

CIVIC
1957

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE
SACRAMENTO

CAMARILLO STATE HOSPITAL
Camarillo, California

F. H. Garrett, M. D.
Superintendent and Medical Director

DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL PLANT AND LOCATION

Camarillo State Hospital received the first patients on November 1, 1936, and is the largest of the ten mental hospitals in the State of California. Approximately 6,800 patients are under treatment at the present time with a total of 1,850 employees on the staff. The hospital is 16 miles from the city of Ventura, 9 miles from Oxnard and 4 miles from the town of Camarillo. Los Angeles is approximately 53 miles from the hospital and within easy driving range, as are many other points of interest in Southern California.

TYPE OF PATIENTS RECEIVED; ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE RATE

The major portion of the patients admitted for treatment are mentally ill, although alcoholics, drug addicts, and habit-forming drug addicts are also committed through the various courts. During the calendar year of 1956, a total of 3556 patients (excluding observation) were admitted for treatment. During this same period of time, 3371 patients were discharged from the hospital records.

MEDICAL TREATMENT PROGRAM

Specialties represented on the medical staff, in addition to Psychiatry and Neurology, include Pathology, Radiology, Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology and Internal Medicine with Board members heading each of these units. Consultants are also included on the staff in the various specialties and visit the hospital regularly to either care for special cases or in connection with the training program.

ANCILLARY SERVICES

Ancillary services include adequate staffs in Clinical Psychology, Rehabilitation Services and Psychiatric Social Work. Two pharmacists, a large clinical laboratory and a neuropathology laboratory are also available for the assistance of the medical staff.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS AND AFFILIATIONS

A close relationship is observed with the University of California at Los Angeles School of Medicine with staff members of that school available for lectures and seminars in the training program. Camarillo State Hospital is recognized for three years of residency training in Psychiatry. There are, at this time, nine residents on the staff.

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RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Research programs, particularly in the use of tranquilizing drugs, have been underway for an extended period of time and will continue.

LIVING QUARTERS ON AND OFF GROUNDS

Living quarters on the grounds are limited and there are no available homes at the present time. Quarters may be provided immediately for single persons. Adequate rentals are available in the surrounding communities at reasonable rates, and attractive homes are on the market for sale.

WORK WEEK, O. D. SCHEDULES

The work week consists of a minimum of 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday, and physicians are assigned to O. D. duty approximately one night each month. A skeleton staff is maintained on week ends and the doctors are rotated in such assignments, with provision for compensating time off during the following week when so assigned.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL STAFF MEMBERS

A regular program of lectures and conferences is carried on for the professional advancement and development of the medical staff.