ANNUAL REPORT

Venereal Disease Program

January 1, 1973 - December 31, 1973

Never attempted before on so comprehensive a scale, the enclosed Annual Report comprises a review of all the activities of the V.D. Program for calendar year 1973.

It is so designed that the information presented should prove of decided value in the following: budget preparation, assignment of priorities, analysis of program shortcomings, news releases and, lastly but importantly, in furnishing the Board of Health with statistics necessary for the decision making process.

The structural scaffold consists of the composite of the twelve regular monthly reports, supplemented with detailed commentaries intended to frame the data in meaningful perspective. U.S.P.H.S. critera have been used throughout.

Composing this report has proved instructive, exciting, and, above all, pleasurable. If even a modicum of these qualities and feelings can be communicated to the reader, our purpose will have been achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Pratts
V.D. Epidemiologist

John Potterat
Manager
V.D. Program

CALENDAR YEAR 1973
January 1, 1973 - December 31, 1973

Monthly Venereal Disease Morbidity Report

Month _____

Reporting Source	Morbidity				Age Group										Race			Pro Ex	
	Syphilis			Gon	14-19		20-24		25-29		30-39		40+		Cav	Blk	Unk	Syph	Gon
Categories	P&S	E.L.	Other		Syph	Gon	Syph	Gon	Syph	Gon	Syph	Gon	Syph	Gon					
Private Physician Men	9	2	16	102	1 Cong	16	3	34	1	30	5	15	17	7	108	21			
Women	5	4	9	210	2	55	2	98	1	30	3	21	10	6	174	50	4		
V.D. Clinic Men	2	1	3	303		46		157	4	72		26	3	1	219	89	1	15	111
Women	3	4	2 LGV 1	281	1	112	2 LGV 7	133		25		11			209	82		6	170
O.B. Clinic				3		2		1							3				
Planned Parenthood				60		29		25		5		1			54	6			
Health Hold				3		1		1		1					2	1			
Fort Carson Men	7	10	11	510		93	12	304	5	82	7	30	4	1	209	328	1		
Women		3	1 Cong 4	50	1Cong	17	1	18	1	9	2	4	3	2	21	36	1		
Ent Air Base Men				48		6		30		6		5		1	20	28			
Women				5		1		4							1	4			
Air Academy Men				22		6		9		3		2		2	14	8			
Women				1				1							1				
Totals	26	24	47	1598	5	384	27	815	12	263	17	115	37	20	1035	653	7	21	281

Clinic Attendance 4488
New 2449
Return 2039

Treatment Failure 9 (5 males; 4 females)

APPENDIX TO ANNUAL REPORT

"VENEREAL DISEASE MORBIDITY REPORT"

Because Gonorrhea is the leading reportable Venereal Disease much attention will be devoted to its analysis.

1. Male To Female Ratio: This is felt to be a reliable index of the efficacy of any control program. Assuming a basically non homophile population, it is desirable that for each male treated, an infected female be found. Before Federal funds were allocated for large scale Gonorrhea Screening in 1972, the United States ratio was:

1968 :		348,991 males		115,552 females
	Ratio :	3 males	:	1 female
1971 :		471,634 males		198,634 females
	Ratio :	2.4 males	:	1 female
January-June 1973 :		240,386 males	:	161,959 females
	Ratio :	1.5 males	:	1 female

Screening enabled the male ratio to drop from 3:1 to 1.5:1 in the United States.

For El Paso County, the following is submitted:

1973 :		985 males		613 females
	Ratio :	1:6 males	:	1 female

What is interesting is that if a Gonorrhea Screening Program did not exist in El Paso County, the ratio would be similar to the U.S. ratio prior to the funding of screening program.

Deleting P.M.D. female positives (210) and Planned Parenthood/O.B. Clinic female positives (63) from the total females (613), we arrive at 340 females.

1973 :		985 males	340 females
	Ratio :	2.9:1	

Gonorrhea Morbidity by Reporting Source:

Private Physicians:	312	(19.5%)
V.D. Clinic:	587	(36.8%)
Planned Parenthood:	63	(3.9%)
Military:	636	(39.8%)
Totals:	1598	100%

Gonorrhea Morbidity by Age:

14-19:	384	(24%)
20-24:	815	(51%)
25-29:	263	(16.5 %)
30-39:	115	(7.2 %)
40+ :	20	(1.25%)

Most of the Gonorrhea (1462) strikes the 15-29 age group: 91.5%.

Venereal Disease Morbidity by Race: Syphilis and Gonorrhea.

Caucasian:	1035	(61. %)
Black :	653	(38.6%)
Other :	7	(.4%)
Totals:	1695	100%

As of July 1973, the population of El Paso County stood at 285,500. The 1970 Census reflected 94.8% Caucasian (includes 8.5% Chicano) and 5.2% Black.

It is notable that roughly 5% of the population accounts for virtually 40% of the morbidity.

Gonorrhea Treatment Failures:

There were 9 cases of Gonorrhea (military figures are excluded due to paucity of information) assessed by this office as genuine treatment failures, 5 males and 4 females.

