Report — Committee on Mortality
and Morbidity

Robert G. Wood, M.D.
Chairman

There has been no meeting since the fall meeting of ALIMDA.

Committee members will be contacted in late May or early June and a report will be submitted by mid July.

The 13th Mortality Methodology Seminar was held February 20-21, 1986. It was hosted by Doctor Hanns Kretzschmar and the Aid Association for Lutherans in Appleton, Wisconsin. There were eleven participants from four companies.

The 14th Seminar is tentatively scheduled for Springfield, Massachusetts, November 6 and 7. Additional information will be sent out as soon as plans have been finalized.

An abstract of the report of the December, 1985 Interim AMA meeting, Washington, D.C.

Paul S. Metzger, M.D.
ALIMDA Delegate to the AMA

The Report provided to the Executive Council of ALIMDA called attention to the retirement from participation in the AMA by Dr. Robert Long. His many contributions and achievements were reviewed. Members of ALIMDA who played a role in obtaining ALIMDA recognition by the AMA in 1981 were listed. These included Drs. Cliff Reeder, Michael Puzak, Arthur Howard, Mack Traynor, Ralph Teall, Bob Leitch, Bill Erdman, Bob Katz, and Bill Sodeman.

The historical importance of ALIMDA’s participation in the AMA was reiterated as well as the purpose of gaining recognition by the AMA.

The first resolution submitted to the House of Delegates by ALIMDA was described. It pertained to physicians authorizing durable medical equipment (oxygen, wheelchairs, seat lifts, etc.) without consideration of the medical necessity. It requested publicizing this problem and requested all physicians to establish the medical necessity before authorizing. The importance of this as a cost containment measure for all health insurance companies was emphasized.

The AMA’s activities with malpractice including Tort Reform was described. Cost Containment resolutions were reviewed and the AMA’s activities with AIDS were described. No action by the AMA concerning AIDS appeared confrontational to the insurance industry.

Attention to the importance of AMA membership and participation was discussed.