

# DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

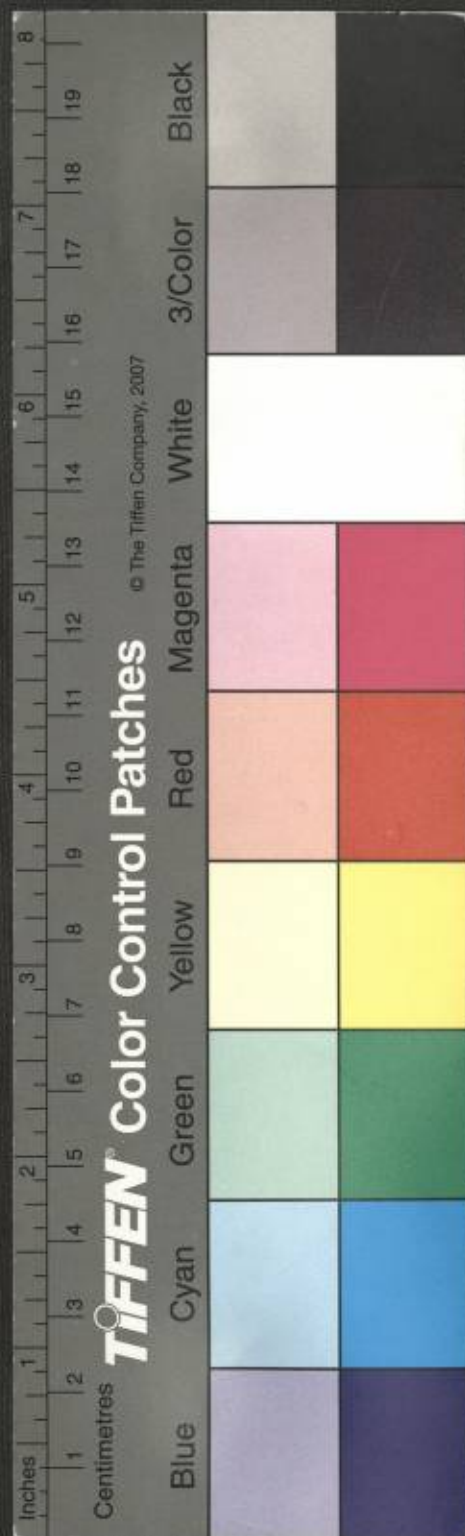


## 1983-1984 DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

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HONG KONG  
ANNUAL DEPARTMENTAL REPORT  
BY THE  
DIRECTOR OF  
MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
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FOR THE  
FINANCIAL YEAR 1983-1984\*

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## I Introduction

The Medical and Health Department provides a wide comprehensive spectrum of health services for the community of Hong Kong. The ever-increasing population, the rising expectation of the people coupled with the constraints of limited financial and manpower resources have imposed a heavy strain on the provision of these services. Attendances at all the existing health care centres had been on the increase and attained record heights. However, with meticulous planning and control, the development programmes of the department had progressed satisfactorily and had kept in pace with the pressing demand for service.

For the 1983/84 financial year, the Medical and Health Department's expenditure was \$1,790.1 millions. Subventions totalling about \$912.3 millions are also being made to many non-government medical institutions and organisations. The capital expenditure on hospitals and other buildings including furniture and equipment was \$229.2 millions.

## II Health of the Community

The general level of health of the population in Hong Kong remains good. This is largely due to the anti-epidemic and disease surveillance measures, developments in preventive and personal health services and general improvement in the socio-economic conditions of the population. This progress is further reflected in the highly satisfactory health indices and the general decline in the incidence of major communicable diseases.

The estimated mid-year population of Hong Kong in 1983 was 5.31 millions, an increase of 1.5 % compared with the previous year. It is also estimated that about 23.9 % of the population were under 15 and 7.2 % were 65 and over.

The crude death rate was 5.0 per thousand population. Figure 2 shows the age specific death rates in Hong Kong for the year 1983. The five major leading causes of death in Hong Kong were malignant neoplasms, heart diseases, cerebral vascular diseases, pneumonia and various injuries/poisoning. The commonest forms of malignancy in Hong Kong were cancer of the lung, liver, nasopharynx, stomach and intestine.

The total number of registered live births in the year was 82 015, a crude birth rate of 15.4 per thousand population compared to 16.4 in 1982. In the same year, the infant mortality rate was 10.1 per thousand live births against 9.9 in 1982. The major causes of infant deaths recorded were congenital abnormalities (31 %), anoxia, hypoxia and birth asphyxia (30 %), immaturity (9 %) and pneumonia (9 %). The maternal mortality rate was 0.07 per thousand total births as compared with 0.01 in 1982.

### III Communicable Diseases

Hong Kong remains free from quarantinable diseases. The common communicable childhood diseases such as diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis, have been adequately brought under control.

Four cases of animal rabies involving three dogs and one cat were reported during the year. These cases were all identified in the northern district of New Territories. All human contacts were given the necessary prophylaxis and treatment in nearby medical clinics.

One case of poliomyelitis was reported in an 8-month old baby girl who had not received the full schedule of polio vaccine. During the year, a total of 81 528 doses of Type I polio vaccine and 153 438 doses of trivalent polio vaccine were given, covering some 95 % of the local young population under the age of one.

In the year, 888 cases of measles were notified with two reported deaths. Measles vaccination continued throughout the year to cover children from the age of one onwards. A total of 76 211 doses of vaccine were given. An outbreak of rubella, affecting some schools, homes and offices occurred in the early part of the year. 19 cases of congenital rubella were reported and might be related to this outbreak. The rubella immunization programme for girls aged 11 to 14 presently covers over 90 % of girls in Primary VI classes. The vaccine is also made available to specific groups of women of child-bearing age.

During the year, 94 imported, one induced and 30 indigenous cases of malaria were reported. The indigenous cases were clustered around the border and Sai Kung of the New Territories. Other than intensifying the surveillance and control measures against malaria and its vectors, strong emphases were made on educating the general public, especially those living in Sai Kung and border areas on the prevention of malaria. These include health talks to schools, film shows, posters, press release etc. to remind local residents and picnickers/campers to take appropriate personal protection against mosquito bites and the elimination of mosquito breeding sites.

In view of the resurgence of indigenous malaria in Hong Kong in 1983, the World Health Organisation was requested to send experts to Hong Kong to give advice and to review the preventive and control measures taken in the territory to assist in training local staff on various aspects on malaria.

Both virus Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B remained prevalent in the community with 1 783 notified cases and 28 deaths reported during the year. In view of the public health aspect of this disease which usually leads to long term liver complications like cirrhosis and liver cancer, and in line with the WHO recommendation for the control of Hepatitis B infection, the Medical & Health Department introduced a Hepatitis B Vaccination Programme in the year. A special advisory committee was set up early in 1983 to advise the government on an overall strategy to provide immunization against Hepatitis B to high risk groups in the community. The first group was health care workers who were in frequent contact with blood and blood products or tissue fluids in the course of their work. The second group consisted of babies born to mothers who were carriers of the disease.

Many gastroenteritis diseases were still endemic in the region and they occurred from time to time in small outbreaks. There were 169 outbreaks of acute food poisoning involving some 642 persons. The common organisms responsible for these outbreaks included salmonella, E. Coli, staphylococcus and vibrio-parahaemolyticus. Active case finding and contact tracing were carried out by the regional health teams. Their efforts helped in limiting the spread of the disease within the community. A fatal case of puffer fish poisoning was reported. The fish was bought from a mobile hawker in Cheung Chau. All three persons who had consumed the fish developed symptoms, whilst one died about 5 hours after having taken the food.

### IV Health Services

#### Tuberculosis and Chest Services

The Hong Kong Tuberculosis and Chest Services continue to provide service to the public who have tuberculosis and other respiratory problems requiring investigation, hospital care and treatment. A total of 7 301 cases of tuberculosis were notified, representing a rate of 137.4 per 100 000 population compared with 143.8 in 1982. The tuberculosis death rate was 8.4 per 100 000 population compared with 8.7 in 1982 and represented about 1.7 % of the total registered deaths in the year. Attendances at government chest clinic were 702 950 compared with 703 343 in 1982, a decline of 0.1 %. B.C.G. vaccination remained a recommended programme and covered over 99 % of the newborns.

During the year, 98 266 patients attended the government chest clinics. 53 469 were newly diagnosed to be suffering from some kinds of respiratory diseases, namely pulmonary tuberculosis (9.7 %), pneumonia (4.1 %), bronchitis (2.9 %), emphysema (0.2 %), asthma (0.3 %), bronchiectasis (1.3 %), malignant neoplasm of trachea and bronchus (1.1 %).

There are quite a number of pneumoconiosis cases in Hong Kong, comprising mainly silicosis. The Pneumoconiosis Clinic, which was set up in 1974 as part of the occupational health service, had provided more and better medical service since 1981 to those patients who suffered from pneumoconiosis and made assessment of the degree of permanent incapacities resulting from the disease for compensation under the Pneumoconiosis Compensation Scheme.

#### Family Health Services

The Family Health Services of the Medical and Health Department operated 43 Maternal and Child Health Centres, providing a comprehensive health programme for women of child-bearing age and children up to five years. Family planning is an important component of the Family Health Services. Ante-natal and post-natal health consultation sessions are conducted for mothers. Immunization programmes are carried out against tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles and rubella. During 1983, about 93.5 % of newborn babies attended the Family Health Centres.

The comprehensive observation scheme was introduced in 1978 to detect and assess early developmental abnormalities and where necessary to provide follow-up treatment. The service is now available at 43 Family Health Centres. Children attending these centres may, if and when appropriate, be referred to child assessment centres or various specialist units for further examination. The system enables rehabilitation processes to start as early as possible.

A Health Education Unit within the Family Health Services was set up in 1982 to extend health education to expectant mothers at major Government hospitals. Special emphasis is placed on the promotion of breastfeeding. A telephone service is also set up to answer enquiries from the public in this regard.

The Government-assisted Family Planning Association of Hong Kong runs 31 birth control clinics providing vasectomy and female sterilization services as well.

#### Arran Street Multidisciplinary Child Assessment Centre

The centre serves children from birth to 12 years old. It provides comprehensive physical, psychological and social assessment as well as therapy, parental counselling and appropriate placement of the child in the various institutions and centres run by the Government and voluntary agencies. These include the Special Child Care Centres of the Social Welfare Department and the Special Education Service Centres of the Education Department. The total number of cases seen in the year were 1 274.

The centre also operates a Toy Library Programme, which aims to enhance the development of children through toy and play. The emphasis is to involve parents and give guidance on the selection of suitable toys for their handicapped children.

In 1983, 1 274 cases were assessed and 4 426 attendances were recorded. An expansion programme to set up 7 more such child assessment centres on a regional basis is in progress.

#### Social Hygiene and Special Skin Services

##### Venereal Diseases Service

The incidence of venereal diseases recorded in 1983 was 9 516 compared with 9 806 in 1982. About 6.10 % of these cases occurred in the teenage (under 15) group. The common sexually transmitted diseases were genital warts (14 %), gonorrhoea (45 %), syphilis (7 %) and non-gonococcal urethritis (11 %). The incidence of other sexually transmitted diseases, e.g. chancroid, scabies, pediculosis pubis, herpes genitalis and lympho-granuloma venereum remained low.

Ante-natal blood tests carried out routinely in all Governmental and non-Governmental ante-natal centres indicated an initial positive rate of 0.34 % compared with 0.32 % in the previous year. Of the 87 positive cases referred to the social hygiene clinics, only 38 cases (44 %) were found to be suffering from syphilis.

The health staff were involved in epidemiological activities such as contact tracing and follow-up of defaulters and those at risk of frequent exposure. Health education in social hygiene was also emphasised through frequent health talks and the issuing of pamphlets and posters to the public.

##### Leprosy Service

There has been a gradual fall in the incidence of leprosy during the past twenty five years and this trend continued in 1983. The number of new cases treated in 1983 was 38, representing an incidence rate of 0.7 per 100 000 population. The ratio of male to female cases was 3 to 1 and about 29 % of the cases were tuberculoid cases.

All leprosy cases needing in-patient treatment are admitted into Lai Chi Kok Hospital and in 1983 there were 6 new admissions.

### Dermatology Service

The total number of attendances in the skin clinics was 58 532, including 19 017 new cases. The six commonest skin diseases encountered were eczema, tinea, scabies, acne, verruca and neurodermatitis. As in previous years, there was a very low incidence of skin cancer.