These figures should be viewed in the perspective of the total amount of patients submitted to tests of cure only.

	P.M.D. Males		P.M.D. Females		Clinic Males		Clinic Females	
Total Morbidity :	102		210		303		357	
Tested for Cure :	12	(11.8%)	56	(26.7%)	128	(42 %)	292	(81.8%)
Positive on Recheck:	2	(16.7%)	7	(12.5%)	4	(3.1%)	3	(1 %)
Treatment Failures :	2	(16.7%)	2	(3.6%)	3	(2.3%)	2	(.7%)

Total Patients Treated :	972	
Total Tested For Cure :	488	(50 %)
Total Positive on Recheck:	16	(3.3%)
Total Treatment Failures :	9	(1.8%)

Considering that U.S.P.H.S. recommended treatment schedules promise 94 - 97% cure rates, El Paso's 1.8% failure rate on patients tested for cure looks excellent.

Test of Cure Trends:

As you know our office makes no special effort beyond counseling to induce clinic male positives to return for tests of cure, and yet over 40% did so of their own accord, which speaks well of our encouragement during counseling.

Clinic females are actively followed through field visits if they do not return voluntarily. This office would like to increase the 82% figure by 8% next year.

Private Physicians fare less well, with test of cure visits on only 12% of the males and 27% on females. I believe cost to the patient may account for this deplorable showing.

When all is said and done, fifty percent of the 972 civilian Gonorrhea patients were rechecked, with a failure rate of 1.8%. This office believes this sample to be large enough to view this failure rate as terrific.

GONOCOCCAL REINFECTION

January 2, 1974

The following constitutes an analysis of Gonorrhea reinfections in El Paso County for calendar year 1973. The literature frequently mentions 15-20% as an estimate of cases of reported Gonorrhea which occur in the same patient in any given year in the United States.

There were 1598 cases of Gonorrhea reported in 1973 from all sources. Of these, 286 cases (or 17.7%) constitute reinfections in 127 patients.

108 patients had two infections, 11 had three infections,

6 had four infections, one had five and one, a prostitute,

had eight! Bacterially speaking, supporting your local hooker

may not be a wise practice!

All patients suffering from more than three infections during

the year were Black except for one.

By Sex and Race:

68 (54%) of the 127 patient repeaters were Black (46 male, 22 female)

59 (46%) of the 127 patient repeaters were Caucasian (29 male, 30 female)

13 (10%) of the 127 patient repeaters were prostitutes

29 (23%) of the 127 patient repeaters were military

Additionally, it must be mentioned that quite a few of these 127 patients had suffered attacks of Gonorrhea in previous years. The above only accounts for 1973.

CALENDAR YEAR 1973
January 1, 1973 - December 31, 1973

Summary of Investigative and Interviewing Activities

Month _____

Originating Agency	Investigations	Disposition of Persons Examined 0	1	2	3	6	7	8	9	X	Y	Totals	Number of Interviews	Contacts Obtained	Index
Armed Forces	Contact To:														
	1. Primary & Secondary Syph.	5			2	3			1	2		13	6	23	3.8
	2. Early Latent Syphilis	3	1		2	2				6		14	9	25	2.8
	3. Other Syphilis														
	4. Gonorrhea	21	81		41	141	1	38	9	79	1	412			
Private Physicians	1. Primary & Secondary Syph.	9	2	1	2	8	2		1	7		32	18	40	2.2
	2. Early Latent Syphilis	5	2		3							10	5	7	1.4
	3. Other Syphilis														
	4. Gonorrhea		13		16	2	2	1	3	12	1	50	41	59	1.45
Public Cases (Clinic)	1. Primary & Secondary Syph.	8	1		2	4	2		1	10		28	5	19	4
	2. Early Latent Syphilis	4				4				9		17	5	23	4.6
	3. Other Syphilis														
	4. Gonorrhea	13	146		85	61	3	6	13	106	4	437	298	519	1.7
Armed Forces Public & Private	Positive S.T.S. Follow-Up	39	16		48	6		1	6	1		117			
Clinic	Clinic Patient Field Follow-Up (Rechecks)	154	39		6	46	26		7	9		287			
Totals		261	301	1	207	277	36	46	41	241	6	1417	387	715	1.8

# of Personal Visits with Private Physicians 195 # of Laboratory Visits 24

Contacts & Follow-Up Open at end of Month
1. Syphilis N/A
2. Gonorrhea N/A
3. Other N/A

APPENDIX TO ANNUAL REPORT

"SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE AND INTERVIEWING ACTIVITIES"

A. FIELD INVESTIGATIONS:

	Gonorrhea:	Examined	Unable To Examine	Brought To Treatment
Totals:	899	644 (71.6%)	255 (28.4%)	240 (26.7%)

Note: Additionally 197 (22%) patients were prophylactically treated for Gonorrhea.

