

hospitals and tuberculosis sanatoria were available for some time before that year. Since 1968, statistics on primary surgical operations have been presented as counts of cases separated from hospital, the length of stay attributable to these cases, and appropriate rates. The classification systems currently used are the Canadian Diagnostic List and the International Classification of Diseases, Adapted — eighth revision.

It is recognized that the value of these data is limited in estimating total morbidity since many conditions do not require hospital in-patient treatment. However, the diagnostic standards of hospital-originated records are high, and the more serious and severe cases and conditions are likely to be hospitalized.

Tables 5.10 and 5.11 give hospital separation data by groups of diagnoses. Tables 5.12 and 5.13 show statistics concerning primary operations. In 1972, 3.6 million cases were discharged or died in hospital and 1.8 million primary operations were performed; expressed as rates, these represent 16,670 separations per 100,000 population and 8,300 operations per 100,000 population. It should be noted that these statistics present a count of events, i.e. separations or operations, not persons.

5.4.4 Notifiable diseases and other health statistics

Notifiable diseases. The notifiable diseases most predominant in 1973 were venereal diseases (49,098), streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever (15,875), infectious and serum hepatitis (7,160), and tuberculosis (3,563). Table 5.14 shows the number of notifiable diseases by province in that year.

Cancer. Statistics Canada started a national cancer incidence reporting system on January 1, 1969 in co-operation with the National Cancer Institute and the nine existing provincial tumour registries; a registry has not yet been organized in Ontario. Participating provinces send a simple notification card with basic patient and diagnostic information for each new primary site of malignant neoplasm discovered. Data provided by this system for 1972 are given in Tables 5.15 and 5.16.

Tuberculosis. There were 3,563 new active and 567 reactivated cases of tuberculosis reported in Canada in 1973 for a total of 4,130. Of 8,543 tuberculosis patients being treated at the end of 1973, 1,434 were hospital patients and 7,109 were being treated by drugs on an out-patient drug therapy regime as a safeguard against their developing active forms of the disease. Summary information appears in Table 5.17.

Therapeutic abortions. The 10 provinces and the Yukon Territory reported 43,245 therapeutic abortions performed during the 12-month period January to December 1973. This was 4,340 cases more than the 38,905 therapeutic abortions reported by the same areas during the same 12-month period of 1972. Of these 43,201 cases or 99.9% of the total reported for 1973 were residents of Canada. In terms of rate per 100 live births, the 43,201 therapeutic abortions for Canadian residents amounted to 12.6% of live births for 1973 as against the therapeutic abortion rate of 11.2 per live births for 1972.

Canadian renal failure register. In 1972 the Kidney Foundation of Canada started a national register of patients on long-term dialysis, and this was transferred to Statistics Canada the following year. Statistics were first published in January 1975 on the 999 patients on dialysis at January 1, 1973 and the 572 who started dialysis during 1973. Data on the 531 patients starting dialysis in 1973 are shown in Table 5.18. Transplant statistics have not yet been analyzed.

Mental health. A total of 126,329 admissions to and 128,651 separations from psychiatric facilities were reported in Canada in 1974. The number of year-end patients on books stood at 54,876. The ratio of admissions to year-end patients, a measure of the turnover of the in-patient population, rose from 2.12 in 1973 to 2.30 in 1974. The distribution of the psychiatric in-patient movements across the various types of psychiatric institutions is shown in Table 5.19.

5.4.5 Personnel

Hospital nursing salaries. On the whole, salaries of nurses in public general hospitals were 15.9% higher in 1974 than in 1972. For general duty registered nurses employed in public general hospitals, the average annual salary varied from \$8,843 for those classified as graduate