### Narcotics and Drugs Administration

The department runs methadone maintenance as well as detoxification schemes for drug addicts. There are at present 24 methadone clinics over Hong Kong operating daily including Sundays and Public Holidays. In August 1980, a central laboratory for urine testing was opened and operated by the Government Chemist, providing a fast and efficient analytical support to the methadone clinics. The average daily attendances of the service ranges from 5 800 to 6 500 during 1983.

### Occupational Health and Hygiene Services

The Occupational Health Division of the Labour Department provides an advisory service to the government and the public on matters concerning the health of workers and the hygiene of the workplace and complements the Factory Inspectorate Division in supervising health standards and practices in industry. It works to maintain and improve the physical and mental well-being of workers and protect them against any health hazard arising from their employment. During the year, the division participated in a number of seminars and exhibitions for the promotion of occupational health and also published a series of booklets and codes of practice on the prevention of occupational hazards.

A prime responsibility of the division is to investigate notified occupational diseases and potential health hazards reported by the factory inspectorate and to determine preventive action. Surveys were conducted in various industries and an epidemiological study on the health and hygiene conditions in mines, quarries and construction sites is also in progress.

The division carries out medical examinations for personnel exposed to ionizing radiation, government divers and compressed air workers. It also deals with cases of silicosis under the Pneumoconiosis (Compensation) Ordinance. The division's nurses handled medical clearance for employees' compensation cases while its occupational health officers are appointed as members of assessment boards under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance.

The Occupational Health Division's laboratory carries out analytical tests on biological samples from workers and other environmental samples taken during site visits. It also assists in conducting analyses for the air pollution monitoring programme in Hong Kong.

### Health Education

The Central Health Education Unit was engaged in 3 major territory-wide health education campaigns and 2 district campaigns during the year 1983/84. These were carried out under the guidance of the Health Education Co-ordinating Committee.

The major activity of the year was the Prevention of Communicable Diseases Campaign. The objective was to promote prevention of communicable diseases through attention to personal, food and environmental hygiene, and in children, by completion of immunization schedules. Activities organised for the campaign included an exhibition at City Hall, 5 district exhibitions in Kowloon and New Territories regions, a poster and slogan design competition, radio and TV programmes, distribution of pamphlets and posting of posters.

The Anti-smoking Publicity Campaign 1983/84 was co-ordinated by the Health and Welfare Branch, and the Central Health Education Unit was involved during the 4 phases of the campaign to various extent. Some of these activities were anti-smoking exhibitions at 4 different sites, anti-smoking workshop for students, mass rally at Victoria Park, assistance in district board activities.

In view of the community need for mental health education, a seminar for teachers was co-organised with the Education Department in December 1983 as an activity of the Committee on Public Education on Rehabilitation (COMPERE). Mental health exhibition and workshop were organised during the year attracting students, teachers, social workers and also mental patients.

In the year, the Young Health Leader Training Project was launched by the Shatin Health Education Centre. Students from secondary schools in Shatin were selected and trained in knowledge and practice concerning healthy lifestyles and disease prevention so that they could help to propagate health messages among fellow schoolmates and friends as peer counsellors, as well as influence parents and relatives.

Apart from a number of on-going activities which were carried out regularly in the form of Radio and TV Programme, Health Education Van Broadcasting and, Resource Supply and Counselling Service, two new activities were introduced during the year. They were :

- (a) Audio-visual Centres - opened in January 1983. The 2 centres were open to the general public who could attend the exhibition, view shows, or request special topics of interest.
- (b) OPD Slide Programme - started in April 1983 in the Ngau Tau Kok OPD. This service was soon extended to 2 other clinics in Hong Kong and N.T. Region. Waiting patients at these clinics could view one of 15 topics made available to the OPDs. Evaluation indicated the programme was well received.

### Dental Service

A school dental care service was introduced since 1980. The service provides regular dental examinations and simple dental treatment to primary school children. The response from parents to this aspect of preventive dentistry has been very encouraging. At the end of the fourth year of operation, the number of participants from Primary I to IV school children has reached some 204 777. The participation rate has increased to about 57 % as compared with 29 % in the first year. To enable the scheme to cover eventually all the primary school children, six more school dental clinics have been planned in addition to the existing two in operation.

Training in dentistry is now available in the Prince Philip Dental Hospital. Starting in 1980, the Dental Faculty of the University of Hong Kong has an intake of 76 dental students a year. The Tang Shiu Kin Dental Therapists Training School also offers a 3-year training programme for Student Dental Therapists.

The Government Dental Service provides dental care for all civil servants and their dependants as well as simple dental treatment for the inmates of penal institutions and specialist treatment for patients in government hospitals. Emergency treatment is also provided to the public in a number of district dental clinics.

### Port Health Service

The Port Health Service enforces control at Hong Kong International Airport and in the territory's waters, to prevent the introduction of quarantinable diseases and to carry out other measures required under the International Health Regulations.

The service provides facilities for vaccination and the issuing of international vaccination certificates. It also inspects and supervises the eradication of rats from ships on international voyages. The service provides medical assistance to ships in the harbour, transmits medical advice to ships at sea, operates a 24-hour health clearance service for all incoming vessels, and grants radio pratique to ships.

The health staff also maintain close surveillance on the food catering service to the international airlines to ensure that food and water supplied by the flight kitchen service is clean and safe.

Epidemiological information is exchanged regularly with the World Health Organisation in Geneva and its Western Pacific Regional Office in Manila and with neighbouring countries.

### School Medical Service

The School Medical Service Scheme is operated by an independent School Medical Service Board. The scheme offers an economic form of medical treatment service to all school children in Primary I to Form III. Participation is voluntary and, for a token fee of \$5 a year, a participant can receive free medical attention from a general medical practitioner of the school's choice. The Government contributes \$50 a year for each pupil enrolled and also bears the administrative cost of operating the Scheme. The general response to the Scheme is favourable and more than 250 general medical practitioners are enlisted in the Scheme.

Over 300 000 school children from 783 schools participated in the Scheme in 1983, representing a coverage of about 39% of the total eligible school population.

The School Health Service, a government responsibility, deals with the environmental health and sanitation of school premises and the control of communicable diseases. School health officers, health visitors and health inspectors make frequent inspections of schools, and advise on matters concerning the health of the children and organise special health educational activities and immunization campaigns.

## V Hospital and Clinic Services

### Hospitals

There are three types of hospitals in Hong Kong - government, government-assisted and private - with a total of 22 935 beds representing 4.3 beds per thousand of the population. Pressure on the service was experienced on all fronts, reflected by the increase in attendances at out-patient clinics, accident and emergency departments and by the number of hospital admissions.

In ensuring better co-ordination within the health sector, the Department has adopted a regional approach in the planning and administration of medical and health services. Under the scheme, hospital and clinic facilities situated in a common geographical area were grouped together to form an integrated network of services. The aim is to ensure a more even utilization of medical facilities in both the government and government-assisted hospitals and clinics. In 1983, further regionalisation was undertaken and the administration of the Regional Offices has been considerably strengthened with the provision of additional senior management staff.

In 1983, the total attendances at government and government-assisted Accident and Emergency Departments was 1 013 210, averaging 2 776 attendances per day. A total of 636 891 patients were treated in the 13 government and 19 government-assisted hospitals.

#### Clinics

General out-patient services form a vital part of the primary health care system. The government operates 59 general out-patient clinics. Where necessary, cases are referred to polyclinics or specialist clinics for specialist attention. Evening, Sunday and Public Holiday sessions are also held at clinics which are heavily subscribed as part of an overall measure to meet the expanding demand for out-patient services. Mobile dispensaries and floating clinics take medical services to the outlying islands and the more remote areas of the New Territories. Other inaccessible areas are visited regularly by the 'flying doctor' service with assistance from the Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Air Force.

#### Ophthalmic Service

The Unit runs two main out-patient specialist eye centres. In addition, mobile ophthalmic teams are sent around to operate other regional clinics on a sessional basis. A total of 218 786 attendances was recorded on a sessional basis in 1983. The Unit is also providing specialist accident and emergency services in the major regional hospitals. There are at present a total of 78 ophthalmic beds in the public hospitals. Mobile ophthalmic teams visit these hospitals on a sessional basis to perform elective and emergency surgery as well as to deal with cases referred from other clinical units. In 1983, a total of 2 049 operations were performed in the hospitals and a further 2 618 operations were performed in the out-patient eye clinics. The number of permanent blindness registered was 968 and the pattern of the causes for blindness was observed to be mainly degenerative in nature.

An Orthoptic Unit was established to assist in the assessment and treatment of patients with defects in vision and ocular motility. Additional teams of orthoptists would be established on a regional basis to help with the work of the ophthalmic service as well as the assessment of children in Child Assessment Centres.

#### Ear, Nose and Throat Service

The ENT Unit comprises two main in-patient divisions with a total of 33 beds in Queen Mary Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The total number of in-patients treated in 1983 was 2 610 with 1 998 surgical operations performed. The Unit also runs 11 full-and part-time out-patient clinics in urban and rural areas. In 1983, the total attendances at these ENT clinics were 88 519. Minor operations and therapeutic procedures were also performed in these out-patient clinics. Speech therapy services were also available on a limited scale for those who have developed speech difficulties as a result of recent diseases or surgery. With the small team of two speech therapists, only 4 216 attendances for assessment and treatment were recorded in 1983. The audiological personnel in the unit performed 9 039 audiometric assessments within the year.

#### Mental Health Service

The Mental Health Service, in conjunction with other academic and voluntary bodies, provides a comprehensive psychiatric service for the mentally-ill. Sophisticated treatment facilities are available at the two major psychiatric hospitals - Castle Peak Hospital with 1 927 beds and Kwai Chung Hospital with 1 078 beds - and at psychiatric units in many regional and district hospitals. In line with the universal trend of operating smaller psychiatric units within general hospitals, an addition of 2 450 beds are to be provided in the various hospitals under planning.

Supplementing the hospital facilities are psychiatric day centres, which provide a wide range of out-patient treatment, assessment, counselling and after-care services on a regional basis. The centres also operate day hospital places and provide other social, occupational and recreational therapy services for the mentally-ill.

In 1983, there were 6 499 admissions to the mental hospitals, 578 to the various day hospitals and 194 424 attendances at the out-patient psychiatric centres. Medical staff were hard pressed by the increasing number of medical boards, and of referrals from courts, probation officers and police as well as the newly established Social Security Appeal Boards and the Compensation Boards for assessing emotional damages of sexual offences and other violent crimes. Clinical psychologists of the Mental Health Service conducted a total of 8 824 interviews which entailed assessment and therapeutic functions.

Pursuing the practice of community psychiatry and adopting the multidisciplinary team approach in patient management, special emphasis is placed on the after-care of discharged mental patients during their integration back into the community. In the year, the newly established Community Psychiatric Nursing Service provides continuity in after-care treatment programmes to patients discharged from Kwai Chung Hospital. Other complimentary rehabilitative supporting services which include after-care social service, placement service, half-way houses, long stay care homes, social clubs, etc. are organised by the various voluntary agencies and these services are closely monitored and co-ordinated by the Rehabilitation Development Co-ordinating Committee.

Severely mentally handicapped persons requiring intensive nursing care and medical treatment are being cared for in Siu Iam Hospital with 200 beds and the Caritas Medical Centre with 300 beds. In order to meet the great demand in this area, a further 700 beds of this category have been planned for the next decade.

#### Physiotherapy Service

The Physiotherapy Service is required for the treatment of patients in acute and convalescent hospitals, in the maternity and obstetric wards in the out-patient clinics and in the medical rehabilitation centres. They are actively involved in the rehabilitation of the physically and mentally handicapped in the various institutes and centres.

In 1983, a total of 183 879 patients were treated and 1 489 586 attendances recorded. With the heavy demand and the anticipated rapid expansion of the service, the Polytechnic was urged to increase its training capacity for physiotherapists to 80 in 1983.

#### Occupational Therapy Service

Occupational Therapy Service is required in the treatment of people who are physically or mentally disabled. These people undergo planned activities designed to restore wholly or partly their bodily functions, enhancing their integration back into the community.

In 1983, 24 864 patients were treated with a total attendances of 1 005 668.

#### Community Nursing Service

The Community Nursing Service extends continuing care to patients discharged from hospitals after suffering from acute illness and provides domiciliary medical care and support for the sick, disabled and the elderly in their own homes. The services are delivered by community nurses and comprised mainly skilled nursing care, supportive mobility and physiotherapy exercises as well as health educational advice. The nurses encourage patients, with the help of their families, to participate in their own treatment and rehabilitation through supportive care and health teaching, thus assisting in the prevention of relapse.

Jointly operated by eight agencies including the Medical and Health Department, the service is largely hospital-based, with domiciliary service provided through a network of 39 sub-centres. During the year, 12 855 new patients were treated by community nurses and more than 206 000 home visits were made.

