

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

TO ALL MEMBERS, MONTREAL HEALTH SURVEY COMMITTEE

VI - INFANT HYGIENE

Number of Infants supervised at home	-	23,409
Number of visits to these infants by public health nurses	-	44,341
Number of Infants registered at Well-Baby Centres	-	13,813
Number of Visits by these infants to Centres	-	132,510

On the basis of 4,000 nursing visits per 1,000 live births, there should have been 84,000 visits, whereas there were actually 44,341.

The number of visits to clinic is very high. This is because, in one organization, they encourage the mothers to come and make what might be fairly described as a social visit. Therefore, the total visits are not visits in the proper sense of the word.

Boarded homes for babies are supervised by the Department of Health.

Of the 49 infant health centres, 15 are conducted without a graduate nurse, whereas the minimum staff requirement for such a centre and for the home visiting from the centre is a physician and a graduate nurse.

PROBLEM

To have all infant Health clinics properly staffed and thus make possible a high standard of work in the health centre and in the home supervision of infants.

It really means that the need is for more public health nurses.

By referring to the mortality table previously sent you, you will estimate that the need for infant work is evident.