§ 2722. Commissioner; functions, powers and duties. In order to further the declared purposes of this article, the commissioner shall have the following functions, powers and duties:

1. to conduct scientific investigations into the causes, prevention, evaluation and treatment of hypertension;

2. to develop more efficient methods for screening, evaluation and treatment of hypertension;

3. promote programs of professional education and training in the prevention of heart disease and hypertension and the rehabilitation of victims of heart disease and hypertension for physicians, medical students, nurses, pharmacists and persons in the public health profession;

4. gather data and statistics relative to the prevention of heart disease and hypertension and develop methods and procedures for the rehabilitation of these victims;

5. enter into such contracts and agreements with individuals, colleges, universities, associations, corporations, municipalities and other units of government as may be deemed necessary and advisable to carry out the general intent and purposes of this article.