

APPENDIX 23

MAINTENING A HEALTH CARE IN THE INDIVIDUAL, JAPAN

(Report from J. ZVAROVA)

The IMIA conference was opened by S. KAIHARA and the chairman of the organizing committee (Dr YASAKA). This conference was the first one devoted to this new field of Medical Informatics and has been given a very good overview about the new trends in preventive programs and the use of new technology and methods in this field. The discussions were very interesting because of the fact that the presented preventive programs were closely connected with health care systems of different countries. Therefore there were simultaneously discussed the questions of the accessibility of people to health care services, questions of economy and also questions of improvement of medical education (doctors should take more attention to their preventive role in medical care). There have been presented new aspect how to understand the state of health in individual and especially in the field of laboratory data analysis have been given new approaches to measuring of the "normality" using the multivariate laboratory data (multiple laboratory tests). Also a great influence of industry in this field of medical informatics occurred. Especially by Japanese representative there have been given interesting contributions to the new trends in this field.