## VI Special Services

### Pathology Service

The Pathology Service provides clinical and public health laboratory services to government hospitals and clinics, and a consultant service for the government-assisted sector. It also administers mortuaries and blood banks. In 1983, a total of 9.85 million examinations were undertaken by the service representing an increase of 10% over the previous year. 78 440 units of blood were received by the blood banks in the year.

The Institute of Immunology produces vaccines and other biological products for use in local health services. A total of 290 790 ml. of vaccines were produced locally in 1983. These were mainly bacterial vaccines (cholera and typhoid) and poliomyelitis vaccine. The Virus Unit provides a central laboratory service for the diagnosis and surveillance of viral infections. It also provides invaluable services for the screening, assessment and guidance of vaccination programmes against viral infections for the community.

The Forensic Pathology Service with its fully established forensic laboratory works closely with the Royal Hong Kong Police Force on the medical aspect of criminology and other medico-legal work. The work of the service also includes investigations in all homicides and coroner's cases. The professional staff dealt with a total of 4 892 post-mortem examinations, 1 051 clinical examinations and blood groupings, and 4 055 laboratory examinations in 1983.

### Radiology and Oncology Services

The Institute of Radiology and Oncology comprises 3 main divisions. The Radiodiagnostic Division provides a diagnostic organ image service for government institutions as well as a consultancy service to all government-assisted hospitals and private medical institutions. A whole-body computerised tomographic scanner was installed in each of the 3 government regional hospitals and a 4th one will be installed in the new Prince of Wales Hospital in 1984. The Nuclear Medicine Unit was upgraded in December 1983 with a consultant appointed to head the unit. The main task of the unit is to co-ordinate and improve various nuclear medicine procedures and to train medical personnel in the specialty.

The Radiation Therapy and Oncology Division, based at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Kowloon and Queen Mary Hospital in Hong Kong Island, provides a comprehensive radiotherapy as well as a chemotherapy service for the population of Hong Kong and Kowloon. The Division also operates a territory-wide Cancer Registry.

The Radiation Physics Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Radiation Physics, Nuclear Medicine and Mould Laboratories, Radiological Workshops for servicing radiological equipments in the institute and for overseeing the Photographic Section of the Institute.

The Radiobiology Division is engaged in Cancer and Radiobiological Research. Together with the Radiation Therapy and Oncology and Physics Divisions, they play an essential role in the training of radiotherapists and oncologists.

The Institute operates 4 in-service training courses : one for radiologists and one for radiotherapists and oncologists for the fellowship examinations of the Royal College of Radiologists in the United Kingdom, one for therapy radiographers for the diploma examination of the College of Radiographers in London, and one for Mould Laboratory Technicians for the certificate examination in Mould Laboratory Technology of the Medical and Health Department.

The Radiation Health Unit was set up in 1982 to cope with the much expanded administrative work of the Radiation Board catering to the requirements of the Radiation Ordinances and Regulations. The Unit undertakes regular visits to medical, commercial and industrial premises to inspect the working conditions of radiation workers. Radiation licences are issued to the proprietors in accordance with the Radiation Ordinances and Regulations. In 1983, over 1 000 licences were issued. A personnel radiation monitoring service is offered to over 2 000 radiation workers. A thermoluminescence dosimetry system will be commissioned in the latter part of 1984 to replace the previous film dosimetry system.

#### Pharmaceutical Service

The Pharmaceutical Service is made up of two main divisions. The first is the Hospital and Clinic Pharmacy Service which has a staff of about 500 and is responsible for the dispensing of medicine in all government hospitals and clinics. The second division is the Pharmacy Law Enforcement Service which has a staff of 17 pharmacists and 15 general grade staff.

In the Hospital and Clinic Pharmacy Service, the continual expansion of the medical services and the introduction of new sophisticated drugs had resulted in higher drug expenditure. In view of the high level of expenditure, the financial control system of the Pharmaceutical Service has been further improved and the feasibility of computerizing the pharmaceutical inventory control system was being examined by the Government Data Processing Agency.

In the pharmacy law enforcement side, actions have been intensified to deal with the illegal sale and distribution of poisons and antibiotics. That resulted in an all-time record of 122 numbers of prosecutions in the year. The Law Enforcement Section had been increasingly called upon by other law enforcement and social service agencies to give lectures on the classification, identification, control and abuse potential of pharmaceutical products.

## VII Medical Development

Several medical projects were completed, new services introduced and sophisticated equipment acquired during 1983 as part of the continued efforts in the vigorous programme of development for the medical and health services. The demand for services continued to rise during 1983 with the increasing population bringing pressure of work on all fronts.

The Medical and Health Department's development programme in the next decade envisages the construction of five major government hospitals. During 1983, work was completed on the 1 446-bed regional hospital to serve the eastern New Territories - the Prince of Wales Hospital at Shatin - to become operational in 1984. Others planned or under construction include a 1 600-bed hospital at Tuen Mun, a 1 500-bed hospital at Chaiwan and two 1 400-bed hospitals in East Kowloon and Tai Po. Plans also include the provision of extension blocks to the three existing regional hospitals : the Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Hospitals.

Other projects in the pipe line include further extension to the Caritas Medical Centre, Yan Chai Hospital and Pok Oi Hospital and the redevelopment of the Ruttonjee Sanatorium into a 432-bed general hospital. Two new private hospitals are in the planning stage with capacities ranging between 300 and 600 beds.

The Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Centre was completed during the year and construction work finished on the Kwai Chung Hospital mortuary.

Projects completed in the government-assisted sector included the Yan Chai Hospital Extension Stage II, and the Caritas Medical Centre's Enrolled Nurse Training School.

In April, an accident and emergency section became operational at the Chaiwan Health Centre. It was set up as a stop-gap measure to provide treatment to emergency cases as heavy traffic congestion in Eastern District had been delaying the transportation of emergency cases from the area to major government hospitals.

A major development in the latter part of the period was the installation of two computerised axial tomography (CAT) whole-body scanners at the Queen Mary and Princess Margaret Hospitals. These were in addition to the CAT scanner installed at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital which has proved a valuable asset in the investigation of cancer and the diagnosis of severe head injuries.

### VIII Training

Graduates of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Hong Kong are awarded Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degrees recognised by the General Medical Council of Great Britain. Both the government and the university maintain a comprehensive post-graduate training programme. Opportunities are available for local doctors to sit for higher professional examinations, attain fellowships and attend professional conferences, seminars and workshops. During the year, more than 170 qualified doctors were sent overseas under government sponsorship or other scholarships to receive further training.

The University of Hong Kong produces about 150 medical doctors a year, whereas the Chinese University has an annual intake of 80 medical students.

Nurses are the major front-line workers in the provision of health care service, the establishment has grown to over 9 000 in early 1984. Basic training for general registered nurses is available at government, government-assisted and private hospitals. In early 1984, eight such training schools were in operation with an annual intake of about 1 200 nurses a year. A further four general registered nurse training schools providing over 460 additional training posts are planned for in the coming decade. Over the same period, the training capacity for general enrolled nurses will increase from 612 to 777.

Training schools for registered psychiatric nurses are at Kwai Chung Hospital and Castle Peak Hospital, with an annual capacity for 120 and 40 respectively. Psychiatric enrolled nurses are trained at Castle Peak Hospital which has an output of about 60 nurses a year, to be further increased to 80 in 1986.

There is increasing awareness on the need for continuing training and education for nurses. The post-basic school of the Nursing Unit continues to provide a regular post registration courses in Midwifery, Health Nursing, Community Health Nursing. In-service training courses are also organised where appropriate in Intensive-care, Stoma-care, Renal Nursing, Oncology and Operating Theatre.

The Institute of Medical and Health Care at the Hong Kong Polytechnic provides training for para-medical and para-dental staff including radiographers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, medical laboratory technicians, dental technicians and dental surgery assistants. In-service training courses are also available for students for prosthetists, dispensers, radiographers (therapeutics) and mould laboratory technicians.

### IX Acknowledgement

I wish to pay tribute to all the staff who have contributed to the efficient and effective functioning of the Department in the year under review. Though there had been pressure and difficulties, all performed their duties with devotion and dedication. I am most grateful for their unfailing support.

The Department acknowledges with thanks the assistance and co-operation given by other Government Departments, voluntary agencies, the press, the radio and television network.

Many public spirited persons have devoted their time and energy to serve on statutory boards, advisory committees, working parties and in voluntary agencies dealing with the many aspects of medical and health services in Hong Kong. Their contributions are much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to record my appreciation for the contributions of private individuals as well as local and overseas organisations who have assisted the Department in providing facilities for those in need of medical care. It is hoped that they will continue to contribute to the Medical Development Programme in the challenging years ahead. With such sound support I am confident that the Department will continue to provide a good service.

(K.L. THONG)

Director of Medical & Health Services

MAPS

## A

HONG KONG ISLANDGOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

- a. Queen Mary Hospital (a regional hospital for Hong Kong Island) A1
- b. Tang Shiu Kin Hospital (a general hospital with accident and emergency department and out-patient facilities) A1
- c. Tsan Yuk Hospital (a maternity hospital) A1

GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED HOSPITALS

- d. Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital (a general hospital with out-patient facilities) A1
- e. Cheshire Home (a convalescent home) B2
- f. Duchess of Kent Children's Hospital at Sandy Bay A1
- g. Freni Memorial Convalescent Home A1
- h. Grantham Hospital (a tuberculosis and cardiothoracic surgery hospital) A1
- i. Nam Long Hospital (a cancer hospital) A2
- j. Ruttonjee Sanatorium (a tuberculosis hospital) A1
- k. Tung Wah Hospital (a general hospital with out-patient facilities) A1
- l. Tung Wah Eastern Hospital (a general hospital with out-patient facilities) B1
- m. Tung Wah Sandy Bay Convalescent Hospital A1

PRIVATE HOSPITALS

- n. Canossa Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- o. Hong Kong Adventist Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- p. Hong Kong Central Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- q. Hong Kong Sanatorium and Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- r. Matilda and War Memorial Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- s. St. Paul's Hospital (a general hospital) B1

OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS

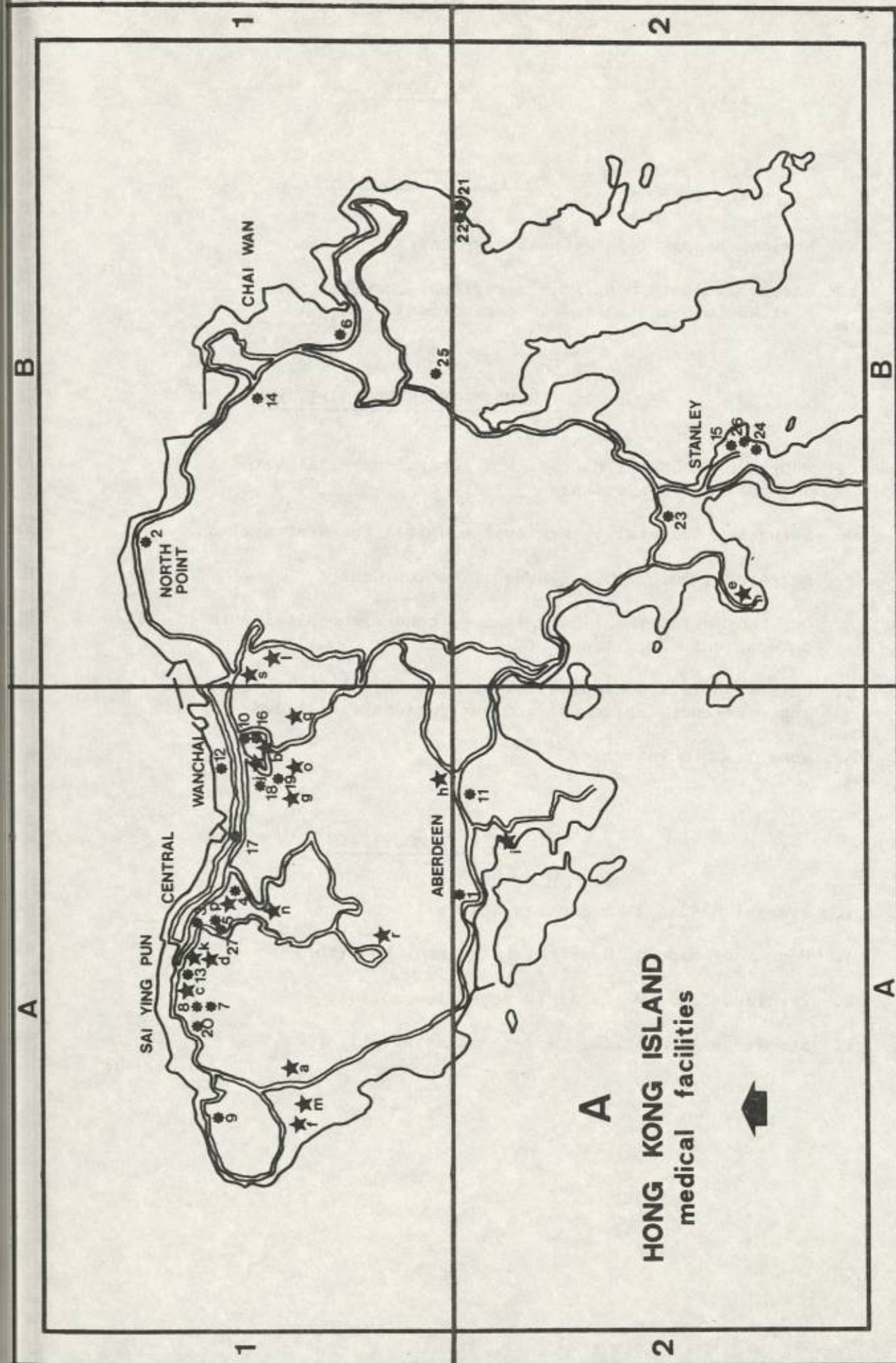
1. Aberdeen Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, eye clinic, chest clinic, social hygiene clinic, methadone clinic and dental clinic) A2
2. Anne Black Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, eye clinic, dermatological clinic, dental clinic and X-ray survey centre) B1
3. Central District Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, eye clinic and dermatological clinic) A1
4. Central Government Offices Dental Clinic A1
5. Central Police Station Medical Post (general out-patient facilities and dental clinic) A1
6. Chai Wan Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, accident and emergency department, family health centre, psychiatric clinic and methadone clinic) B1
7. David Trench Rehabilitation Centre (embracing Tang Shiu Kin Physiotherapy Unit, Hong Kong Psychiatric Centre and family health centre) A1
8. Eastern Street Methadone Clinic A1
9. Kennedy Town Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and dental clinic) A1
10. MacLehose Dental Centre A1
11. Aberdeen Police Training School Clinic (general out-patient facilities and dental clinic) A2
12. Port Health Inoculation Centre, Centre Point, Wanchai A1
13. Sai Ying Pun Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, eye clinic, ENT clinic, chest clinic, social hygiene clinic, dermatological clinic, dental clinic and specialist clinic for Queen Mary Hospital) A1
14. Shau Kei Wan Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic, ENT clinic, chest clinic, dermatological clinic and dental clinic) B1
15. Stanley Public Dispensary (general out-patient facilities and family health centre) B2
16. Tang Chi Ngong Specialist Clinic (family health centre, eye clinic, ENT clinic, dermatological clinic, general out-patient facilities for English-speaking Government Servants and their families and specialist clinic for Queen Mary Hospital) A1
17. Violet Peel Health Centre (general out-patient facilities) A1

- 18. Violet Peel Methadone Clinic
- 19. Wan Chai Polyclinic (chest clinic, dental clinic and physiotherapy department)
- 20. Western Dental Clinic

HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTRES IN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- 21. Cape Collinson Correctional Institution (Training Centre)
- 22. Cape Collinson Correctional Institution (Closed Centre)
- 23. Ma Hang Prison
- 24. Stanley Prison
- 25. Tai Tam Gap Correctional Institution
- 26. Tung Tau Correctional Institution
- 27. Victoria Prison

A1  
A1  
A1  
B2  
B2  
B2  
B2  
B1  
B2  
A1



## B

KOWLOONGOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

- a. Kowloon Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- b. Queen Elizabeth Hospital (a regional hospital for East Kowloon and East New Territories) A2

GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED HOSPITALS

- c. Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital (a general hospital with out-patient facilities) A1
- d. Kwong Wah Hospital (a regional hospital for West Kowloon) A2
- e. Margaret Trench Medical Rehabilitation Centre B2
- f. Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital (a general hospital with out-patient facilities) B1
- g. United Christian Hospital (a general hospital with accident and emergency department and out-patient facilities) B1
- h. Wong Tai Sin Infirmary B1

PRIVATE HOSPITALS

- i. Evangel Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- j. Hong Kong Baptist Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- k. Precious Blood Hospital (a general hospital) A1
- l. St. Teresa's Hospital (a general hospital) A1

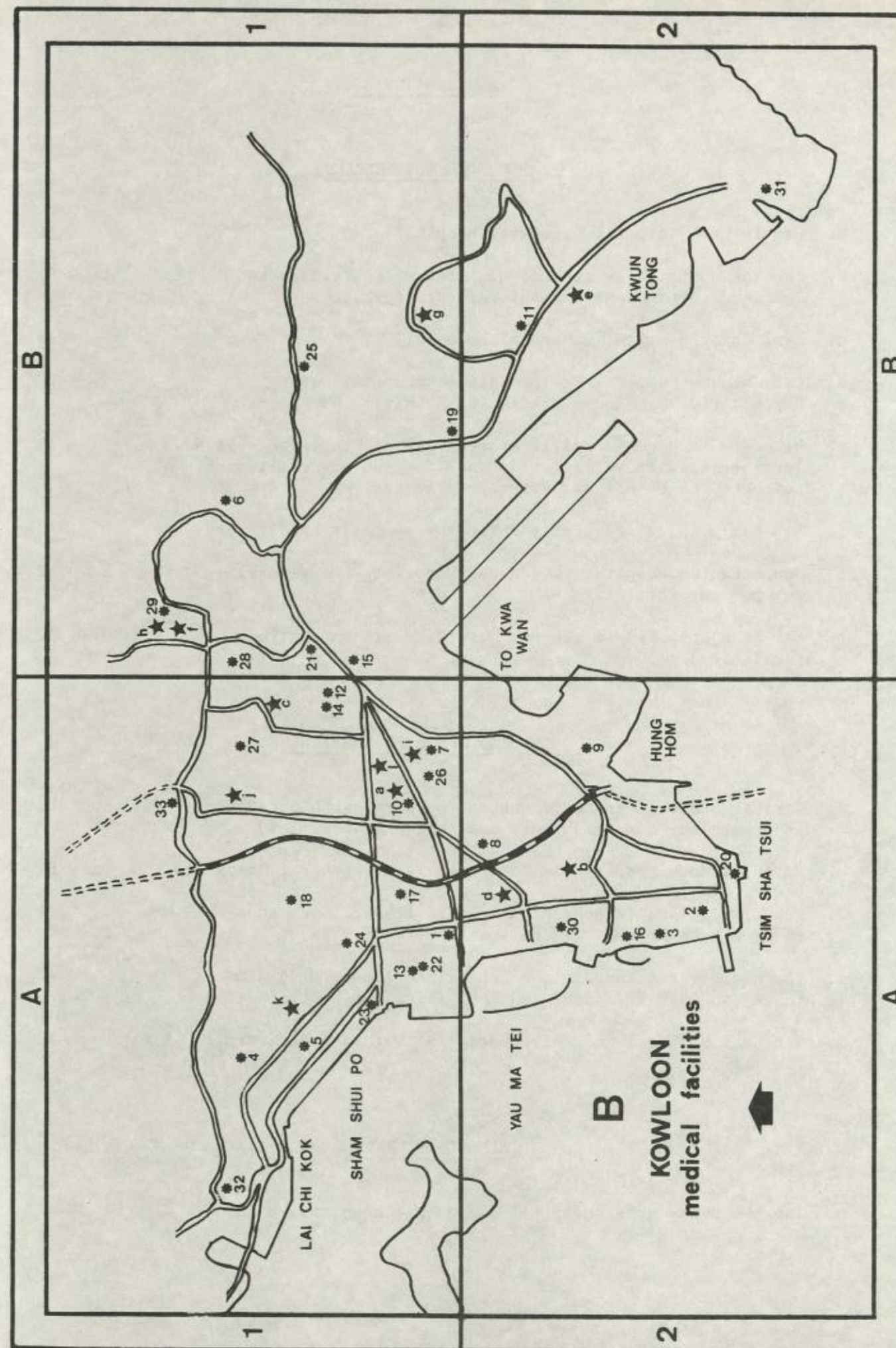
OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS

1. Argyle Street School Dental Clinic A1
2. Ashley Road Social Hygiene Clinic (male treatment centre for venereal disease) A2
3. Canton Road Government Medical Clinic (general out-patient facilities and dental clinic) A2
4. Cheung Sha Wan Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home and methadone clinic) A1
5. Cheung Sha Wan Police Quarters Clinic (general out-patient facilities and dental clinic) A1
6. East Kowloon Polyclinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and chest clinic) B1
7. Farm Road Dental Clinic A1
8. Ho Man Tin Methadone Clinic A2
9. Hung Hom Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and methadone clinic) A2
10. Kowloon Hospital Out-patient Department (general out-patient facilities, chest clinic and special skin clinic) A1
11. Kwun Tong Jockey Club Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic, methadone clinic and dental clinic) B2
12. Li Kee Clinic (general out-patient facilities, methadone clinic and dental clinic) A1
13. Li Po Chun Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home and methadone clinic) A1
14. Lions Club Maternal and Child Health Centre (family health centre and maternity home) A1
15. Medical Clinic, Kai Tak Airport B1
16. Medical Examination Board A2
17. Mong Kok Dental Clinic A1
18. Nam Shan Health Centre (general out-patient facilities and family health centre) A1
19. Ngau Tau Kok Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and maternity home) B1
20. Port Health Inoculation Centre, New World Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui A2

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 21. Robert Black Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, ENT clinic and methadone clinic)  | B1 |
| 22. Rotary Club of Kowloon Child Assessment Clinic (Arran Street)   | A1 |
| 23. Sham Shui Po Public Dispensary (general out-patient facilities and methadone clinic)  | A1 |
| 24. Shek Kip Mei Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, chest clinic, dermatological clinic and methadone clinic)   | A1 |
| 25. Shun Lee Government Clinic (general out-patient facilities and family health centre)  | B1 |
| 26. Tin Kwong Road Dental Clinic  | A1 |
| 27. Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic and methadone clinic)   | A1 |
| 28. Wong Tai Sin Police Quarters Clinic (general out-patient facilities and dental clinic)  | B1 |
| 29. Wu York Yu Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home and methadone clinic)  | B1 |
| 30. Yau Ma Tei Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, eye clinic, ENT clinic, chest clinic, psychiatric clinic, social hygiene clinic, dermatological clinic, methadone clinic, dental clinic and X-ray survey centre) | A2 |
| 31. Yau Tong Maternal and Child Health Centre (family health centre)  | B2 |

HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTRES IN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- |                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 32. Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre | B2 |
| 33. Phoenix House                | A1 |



NEW TERRITORIESGOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| a. Castle Peak Hospital (a mental hospital)  | A1 |
| b. Fanling Hospital (a general hospital with accident and emergency department and out-patient facilities)   | B1 |
| c. Kwai Chung Hospital (a mental hospital)   | A2 |
| d. Lai Chi Kok Hospital (a specialised hospital with a Psychiatric Unit and a Special Skin Unit)   | B2 |
| e. Princess Margaret Hospital (a regional hospital for West New Territories with an isolation unit for the segregation of suspected cases of quarantinable diseases) | A2 |
| f. Siu Lam Hospital (a hospital for the mentally handicapped)  | A2 |
| g. South Lantao Hospital (a general hospital with general out-patient facilities)  | A2 |
| h. St. John Hospital (a general hospital with out-patient facilities)  | A2 |

GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED HOSPITALS

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| i. Caritas Medical Centre (a general hospital with accident and emergency department and out-patient facilities)  | B2 |
| j. Haven of Hope Hospital (a tuberculosis and general hospital)   | B2 |
| k. Pok Oi Hospital (a general hospital with accident and emergency department and out-patient facilities)         | A1 |
| l. The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers (Shek Kwu Chau Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre) | A2 |
| m. Yan Chai Hospital (a general hospital with out-patient facilities)   | A2 |

PRIVATE HOSPITAL

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| n. Tsuen Wan Adventist Hospital (a general hospital) | A1 |
|--|----|

