

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMUNITY HEALTH

Includes both private and public efforts of individuals, groups, and organizations to promote, protect and preserve the health of those in the community.

HEALTH AGENCIES



* based on their sources of funding and organizational structure

GOVERNMENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES



Funded primarily by tax dollars:

- **International e.g. WHO/PAHO, UNICEF**
- **Local e.g. Ministry of Health, Regional Health Authorities, Regional Corporations**

NON-GOVERNMENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES

- **NGOs** -Funded by private donations or membership dues e.g. T&T Cancer Society, Living Waters hospice.
- **Private practice**- health care workers providing a service at a cost to the patient.



GOVERNMENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES

- Responsibility for the provision of health care services in Trinidad and Tobago was devolved from the Ministry of Health to Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) with the passing of the Regional Health Authorities Act No. 5 in 1994.
- RHAs are autonomous bodies that own and operate health facilities in their respective Regions. Today, five (5) RHAs deliver public health care services to the population of Trinidad and Tobago.

REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES

- **North West RHA**-The NWRHA administers and manages the POSGH, St. Ann's Psychiatric Hospital, St. James Medical Complex and 17 Health Centres.



REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES

- **North Central RHA**-responsible for the management and operation of EWMSC ,Mount Hope Women's Hospital, Caura Hospital, Arima Health Facility, Chaguanas Health Facility, Tacarigua Extended Care Facility ,Twelve (12) Health Centres and one (1) Outreach Centre.



REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES

- **Eastern RHA**-responsible for the administration and management of Sangre Grande Hospital, Mayaro District Health Facility and a network of 15 Health Centres.



REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES

- **South West RHA**- responsible for the administration and management of the San Fernando General Hospital, Area Hospital Point Fortin, The Princes Town District Health Facility, Couva District Health Facility and 33 health centres scattered throughout the region.



MOH-HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORATES

- Health Services Quality Management
- Health Promotion, Public Health and Communication
- Health Policy, Research and Planning
- Finance and Projects
- Human Resources
- Information Systems


MOH-VERTICAL SERVICES

Public Health Inspectorate	
Trinidad Public Health Laboratory	
National Surveillance Unit	
Pharmacy/Drug Inspectorate	
Chemistry, Food & Drugs Division	
Insect Vector Control Division	
Veterinary Public Health	
National Blood Transfusion Service	
Queen's Park Counselling Centre and Clinic	
Hansen's Disease Control Programme	
National Tuberculosis Control Programme	

MOH-VERTICAL SERVICES

Occupational Health Unit
Expanded Programme on Immunization
Health Education Division
National AIDS Programme
Medical Library Services
Nutrition and Metabolism Division
Dental Nurses Training School
Population Programme Services
School of Advanced Nursing
School of Nursing
School of Midwifery

MOH-NATIONAL AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS



Hansen's Disease Control Programme
Community Care Programme
Mental Health
School Health Programme
National Oncology Programme
Tissue Transplant Programme
Chronic Diseases Assistance Programme (CDAP)

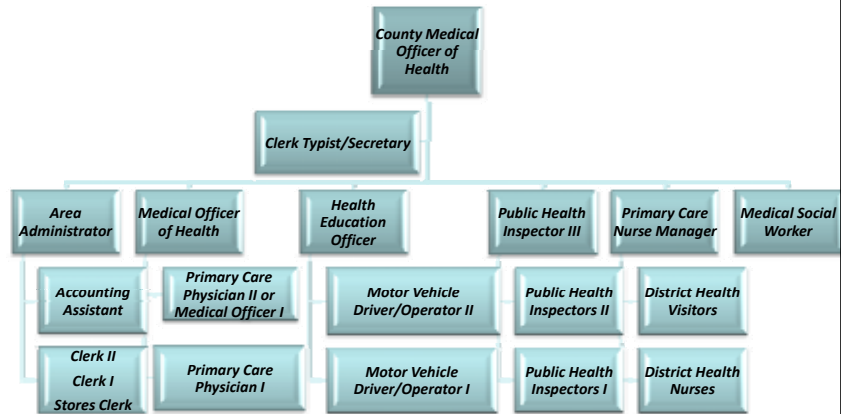
MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH TEAM

- **County Medical Officer of Health (CMOH)**
- **Medical Officer of Health (MOH)**
- **Primary Care Physicians**
- **District Health Visitor**
- **District Nurse**
- **Nursing Assistant**
- **Patient Care Assistant**

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH TEAM

- **Surveillance Nurse**
- **Public Health Inspectors**
- **Community Dietitian**
- **Medical Social Worker**

Organizational Structure



THE DOMAIN OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Its diversity requires a multidisciplinary approach with all efforts aimed at reducing morbidity/mortality and improving the quality of life



THE DOMAIN OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Meeting the health needs of mothers, infants and children
- Meeting the health needs of special populations e.g. The elderly
- Community health in schools
- Dental health
- Protection of the food and water supply
- Control of communicable and non-communicable diseases

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

- Services offered: Antenatal Clinic, Postnatal Clinic, Family Planning Clinic, Pap Smear Clinic, Home visiting, Immunization and Child Health Clinics.

