recording using forms printed on paper or card stock with variable data entered by pencil or ink marking and interpretation by photo-optical or electroconductive sensing.

differential counter - representative of a class which might be called single-function keyboards, i.e., a keyboard designed for reporting of a single test. In addition to having single-key depressions enter a variable, a differential counter terminal may work in conjunction with the computer to accumulate and display totals from one or several keys.

direct interface - a terminal type that usually involves analog-to-digital or digital-to-digital conversion equipment and is used to

interface equipment such as the Coulter counter or the Technicon autoanalyzer directly to the computer without intermediate recording or transcription.

Keypunch is not included among the above terminals inasmuch as its use in the laboratory would generally require two data transcriptions.

In Fig. F-1, these terminal classes are cast into a reporting hierarchy; the specific devices are indicated by capital letters and the paths linking them by lower case letters. Reading from left to right, there is a trend from general use to specificapplication terminals, and any terminal shown may assume the functions of those below it and to the right. Examples of tests which might be efficiently reported using each terminal are suggested below the hierarchical structure. These devices fall clearly into two categories: broad aperture devices capable of reporting almost any kind of information, such as the teletypewriter, the video keyboard (VKB), and the video matrix (VMT); and narrow aperture devices, which are best adapted to reports requiring limited thesauri, such as the special keyboard (SKB), the mark-sense (MS), the differential counter (DC), and the direct interface (DI). The direct interface is an example of a terminal for which the thesaurus is in effect limited to preset or sequential test identification and digits reflecting the value of the test variable. Note also that reporting by the left side of the hierarchy is transcriptive and reporting by the right side is direct. In the differential counter the data are entered as generated and the reported information is developed by the computer; with the direct interface it is entered by direct conversion of test equipment readouts.

In Fig. F-1 the teletypewriter (TTY) is included both for historical completeness and because it is a highly useful device for generating test identity cards (TIC), a test request which includes identification. As is well-known, it is not a very good standalone reporting device. The prime criterion for a test identity card generator is that it must generate both man- and machine-readable documents, both in the laboratory and throughout the hospital. This criterion quickly narrows the selection of TIC generators to teletype devices. (Identity card readers eliminate manual transcription of repeated data, thus reducing errors.) The key relationships that establish