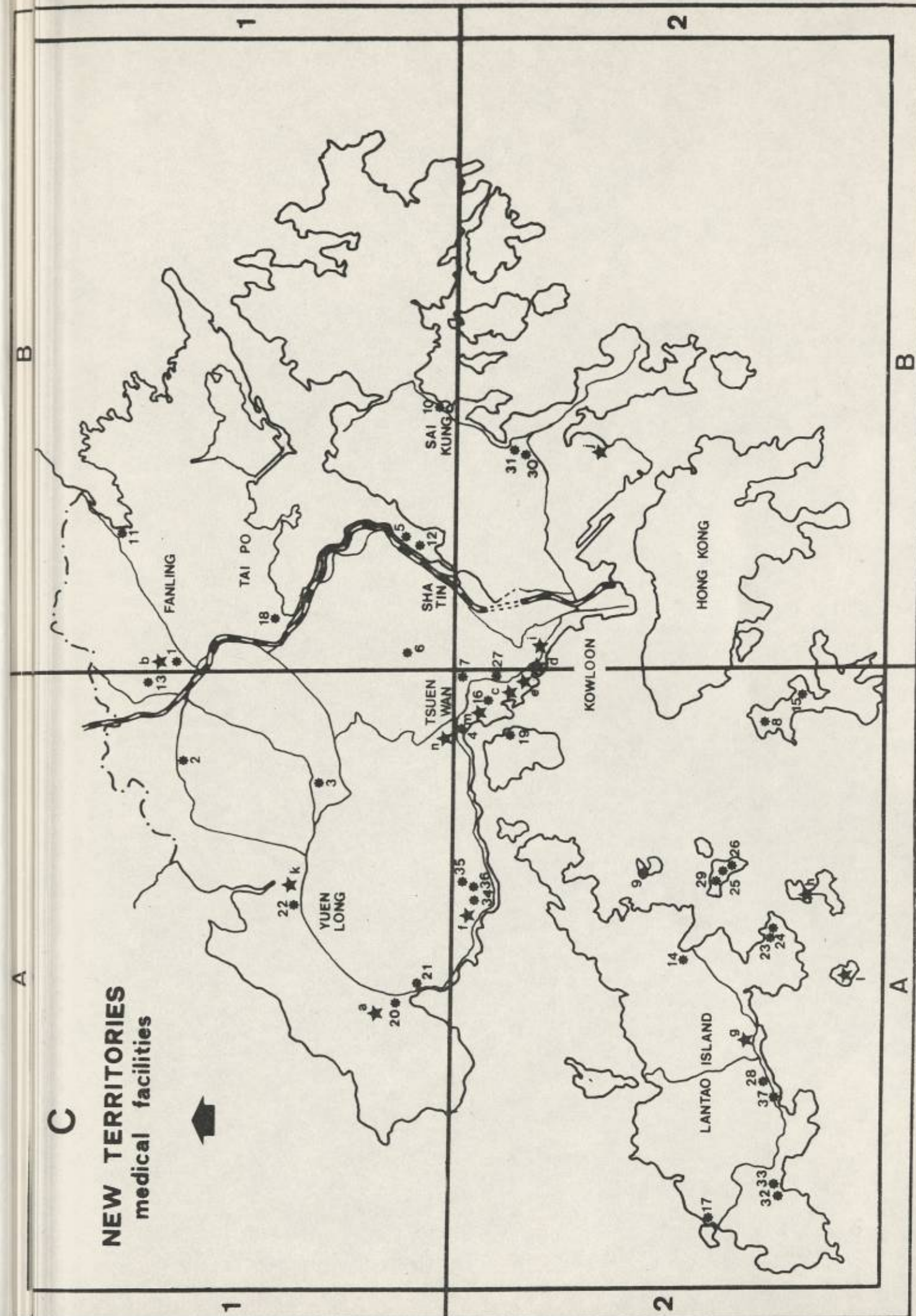
OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Fanling Dental Clinic   | B1 |
| 2. Ho Tung Dispensary (general out-patient facilities)   | A1 |
| 3. Kam Tin Health Centre (general out-patient facilities and family health centre)   | A1 |
| 4. Lady Trench Polyclinic (general out-patient facilities, dermatological clinic, methadone clinic and dental clinic)  | A2 |
| 5. Lek Yuen Health Centre (general out-patient facilities and family health centre)  | B1 |
| 6. Mrs. Wu York Yu Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and maternity home)   | B1 |
| 7. North Kwai Chung Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and methadone clinic)   | A2 |
| 8. North Lamma Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and maternity home)  | A2 |
| 9. Peng Chau Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic, special skin clinic and social hygiene clinic)  | A2 |
| 10. Sai Kung Government Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic and chest clinic)   | B1 |
| 11. Sha Tau Kok Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and maternity home)   | B1 |
| 12. Sha Tin Clinic and Maternity Home (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, chest clinic and methadone clinic)  | B1 |
| 13. Shek Wu Hui Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, maternity home, eye clinic, chest clinic, social hygiene clinic and methadone clinic)  | A1 |
| 14. Mui Wo Dispensary (general out-patient facilities, family health centre and maternity home)  | A2 |
| 15. Sok Kwu Wan Clinic (general out-patient facilities)  | A2 |
| 16. South Kwai Chung Jockey Club Polyclinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic, ENT clinic, chest clinic, psychiatric clinic, social hygiene clinic and specialist clinic for Princess Margaret Hospital) | A2 |

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 17. Tai O Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, chest clinic and dental clinic)  | A2 |
| 18. Tai Po Jockey Club Clinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic, chest clinic, special skin clinic, social hygiene clinic and dental clinic)                             | B1 |
| 19. Tsing Yi Clinic (general out-patient facilities and family health centre)  | A2 |
| 20. Tuen Mun Clinic (general out-patient facilities, maternity home and methadone clinic)  | A1 |
| 21. Yan Oi Polyclinic (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, eye clinic, chest clinic and dental clinic)   | A1 |
| 22. Yuen Long Jockey Club Health Centre (general out-patient facilities, family health centre, maternity home, eye clinic, chest clinic, special skin clinic, social hygiene clinic, methadone clinic and dental clinic) | A1 |

HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTRES IN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 23. Chi Ma Wan Prison                        | A2 |
| 24. Chi Ma Wan Closed Centre                 | A2 |
| 25. Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre | A2 |
| 26. Hei Ling Chau Closed Centre              | A2 |
| 27. Lai King Training Centre                 | A2 |
| 28. Ma Po Ping Prison                        | A2 |
| 29. Nei Kwu Chau Addiction Treatment Centre  | A2 |
| 30. Pik Uk Correctional Institution          | B2 |
| 31. Pik Uk Prison                            | B2 |
| 32. Sha Tsui Detention Centre                | A2 |
| 33. Shek Pik Prison                          | A2 |
| 34. Siu Lam Psychiatric Centre               | A2 |
| 35. Tai Lam Centre for Women                 | A2 |
| 36. Tai Lam Correctional Institution         | A2 |
| 37. Tong Fuk Centre                          | A2 |



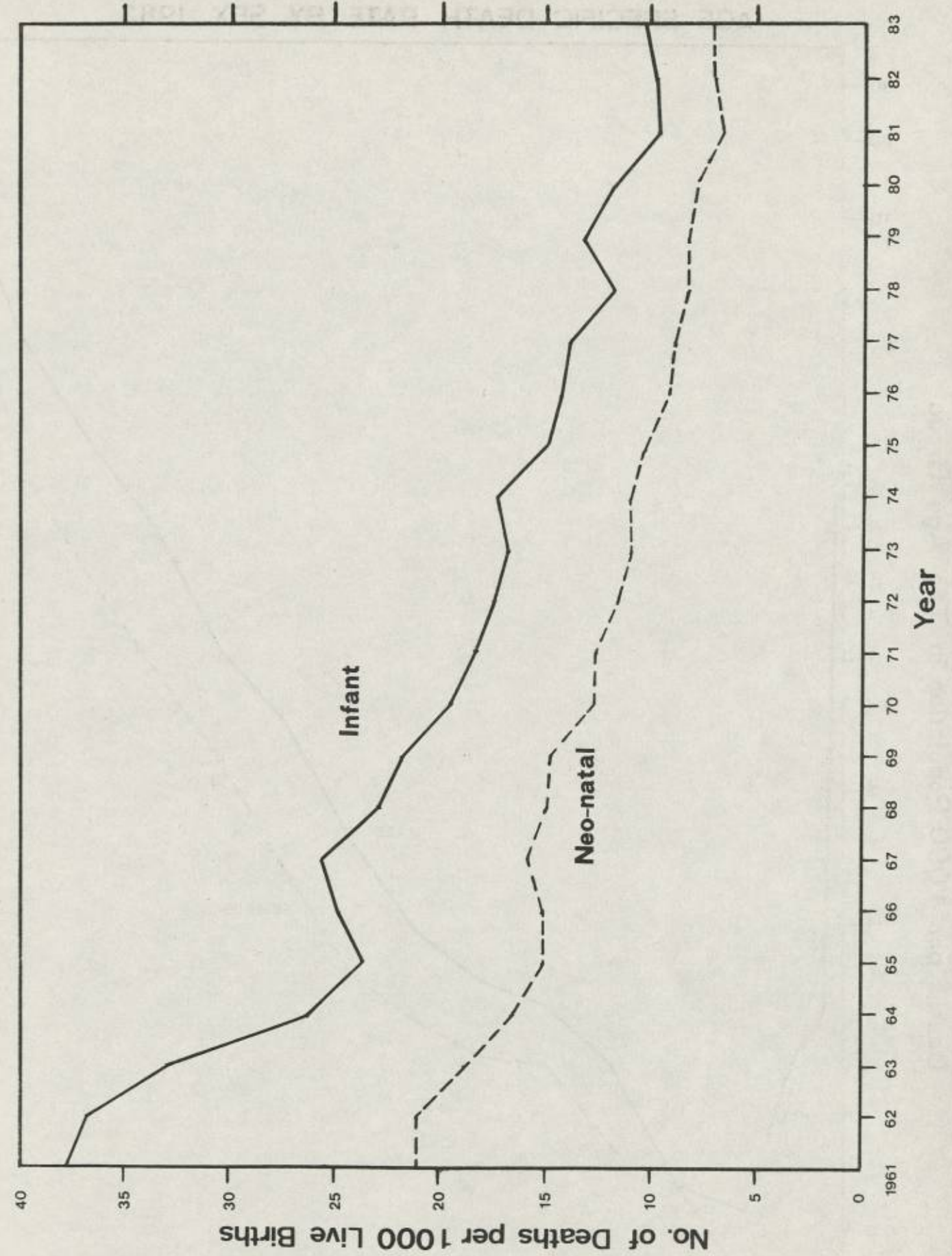
**FIGURES**

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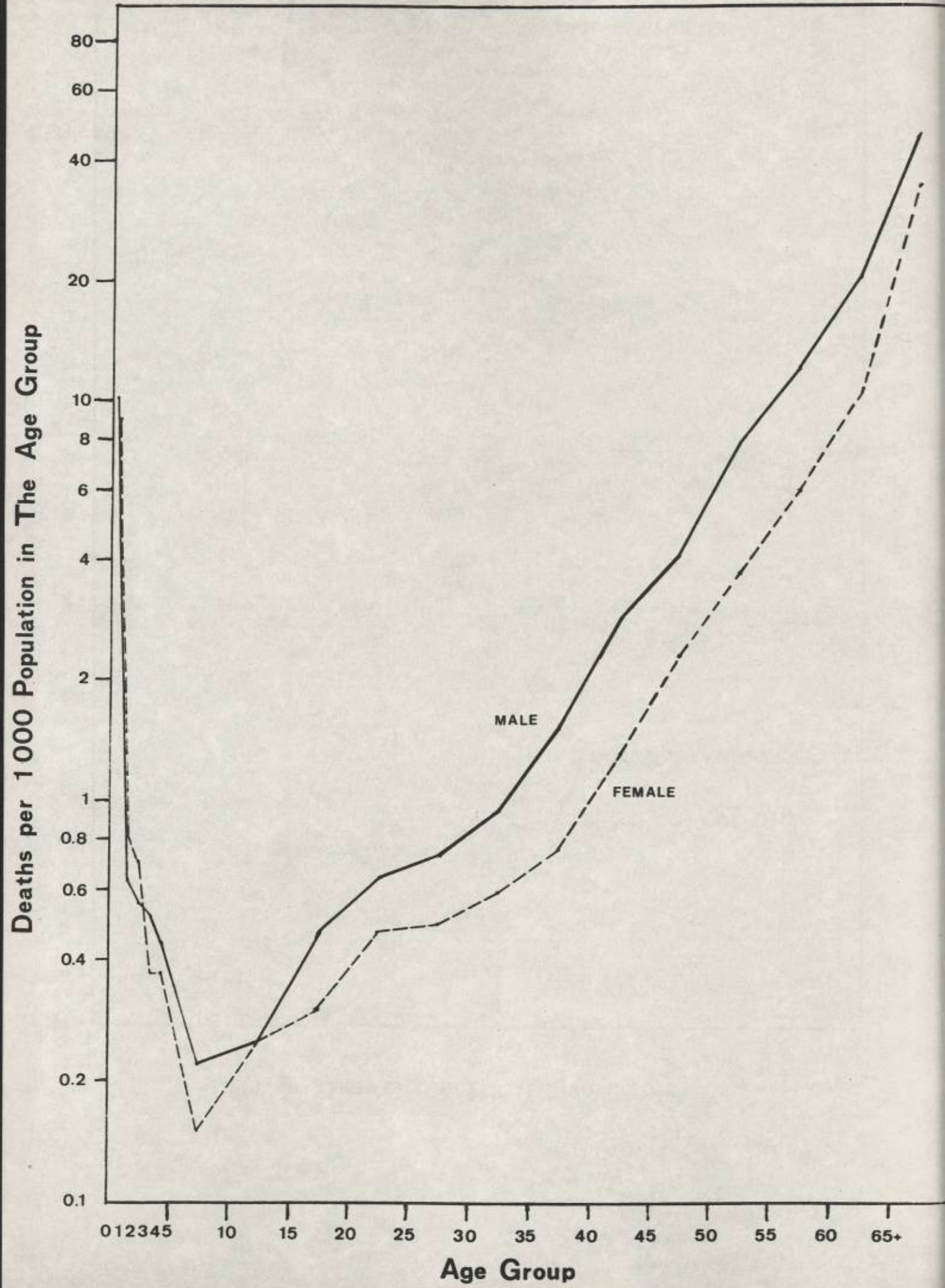
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FIGURE 1

