

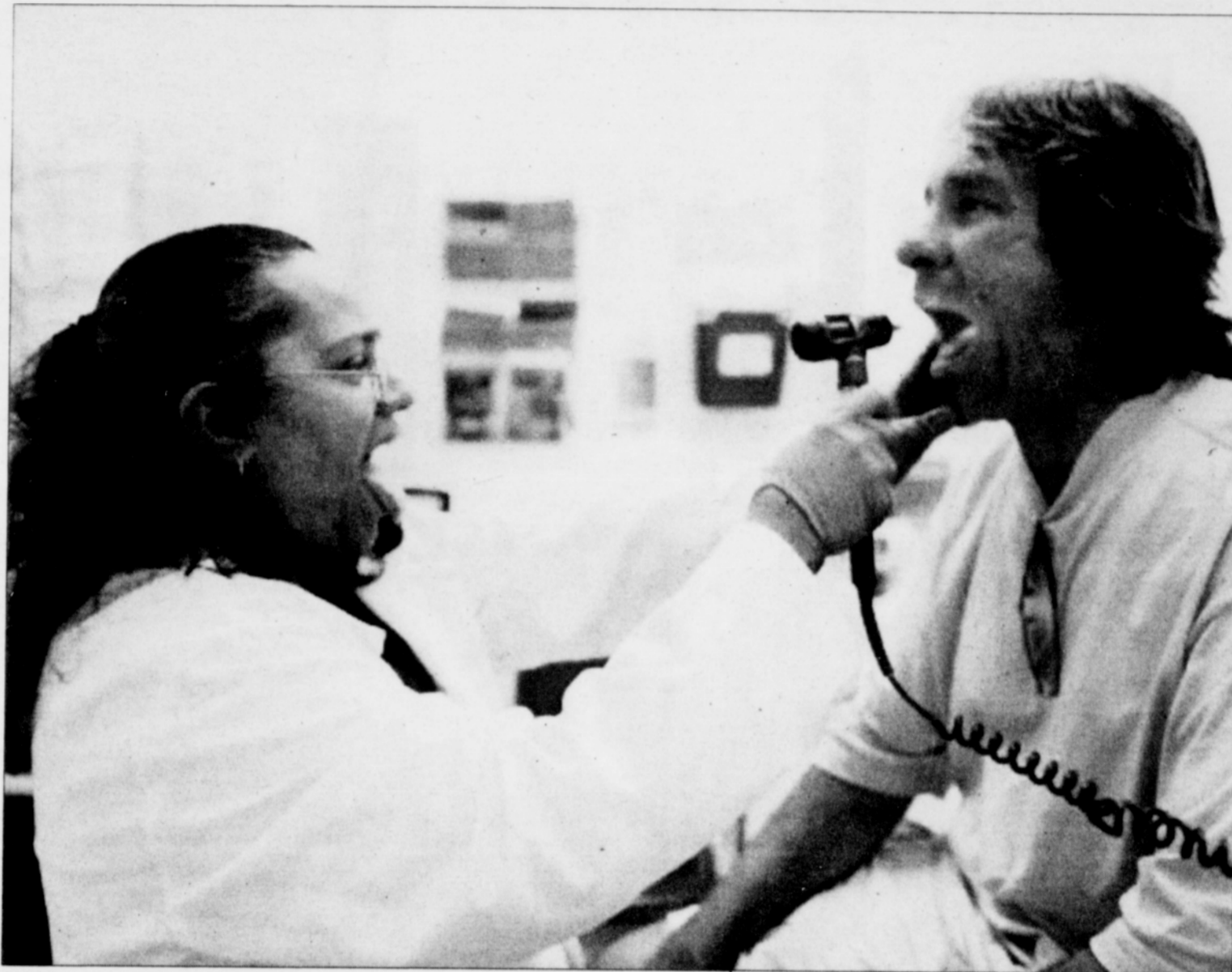
Big Gains for Local Health Care Industry

Expect 17,000 new jobs over next 5 years

The greater Portland area's health care industry, which currently employs 114,323 people, will increase employment by 15.1 percent and add 17,303 new jobs over the next 5 years, according to the Regional Health Care Workforce Report released by the Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative.

With demand for health care growing at a rate twice that of the national economy, the industry is on track to create 5.6 million new jobs by 2020, according to a new study from Georgetown University's Center on Education and Workforce.

Even with the Portland region's health care industry following national growth trends, the responsive system of post-secondary institutions and workforce organizations in the greater Portland region is adequately meeting employment demand through adapted and expanded training programs, officials said.



A doctor examines a patient at a health clinic in Miami. With the demand for health care growing, the Portland area expects to add 17,303 new health care jobs over the next 5 years. (AP photo)

"The report confirms that our region doesn't suffer from urgent shortages in core health care occupations, as compared with the rest of the nation," said Kevin Dull, a Kaiser Permanente Executive Consultant who works to bridge strategies between human resources and care delivery operations.

including the impacts of national health care reform, electronic health records, coordinated care in Oregon, demographic shifts, and compliance of ICD-10, an international medical classification language established by the World Health Organization," Dull said.

According to the workforce report, the largest medical employment needs are concentrated in general medical and surgical hospitals, offices of physicians, offices of health care practitioners, community care facilities for the elderly, and outpatient care centers.

The occupations with the most projected job openings include medical office administration/reception/coding/billing, registered nurse, and nursing aides, including health care aids and certified nursing assistants. The average annual health care industry wage in the metropolitan area is \$62,026, with 47.3 percent of the workforce over the age of 45.

The collaborative and its part-

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WE STAND UP FOR WHAT WE BELIEVE IN!

OUR FUTURE

It is our primary goal as a labor union to better the lives of all people working in the building trades through advocacy, civil demonstration, and the long-held belief that workers deserve a "family wage" – fair pay for an honest day's work.

OUR FAMILIES & OUR COMMUNITIES

A family wage, and the benefits that go with it, not only strengthens families, but also allows our communities to become stronger, more cohesive, and more responsive to their citizens' needs. Our ongoing efforts to establish Area Standard wages and benefits knows no boundaries of race, creed, color, gender, beliefs, or country of origin.



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