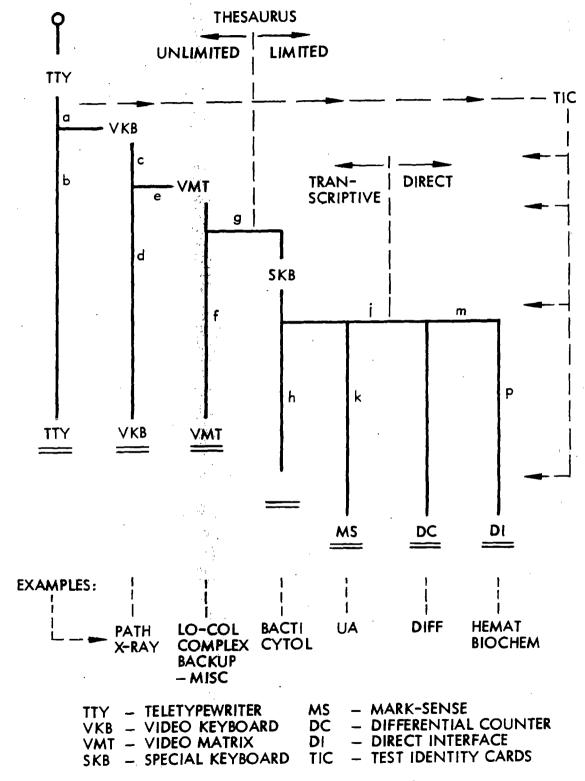


Fig. F-1 Test Reporting Hierarchy

the hierarchical structure are as follows: the teletypewriter (\$500 to \$1,500) is a universal input/output device which generates hard-copy output in a relatively slow manner. This encourages replacement of its output with a soft display, as on the video keyboard (\$4,000 to \$7,000), achieving thereby a ten to one-hundredfold increase in output rate, operational silence, and simplicity of input verification and correction. The video matrix terminal (\$10,000) has the attributes of the video keyboard but offers increased speed for reporting tests using limited reporting thesauri by operating in a word-selection mode. Many of the operator-training and computer-editing problems of the video keyboard and teletypewriters are minimized or eliminated. This is probably the most powerful terminal available. It is flexible, fast, accurate, easy to operate, and there must be a very good reason to justify branching along path g (Fig. F-1) to more specific terminals. The principal reasons for pursuing this path are not in the sphere of reporting speed or accuracy, at least for a small hospital. They are more in the sphere of economical physical dispersion of terminals, technician labor saving, and improved accuracy in test performance and result calculation.

The special keyboards may be produced for less than \$2,000 and therefore may be deployed throught the laboratory to accept results close to the test-performance site. Probably the best of the special keyboards yet developed is the IBM 1092, the functions of which can be altered by the use of plastic overlays. The limitation of the 1092 is that the keys in a given column are disjunctive and the simultaneous entry of multiple key depressions in the same column is impossible, thereby seriously constraining entry from some sites, e.g., microbiology or urinalysis. A very useful input device would accept multikey depressions in at least one major field.

In reporting capability, the mark-sense system is much like a single keymat-operated 1092 with substitution of pencil or ink marks for key depressions. Mark-sense readers are now available for under \$2,000. They are comparable to the special keyboard, but can use a single reader to handle data from widely scattered collection points merely by hand-carrying the cards. This is probably the least expensive method of data collection to be localized to the site of manually-performed tests. If mimeographed or printed cards are used for the mark-sense forms, the problem of changing card content is small and similar to that associated with altering the functions on

special keyboard keymats. If the mark-sense forms are generated by teleprinter or computer printer, changes may be inserted by software revisions alone.

As noted before, the above methods are transcriptive. Path j. in the hierarchy leads to the nontranscriptive on-line devices — the differential counter and the direct interface. In the direct interface category, the best example of digital-to-digital conversion is the Coulter counter, in which individual cells are counted photoelectrically and totaled. In the analog-to-digital interface with the Technicon autoanalyzers, the computer reads successive analog values from the spectrophotometers, extracts the slopes, selects the peaks reached for each variable, and converts to digits; manual curve reading and/or transcription of developed digits are eliminated. In the differential counter and the digital-to-digital example of the direct interface, the summation of observed cells on electronic versions of Veeder-Root counters and subsequent manual transcription is supplanted by direct reporting to the computer file after review and acceptance by a technologist.

F.4 TERMINAL UTILITY

In the community hospital there is little labor saving to be gained by replacing the video matrix with the special keyboard, since in those tests for which the SKB seems best suited the test volumes reported are small. The mark-sense reader may be attractive (particularly if the MS reader is already available for sample identification) for reporting items such as urinalsis, since urinalysis is usually a multi-station procedure and the card can follow the sample, storing data as it is generated and recorded. For a typical medium-size hospital (e.g., where 30 to 50 differential counts are performed daily), savings from a differential counter may be limited, since its prime utility is in totaling the cells reported. This counting activity is now being performed satisfactorily by mechanical devices; only the transcription of results (30 to 60 minutes/day) will be supplanted. This may be a meaningful saving if it can be recovered and is generated at low cost.

The quantities of data to be transcribed and calculated in the current noncomputerized implementations of the test groups that are the most likely candidates for direct

interface automation — hematology and biochemistry — are fairly significant. An hour would probably be required to transcribe by VMT the 100 biochemistry values per day from the autoanalyzer as raw data (eliminating manual calculation), review the computed results, and transmit the results to the patient record. In both test groups, automation reduces the opportunity for error. The more fundamental gain in the direct interface group is in the labor saving of actual test performance, but this gain is achieved by the autoanalyzers and Coulter counters without connection to an information system.

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