

### *Cancer*

The standardized cancer death-rate has been rising steadily for many years; it was 141 in 100,000 of the population in 1969. Public and voluntary agencies engage in detection, treatment, public education and research. Free diagnostic and treatment services are now available in many provinces, supported by the federal Cancer Control Grant and by hospital-care insurance. The larger general hospitals operate special cancer clinics.

### *Mental disorders*

Provincial mental-health divisions administer or support diagnostic and treatment services for the mentally ill and the mentally defective. Facilities include out-patient departments and psychiatric units of general hospitals, which provide short-term in-patient treatment. The large mental hospitals admit those patients who need long-term care, and the hospitals for the mentally defective care for the more severely retarded.

Diagnostic and treatment services for emotionally-disturbed children, for the mentally retarded, for alcoholics and for court offenders have been established in larger cities.

Since 1960 the number of in-patients in all psychiatric institutions has decreased by 17 per cent on account of the introduction of chemotherapy and the consequent shift from in-patient to out-patient treatment.

### Hospital Insurance

#### *Insured Services*

By federal-provincial agreements under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act, all provinces and territories make available, on a prepayment or tax-financed basis, to all covered residents, standard ward accommodation and the services ordinarily supplied by a hospital to in-patients, including meals, nursing care, laboratory, radiological and other diagnostic procedures, and most drugs. All provinces have limitations on payments for out-of-province in-patient care, and some provinces require prior approval except in cases of emergency. Care in mental and tuberculosis institutions is not included in provincial programs, except in Ontario, but is provided under separate legislation.

Out-patient hospital services may be included in the insurance programs at provincial discretion; consequently, the services covered vary from province to province. The following summary indicates the range of coverage by province. Some provinces insure out-patient care within the province only.

Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories insure a fairly comprehensive range of services, providing, on an out-patient basis, most of the services that are available to in-patients.