INFANT AND NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE 1961-1983



**FIGURE 2**  
**AGE SPECIFIC DEATH RATE BY SEX 1983**



**FIGURE 3**  
**NOTIFICATION RATE OF MAJOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES**  
**1961 - 1983**

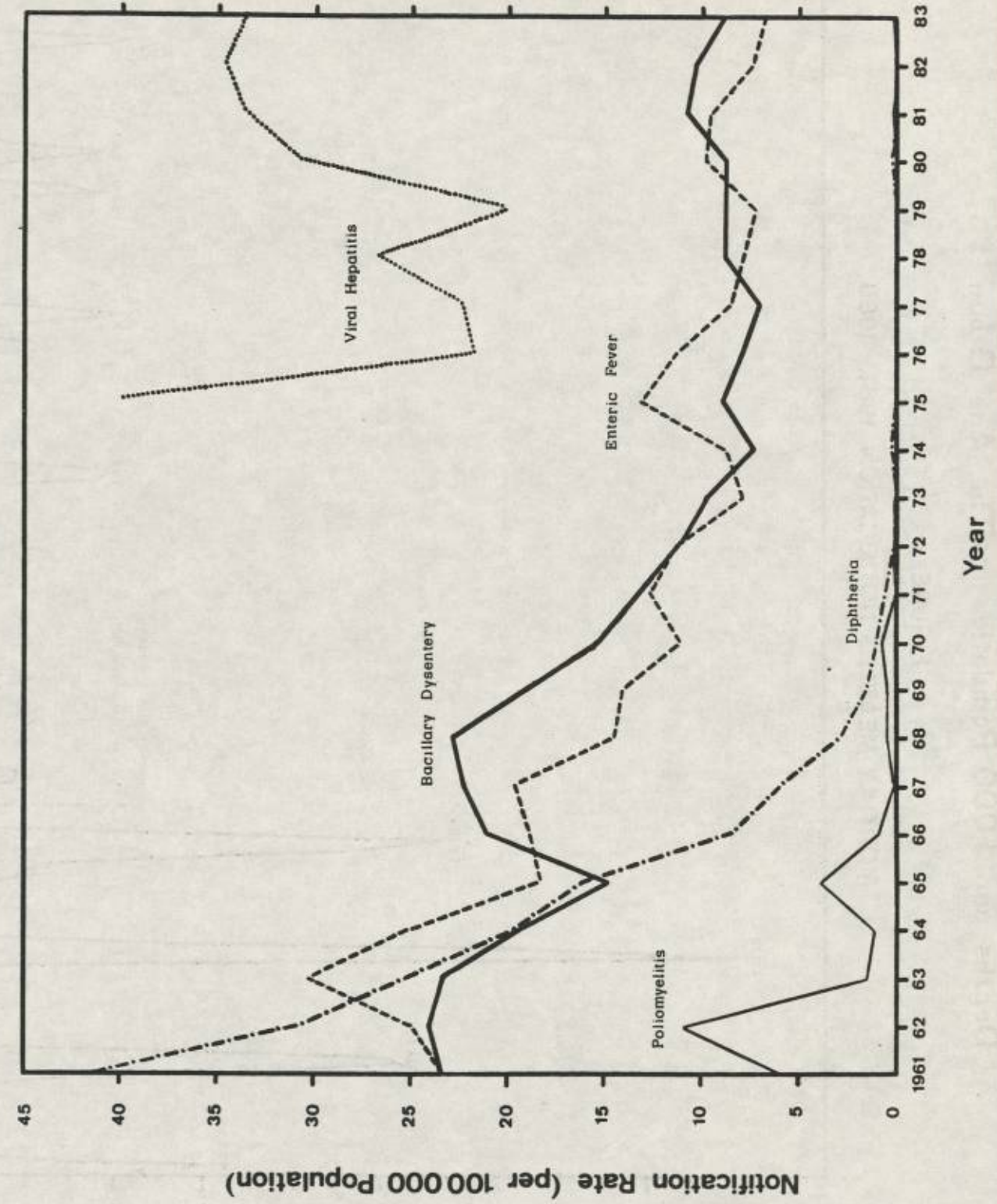


FIGURE 4  
MONTHLY MEASLES NOTIFICATION 1961 - 1983

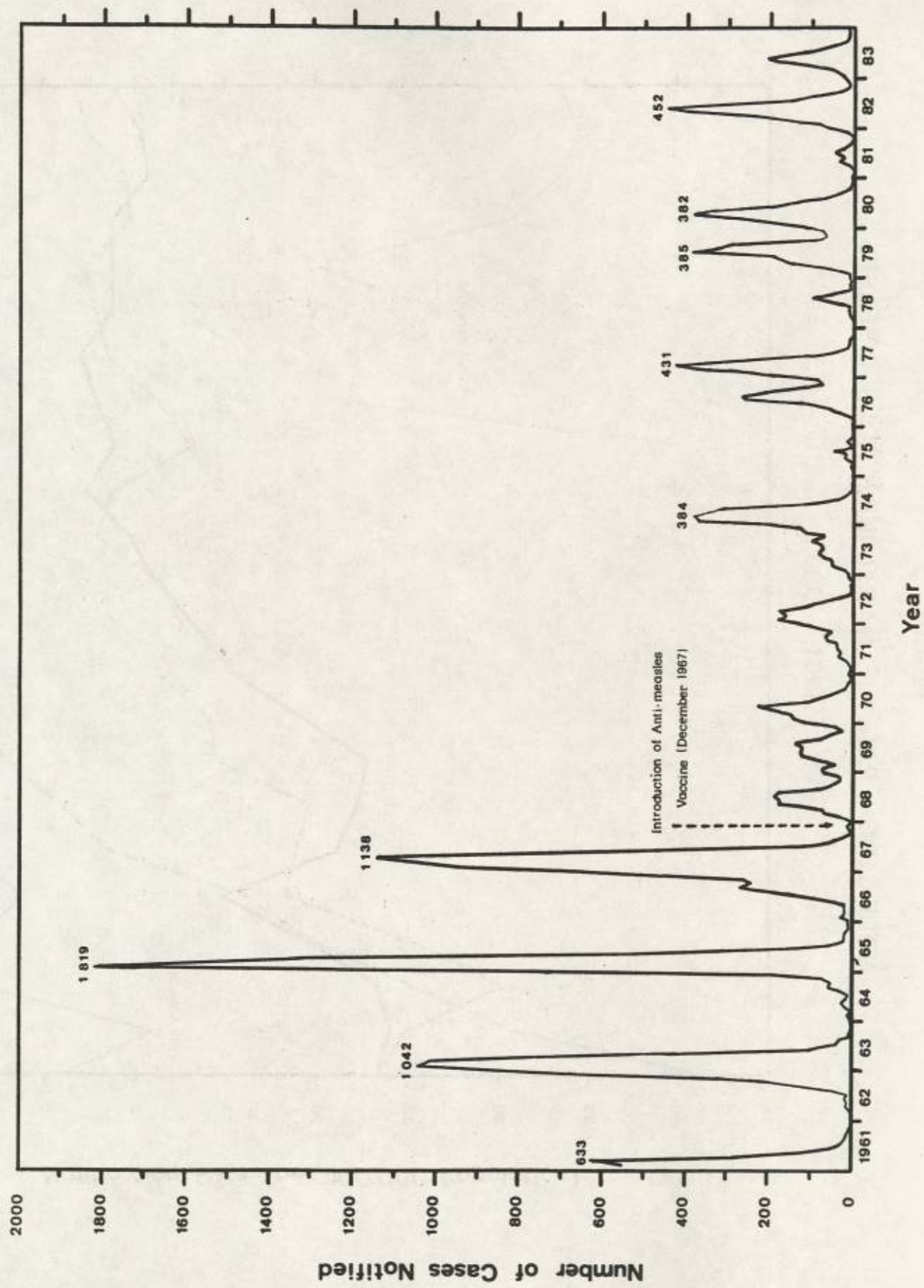


FIGURE 5  
TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY RATE BY AGE & SEX 1973 & 1983

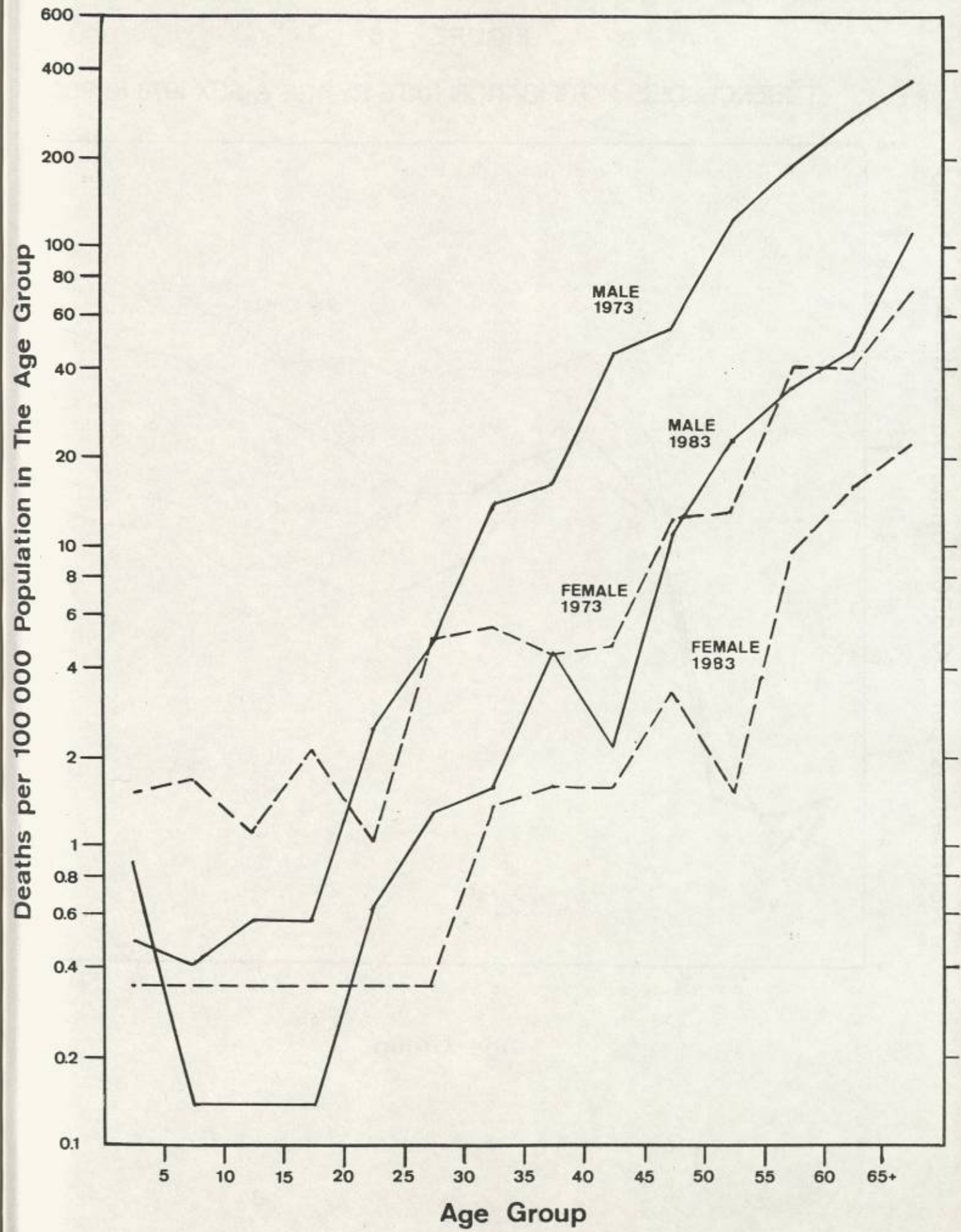


FIGURE 6

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATION RATE BY AGE & SEX 1973 & 1983

