

The Department provides a number of radiation protection services including external and internal personnel monitoring through its various personnel dosimetry services and its body burden assay service. In addition, it carries out radiation surveys and field studies to assess radiation hazards, serves as the co-ordinator for the federal departments and agencies that are capable of providing specialized assistance in the event of radiation accidents involving possible exposure of members of the public, and provides short-term training courses in radiation protection for persons with varying degrees of responsibility for radiation protection on a day-to-day basis.

The Department operates extensive laboratories for environmental monitoring and research. A nation-wide monitoring program has been developed to assess the exposure of the public to radiation from radioactive fallout from nuclear weapons testing. The Department is assisted in the systematic collection of samples of air, precipitation, soil, wheat, milk and human bone by the federal Departments of Transport and Agriculture and by pathologists in hospitals throughout Canada. Reports of the concentrations of such fallout components as strontium-90 and cesium-137 in these samples are published monthly. Because of a unique food-chain cycle in the Far North, a special study of cesium-137 in that area has been developed. The Department is developing several programs with the objective of meeting the increasing need for better biological data on which to base estimates of radiation dose and is thus improving its capability of providing medical advice concerning the follow-up of persons exposed to ionizing radiation.

#### **Subsection 7.—Health Research and International Health**

**Health Research.**—Health research in Canada is carried on in universities, hospitals, research institutions and government departments. The main sources of financial support are governments, voluntary agencies, charitable foundations, professional bodies and business corporations. In 1962 health research funds amounted to approximately \$10,000,000; by 1966 they were more than \$20,000,000.

The Federal Government conducts intramural medical and dental research within the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Defence Research Board and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Medical Research Council, the National Research Council, the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Department of National Defence, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Queen Elizabeth II Fund, and the Smoking and Health Program of the Department of National Health and Welfare have given financial support to extramural research in universities, hospitals and other institutions.

The Medical Research Council, since its formation in 1960, has become the principal federal agency for all medical research except those specialized areas assigned to other agencies including public health, defence and veterans. Primary attention has been given to fundamental research in the basic medical sciences but clinical research is also supported. The Medical Research Council administers most of the federal medical research grants that support full-time investigation by research scientists in Canadian medical schools and their affiliated hospitals. The National Research Council pursues in its broad program many investigations relevant to health. Its Associate Committee on Dental Research administers specific grants for dental research and for training dental-research personnel.

Health research of an applied nature in certain "public health" areas (prevention, epidemiology, environmental and operational) is supported by the Department of National Health and Welfare. Intramural research is conducted by the Food and Drug Directorate, the Medical Services Branch, the Health Insurance and Resources Branch, by several divisions and laboratories of the Health Services Branch and by the Research and Statistics Directorate. The Department's extramural research includes projects relating to smoking and health, public health research, surveys and studies that have been approved by the province prior to receiving assistance under the National Health Grants Program.