tion apparently was used in Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, and some developing countries. The second edition lists 980 books and 249 journal titles. As a point of comparison, the 1995 Brandon/Hill list includes 610 books and 141 journal titles. The appearance of a good number of American resources in the Core Collection still reflects the strong international presence of the U.S. medical publishing industry overseas.

The Core Collection organizes its books and journals into fifty-four subject headings similar to those employed by the Brandon/Hill list. Thirty-four of the subject areas have overlap with titles on the Brandon/Hill list. Within these subject areas, sixty-eight of the titles overlap. The overlapping book titles tend to be the U.S. "bibles" in their areas, with thirty-nine of the titles designated as recommended for initial purchase by the Brandon/Hill list.

The Core Collection offers titles in ten apparently unique subjects such as Complementary Medicine (called Alternative Medicine in the U.S.), Counselling, Podiatry, and Palliative Care for which no equivalent Brandon/Hill category exists. It also includes some allied health profession topics such as Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, and Speech Therapy that are found instead on the Brandon/Hill "Selected List of Books and Journals in the Allied Health Sciences" [3]. There is no overlap between the Core Collection and the Brandon/Hill Allied Health list in Occupational Therapy, but there are two overlapping titles in Speech Therapy, and one in Physical Therapy.

Surprisingly, the Core Collection omits some major subjects such as Nursing and Substance Abuse that do appear on the Brandon/Hill lists. Compiler Howard Hague hopes to include nursing books and journals in future editions [4]. Otherwise apparent subject omissions from the Core Collection actually are integrated into other subject areas. For example, Critical Care appears under "Anesthesia" and "Intensive Care" and Toxicology appears under "Pharmacology" and "Therapeutics."

The Core Collection lists 249 journal titles, which suggests greater depth of coverage than the 1995 Brandon/Hill list's 141 journal titles. The Core Collection includes ninety journal titles from the 1995 Brandon/Hill list. These overlapping titles focus upon primary care medicine with representation from most specialties, especially cardiology, pathology, internal medicine, and surgery.

We congratulate our British colleagues on the successful publication of the second edition of this resource intended to meet the distinct needs of British medical library users. The inclusion of ninety journal titles and sixty-eight books from the Brandon/Hill list leads to speculation about the relevance of the Core Collection as a selection tool for U.S. medical librarians. In subject categories such as Complementary Medicine and Palliative Care, the Core Collection will prove useful.

International collaboration among physicians who work with new technologies such as Laparoscopy and Magnetic Resonance Imaging or newly-discovered infectious diseases such as AIDS tends to ignore national boundaries. Publications in these fields reflect this international scope. More tradition-bound specialties or those areas of health care more directly defined by nation-specific public policies tend to rely almost exclusively upon books and journals published in their respective countries. We predict that as standards and practices span national boundaries more and more in the years ahead, resources such as the Core Collection will have increased relevance to U.S. medical librarians.

In the meantime, collection development librarians at academic health sciences libraries in the United States are advised to become more familiar with the Core Collection of Medical Books and Journals.

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References

4. HAGUE, op. cit.


Morton and Moore's second edition of their bibliography is an updated and expanded index of different works on medical and biomedical biography. The number of physicians and scientists covered has been expanded from 1,200 in the first edition to 2,368. The monograph starts off with the introductions to the first and present editions of the work, which briefly point out the rationale for creating this bibliography. The main body of the work consists of an alphabetically arranged individual bi-
A biography index that includes an extremely brief description of the individual's contribution. In addition to this, there is a collective biography index, a short list of books on the history of medicine and related subjects, and a discipline index of biographies. These supplemental indexes are useful tools for discovering other types of biomedical biographical material.

The major question that arises when examining this work concerns the selection and scope of the bibliography. There is no clear statement on the authors' part of how they arrived at including a particular person or how they determined how many entries were cited for each person. In a number of instances, it would seem that certain individuals were under-cited. The authors do point out that some subjects have little biographical literature associated with them, but it is not always possible to determine why a particular subject has so few or so many entries. Perhaps the main reason why this work is uneven is that it was originally meant to update John L. Thornton's *A Select Bibliography of Medical Biography* [1].

In their introduction, the authors specifically state that they have included more coverage of non-English language sources than the previous edition. It is not clear, however, from the authors' introduction, how extensive this foreign language coverage is. It would have been helpful to mention which European languages were particularly included. Another small change that might make the present work more useful would be the inclusion of some mechanism for ranking the citations in terms of their value. For example, a simple asterisk might be used to indicate an item that is considered to be a definitive biography of the individual.

All in all this bibliography fills a definite niche for medical biography information and is helpful in making accessible an assortment of biographical materials. The lack of a precise statement on the scope of the work, however, makes it a little less valuable than it might otherwise be.

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