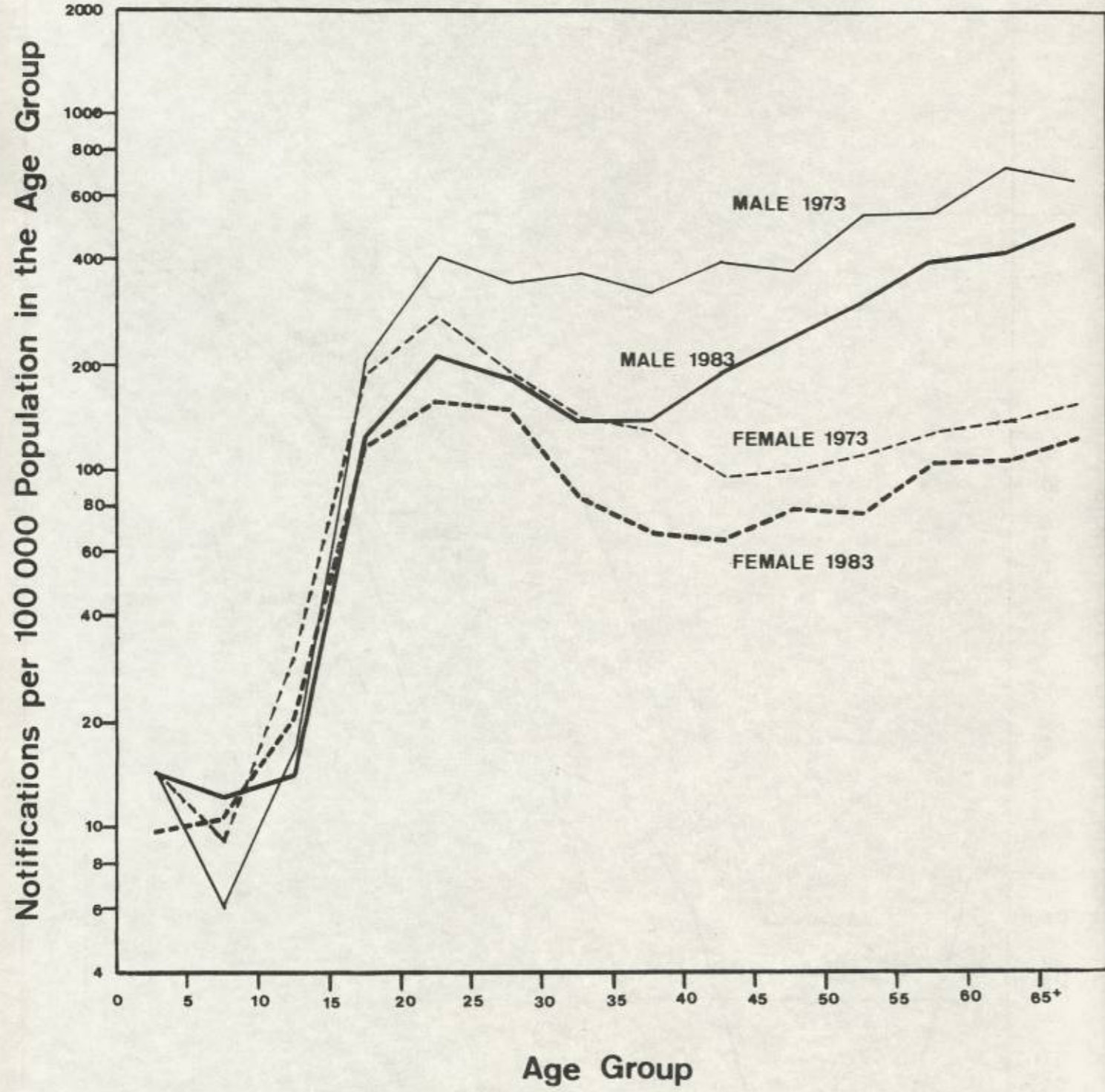


FIGURE 7  
TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY RATE & PERCENTAGE  
OF NEWBORNS VACCINATED (B.C.G.) 1952-1983

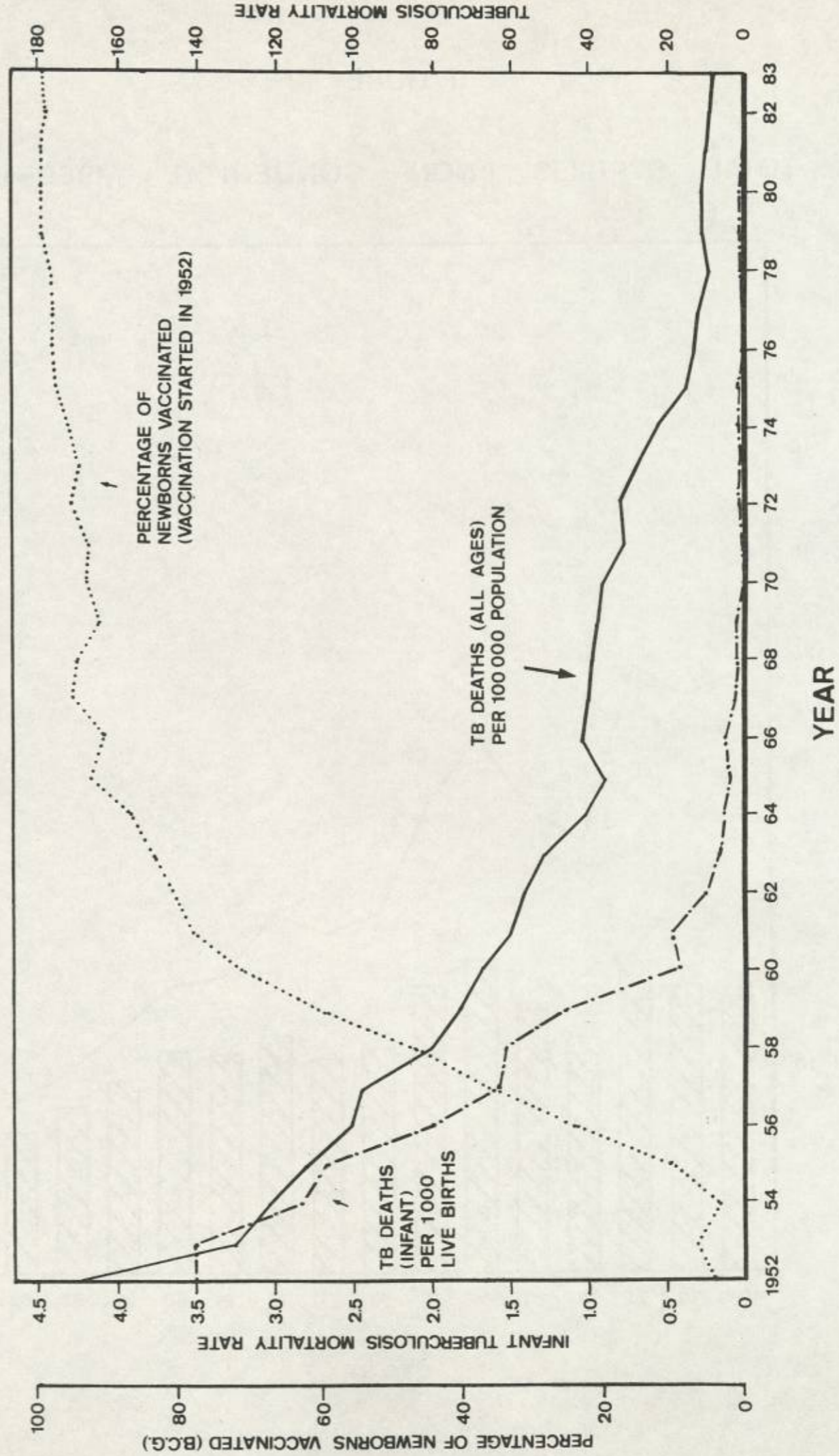
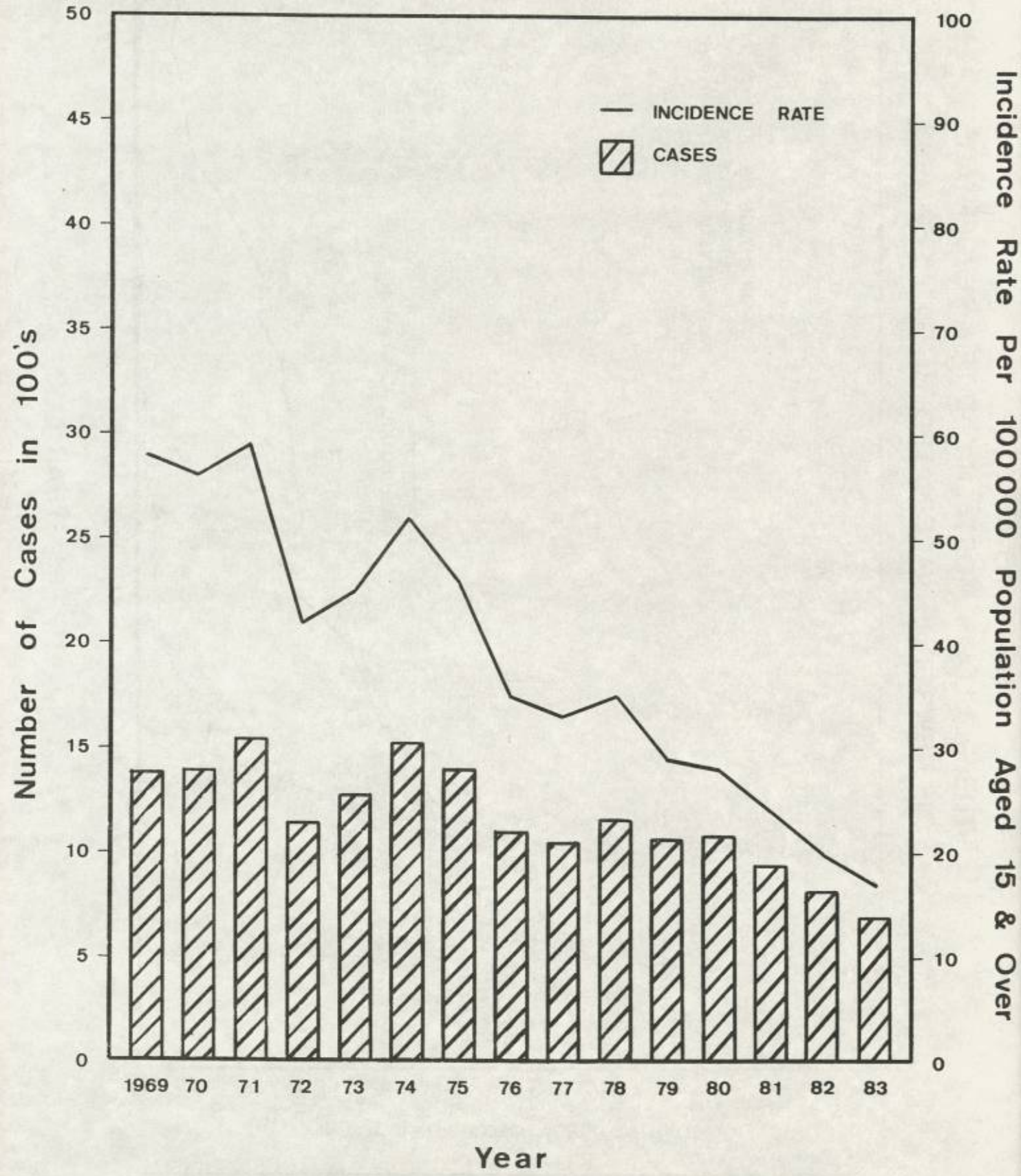


