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EDITOR'S CHOICE



Doctors have a key role in maximising social security benefits payable to some of their patients, but how many of them are discouraged by the maze of constantly changing conditions for credits, grants, and loans? So they should welcome the series of articles on understanding benefits, which Simon Ennals opens on p 1321. Elsewhere in the journal the training of junior doctors is to the fore, with Professor Peter Jones emphasising the value of American experience to coping with the cuts in the NHS (p 1337) and W V Anderson suggesting that our lost British graduates are training in Australia and New Zealand, which limit

duty hours and pay more for overtime (p 1331). Even so, there's an air of mystery about just what happens to our junior doctors, so shouldn't somebody be prospectively monitoring what's actually going on (p 1331)? That unexpected findings are sometimes disclosed by audit is well shown in a paper from Manchester, where a remarkable proportion of older women responded to an invitation for mammographic screening (p 1314). Finally, don't miss what may be a great step forward for (some of) mankind: the demonstration that eating garlic may repel attack by leeches (p 1322).