

EPIDEMIOLOGIC SURVEILLANCE AND COMMUNITY DIAGNOSIS

A. Categories of Data to be obtained

1. Patterns of Utilization of Existing Health Services
 - a. Extent of current utilization within and outside of county
 - b. Determinants of utilization and non-utilization
 - c. Degree of coordination of existing services
 - d. Existing methods of financing services
2. Need for Additional Services and Facilities
 - a. As seen by practitioners
 - b. As seen by potential utilisers
 - c. As seen by professional consultants
3. Impact of Ill Health on the Community
 - a. Degree of disability
 - b. Cost of services and economic loss due to illness
 - c. Social and personal problems created by or associated with ill health
4. Content and Quality of existing practices
 - a. Degree and adequacy of communication between professionals and patients
 - b. Degree of continuity of care for the individual
 - c. Degree of continuity of care for the family
 - d. Degree to which preventive, curative and rehabilitative services are integrated
 - e. Existing role performances and degree of satisfaction with these. Possibilities for expanding or altering various existing professional roles.
 - f. Service loads - numbers of patients and visits, types of conditions, types of actions taken

B. Methods of Data Gathering

1. Community Surveys - using random or stratified random samples of the population
2. Surveys of existing practices and practitioners
3. Combined practice - community surveys (using the practice to develop a reporting system with follow through of those reported by home interview) - to obtain professional and patient opinion over unmet needs, economic and emotional costs of illness, etc.

C. Instruments, Techniques, etc., to be Developed

1. Sampling frames and sampling units
2. Development of questionnaires and survey instruments
3. Development of record forms, record linkage, storage and retrieval systems