

engage in detection, treatment, public education and research. Free diagnostic and treatment services are now available in all provinces, supported by hospital and medical-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 retarded. Out-patient departments and psychiatric units of general hospitals, which provide short-term in-patient treatment, and separate community mental-health centres are established in most cities and larger towns. The large mental hospitals admit patients who need long-term care, and the hospitals for the mentally defective care for the more severely retarded.

Although they are not so readily available, diagnostic and treatment services have been established in most large cities for emotionally-disturbed children, the mentally-retarded, persons with alcohol or drug addiction and court offenders.

Mental-health treatment is one of the main areas in which provincial funds are spent. During 1971, mental institutions cost \$436 million; about 223,000 patients were treated in clinics and out-patient departments. During 1973, there were 121,000 admissions and the number of in-patients under care at the end of the year was 58,000.

Hospital Insurance

Insured services Federal-provincial agreements under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act require all provinces and territories to make available to all residents who are covered, on a pre-payment or tax-financed basis, standard ward accommodation and the services ordinarily supplied by hospitals to in-patients -- including meals, nursing care, laboratory, radiological and other diagnostic procedures and most drugs. All provinces set limitations on payments for out-of-province in-patient care, and some require prior approval except in case of emergency. Care in mental and tuberculosis institutions is not included in provincial programs, except in Ontario and in Nova Scotia (where treatment in mental institutions is covered), but such care 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. All jurisdictions insure a range of services comparable in comprehensiveness to those available to in-patients. Examples of such services, for most