IMMUNIZATION

- **When a child is born, a referral is given to a community Health Centre by the hospital or health care professional.**
- **A nurse at the Health Centre will visit the child and mother during the six weeks following birth, during which an appointment will be given for the parent or caregiver to bring the infant in for assessment.**
- **At age six weeks, an assessment is done at the Health Centre and another appointment is made to administer the child's first vaccines, at age two months.**

IMMUNIZATION

- **The child will be given subsequent appointments at the Health Centre, during the appropriate clinic days, in accordance with the immunization schedule.**
- **Children are monitored at the Health Centre up to five years of age.**

EXTENDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION(EPI)

- **The Ministry of Health provides immunization services at no charge to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago through the Extended Programme on Immunization.**
- **The Ministry's goal is to have every citizen of Trinidad and Tobago fully immunized.**
- **Vaccines are provided free of charge.**

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

Services Offered Include:

- **Home visits**
- **Chronic disease clinics**
- **Walk-In clinics.**

CHRONIC DISEASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (CDAP)

Provides citizens with free prescription drugs and other pharmaceutical items to combat the following health conditions:

- Diabetes
- Asthma
- Cardiac Diseases
- Arthritis
- Glaucoma
- Depression
- High Blood Pressure
- Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia
(Enlarged Prostate)
- Epilepsy
- Hypercholesterolemia
- Parkinson's disease
- Thyroid diseases

CHRONIC DISEASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (CDAP)

- There are 47 drugs that are available through CDAP, and new prescription drugs may be added to the list of available drugs from time to time.
- There are over 250 pharmacies throughout the country that provide medications through CDAP.
- Approximately 500,000 citizens utilize this program

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMME



- **This project consists of Hearing and Vision Screening for all 1st year Primary School students (Public and Private Schools).**
- **Screening for hearing loss identifies the school-age children who may have hearing problems that can interfere with their education, health and development.**
- **The Ministry of Health covers the cost of the screening and of any follow up care and treatment that may be required.**

PROTECTION OF THE FOOD AND WATER SUPPLY

- **Responsibility of the Public Health Inspectorate.**
- **Collaboration with Local Government through Borough/City Corporations.**
- **Includes food and water sampling and testing, site visiting to ensure acceptable levels of sanitation and investigation of complaints made by the public.**

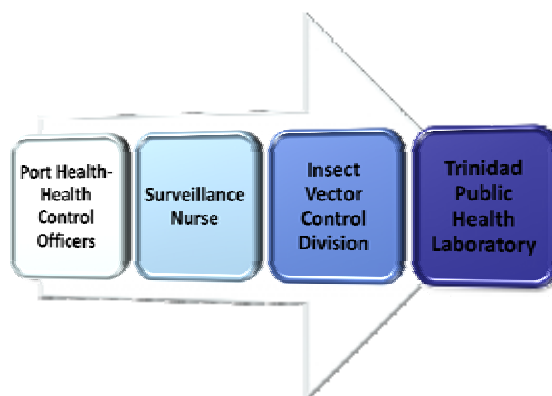
DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- **The Dental Services Division of the Ministry of Health provides quality oral health care (with the emphasis on prevention) to ensure the maintenance of good oral health.**
- **Some dental services are provided free of charge, while others are provided on a fee-for-service basis.**

DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- **Most preventive and restorative services are provided free of charge to those under 18 years.**
- **These services include fillings, cleaning, fluoride treatment, and dental health education.**
- **If you are over 18 years of age, emergency care is provided free of charge. Emergency care includes pain relief and tooth extractions. In special cases, free care can be provided to new mothers and the elderly.**

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



INSECT VECTOR CONTROL SERVICES

- There are several diseases that are transmitted by insects or other organisms in Trinidad and Tobago that are potentially hazardous to the health of citizens.
- Some of these diseases include dengue fever, malaria and yellow fever.
- The Insect Vector Control Unit of the Ministry of Health monitors and controls these insect and organism vectors. The Unit also works in areas that have been flooded to prevent outbreaks of disease.

INSECT VECTOR CONTROL SERVICES

Should be contacted if:

- **You have been diagnosed with dengue fever, malaria, yellow fever, West Nile virus, or any other insect or organism-borne disease.**
- **Members of your family, village or community have been diagnosed with any of the illnesses listed above.**
- **Your community or area has been flooded and you are concerned about the outbreak of disease.**
- **Your community or area has an unusually severe infestation of insects or other organisms that may spread disease.**

TRINIDAD PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

- **Provides diagnostic and supportive services and the surveillance of Communicable Diseases.**
- **Provides diagnostic laboratory support for both the community Health Services and the hospitals in such specialized disciplines as Virology, and for infectious diseases, for example, Tuberculosis and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS).**
- **Such support is invariably extended to the private health sector.**

Extended Services

- Care of the Socially displaced.
- Extenuating circumstances eg. During outbreaks to augment A&E services.

UPCOMING SERVICES

- **Wellness clinics**
- **Adolescent and Men's Health**
- **Community Caravans Outreach Programme**
- **Palliative Care**

TO SUMMARIZE

Comm. Healthcare seeks to improve the quality of life for the citizens of T&T by reducing the burden of disease.

This is achieved through :

Maternal and Child care

Comm. Outreach and Immunization Campaigns

Vector control etc....