FIGURE 8

TOTAL SYPHILIS (NON - CONGENITAL) 1969-1983



Incidence Rate Per 100 000 Population Aged 15 & Over

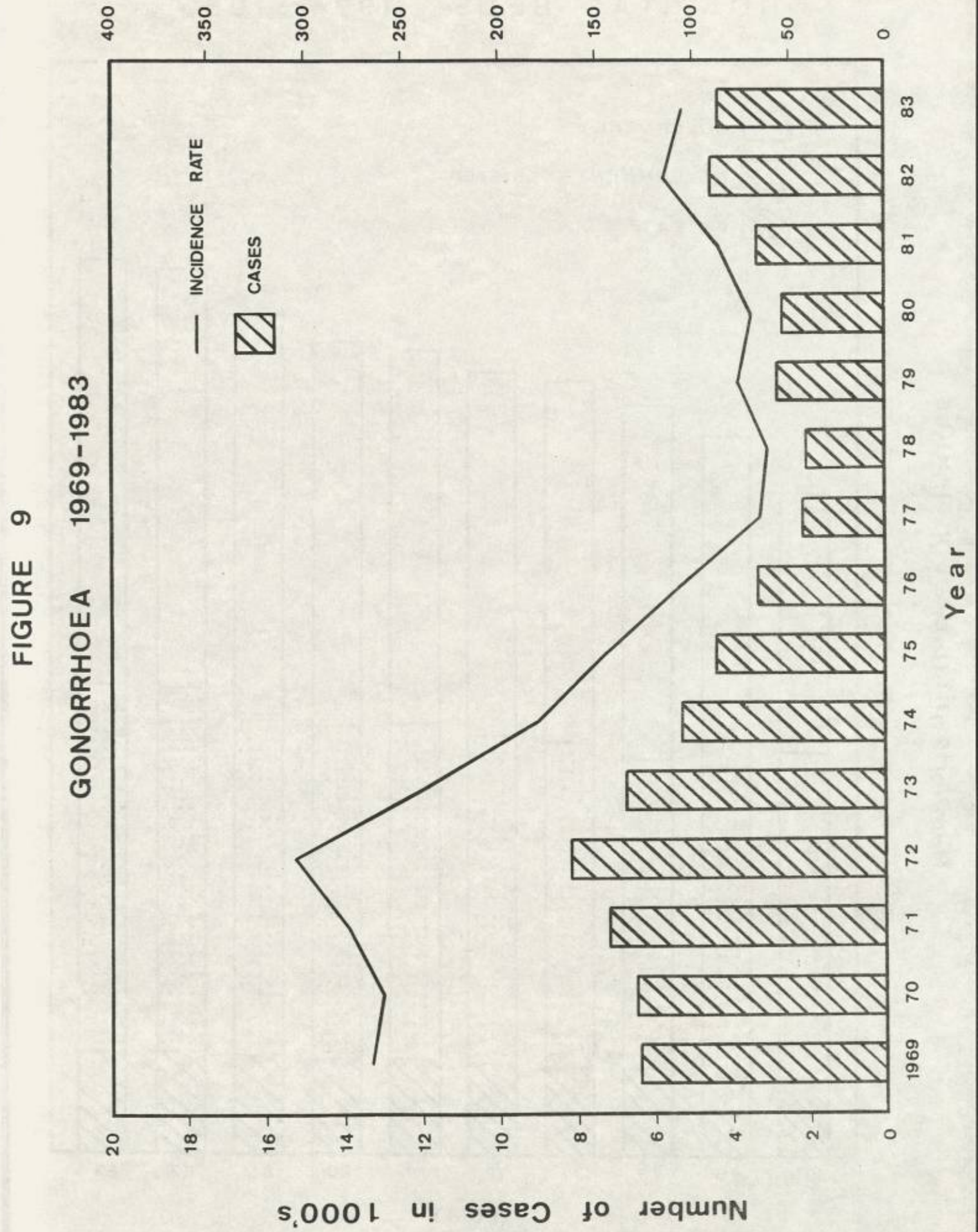


FIGURE 9

GONORRHOEA 1969-1983

FIGURE 10

HOSPITAL BEDS 1974-1983

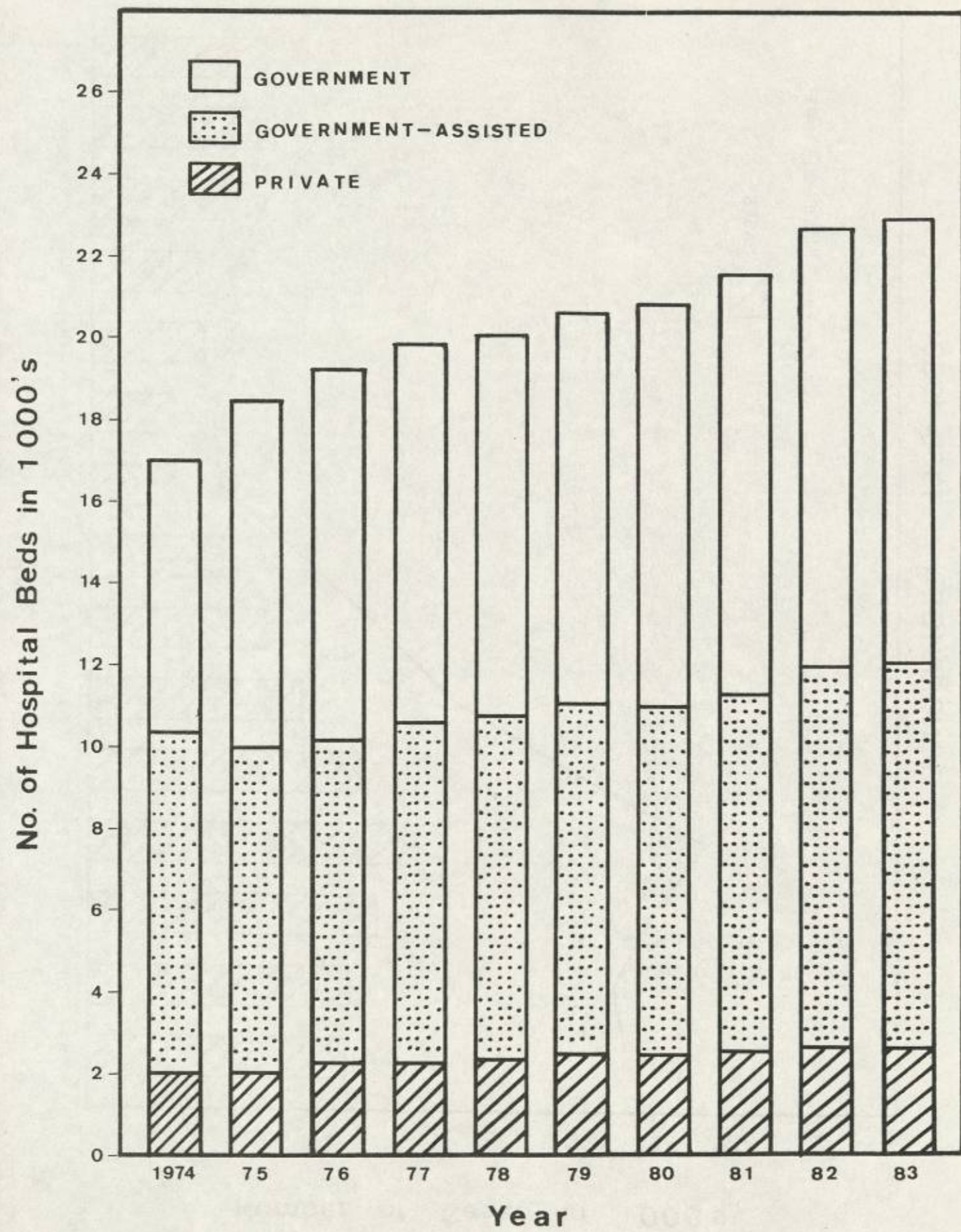
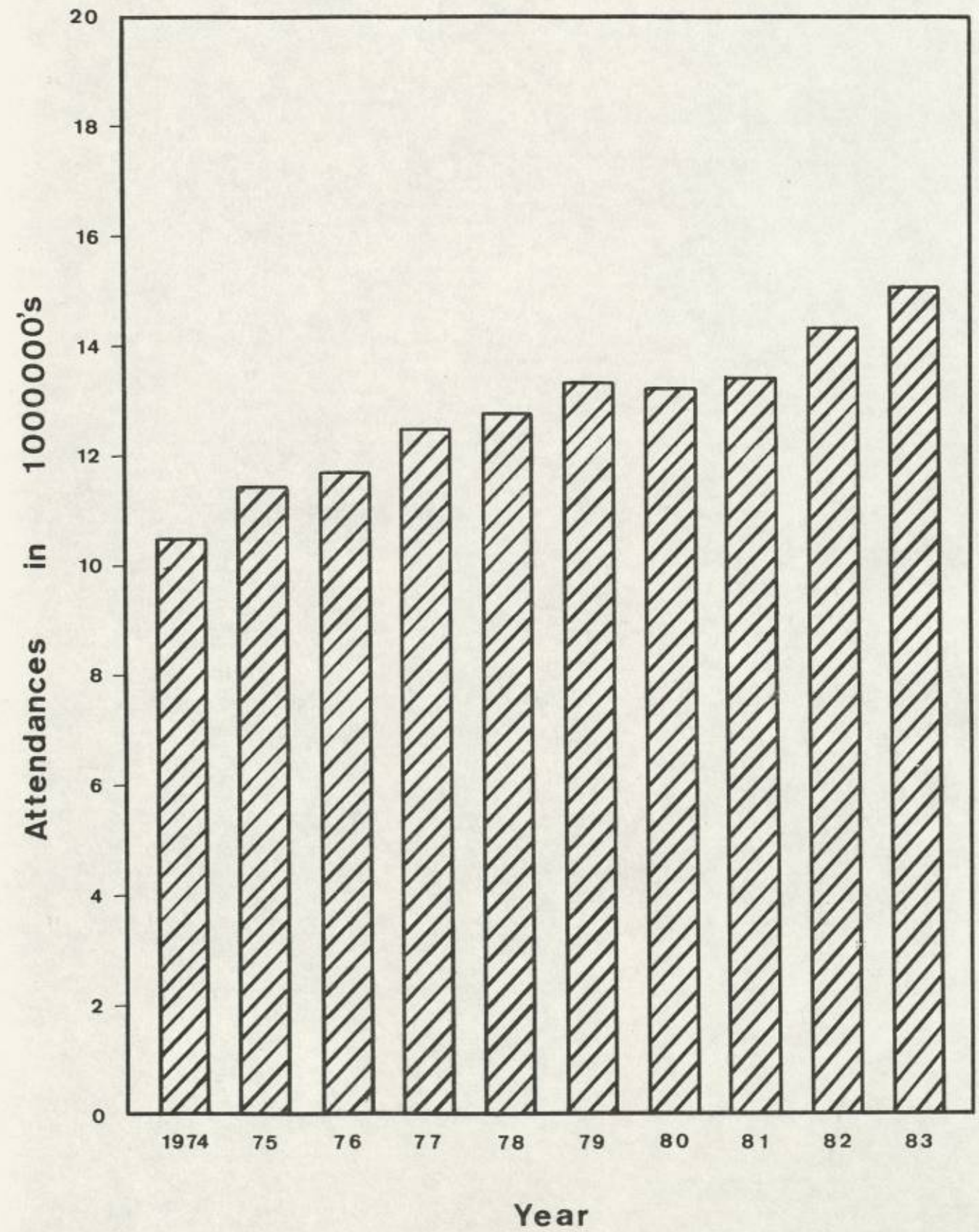


FIGURE 11

TOTAL OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCES  
IN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS 1974-1983



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TABLE 1 ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICAL & HEALTH DEPARTMENT AS AT 31.3.1984

Grade	Zone	Headquarters & Health/Miscellaneous Services	Kowloon Hospital	Prince of Wales Hospital	Princess Margaret Hospital	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	Queen Mary Hospital	Medical Services	Mental Health Service	Total	Strength on 31.3.1984
Director of Medical & Health Services		1								1	1
Deputy Director of Medical & Health Services		2								2	2
Senior Assistant Director of Medical & Health Services		4								4	4
Assistant Director of Medical & Health Services		4+1@								4+1@	2
Consultant (Incl. Dental)		12	1		15	24	10	13	8	83	81
Principal Medical & Health Officer		14	1		1	1	1	2		20	17
Senior Medical & Health Officer/Medical & Health Officer		221	29	54	180	276	113	332	74	1279	1252
Nursing Director		1								1	1
*Nursing Staff (Incl. Psychiatric Nursing Staff)		899	467	1259	1241	1681	1254	923	1068	8792	8668
Senior Inoculator/Inoculator		107								107	101
Midwife/Student Midwife		152			17		12	154		335	287
*Principal Dental Officer/Senior Dental Officer/ Dental Officer/Assistant Dental Officer		110	3	1	3	4	2		4	127	116
Dental Hygienist/Student Dental Hygienist		3								3	3
Dental Inspector		2								2	2
Senior Dental Surgery Assistant/Dental Surgery Assistant		120	3				3		4	137	129