	Syphilis:	Examined	Unable To Examine	Brought To Treatment
Totals:	114	90 (79%)	24 (21%)	6 (5.3%)

Note: Additionally 34 (29%) patients were prophylactically treated for Syphilis.

	Positive Serologies:	Examined	Unable To Examine	Brought To Treatment
Totals:	117	110 (94%)	7 (6%)	17 (14.5%)

	Clinic Patient Follow-ups:	Examined	Unable To Examine	Brought To Treatment
Totals:	287	215 (75%)	72 (25%)	48 (16.7%)

Grand Totals: Investigations:	Examined	Unable To Examine	Brought To Treatment
1417	1059 (74.7%)	358 (23.3%)	311 (22%)

Note: Additionally 231 (16.3%) patients were prophylactically treated for V.D.

This constitutes an average of 120 investigations monthly.

It is of interest to note that the rate of success in locating Gonorrhea contacts obtained in military interviews compares very unfavorably with the success rate of clinic patient interviews. 43.7% of military contacts were not found as opposed to 16% for the clinic patient contacts. Probable factors: substandard interviewing by military interviewers or/and reduced familiarity of contacts by military patients as opposed to civilians. The former reason seems to me less important than the latter.

B. CONTACT INTERVIEWS:

Early Infectious Syphilis:	No. of Interviews	Contacts Obtained	Contact Index
a. Primary and Secondary:	29	82	2.8
b. Early Latent:	19	55	2.9
Gonorrhea (Clinic Interviews) Males only	298	519	1.74
Gonorrhea (Private Physician Cases) Males only	41	59	1.45

Private Physicians reported 102 male cases of Gonorrhea. Manpower shortage precluded the interview of 61 (60%). Efforts will be made in 1974 to close this important gap.

Not included above are 580 Male Gonorrhea interviews performed by military personnel about which no statistics are available.

Of the 48 cases of early infectious syphilis interviewed forty are considered to be accurate diagnoses by this office. An analysis reveals that in El Paso County early syphilis patients are usually 1)Caucasian, male, homosexual, over 30 years old, private physician patients, and civilian, or 2)Black, male, under 25, non-homophile and stationed at Fort Carson, or 3)prostitutes,

Early Syphilis by age, race, sex, and reporting source.

Reporting Source	Cases	Male	Female	Black	White	20-24	25-29	30-39	40-45
Fort Carson	15	14	1	14	1	11	1	3	0
Private Physicians	17	10	7	2	15	6	1	6	4
Clinic	8	3	5	3	5	5	3	0	0
Totals:	40	27	13	19	21	23	5	9	4

Twelve of the 40 (30%) cases were homosexual - all Caucasian.
Five of the 40 (12.%) cases were prostitutes.

In El Paso County syphilis is not autochthonous. Since records were inaccurately maintained for several months of this year exact figures are not available. But a review of the existing data seems to suggest that in the case of Fort Carson, syphilis is imported from elsewhere and most of the contacts named are sent out of jurisdiction. In the case of homosexuals the majority of cases seem to have acquired infection in Denver. This information is not unimpeachable; it is an impressionistic portrait sketched on the basis of feelings rather than figures. Exact records will be kept for 1974 and will afford a better basis for comparison.

CALENDAR YEAR 1973

January 1, 1973 - December 31, 1973

Monthly Venereal Disease Laboratory Testing Report

Month _____

Tests	No.	Pos.	% Pos.	RX	Disp.	Pndg	V.D.Clinic Men	V.D.Clinic Women	Private Physicians Men	Private Physicians Women	O.B.Clinic	P.P.C.	Health Hold
VDRL(Routine)	2855	109	3.8%				1478	1377					
VDRL(Pre-Marital)	270	4	1.5%				130	140					
FTA	96	48	50%				55	41					
Darkfield	87	1	1.15%				58	29					
GC Smear	1533	216	14.1%				1533						
GC Culture	13622	838	6.2%				1529	1467	410 (44)	6694 (161 pos)	72 (3 pos)	3418 (60 pos)	24 (5 pos)
Trichamonas	323	71	22%					323					
Monilia	212	19	9%					212					
Gravindex	127	36	28.3%					127					
Urinalysis	56						21	35					
Pap	511	4	ClassIII		To PMD			511					
Profiles	17						7	10					
Rechecks	546	16	2.9%				128 (4)	292 (3 pos)	17 (2)	56 (7 pos)	1		

Calendar 1973: PMD Screening Positive: 2.4%

Planned Parenthood: 1.8%

APPENDIX TO ANNUAL REPORT

"VENEREAL DISEASE LABORATORY TESTING REPORT"

Laboratory Testing:

In Support of V.D. Clinic:	9571
In Support of P.M.D. :	7177
In Support of Planned Parenthood:	3418
Total Tests:	20,166 !!

Gonorrhea:

Private Physician Screening Program (Females):

Total Tests:	6694	161 positives	2.4% rate

Planned Parenthood Screening:

Total Tests:	3418	60 positives	1.8% rate

Grand Total of Private Female Screening:

10112 Tests	221 positives	2.2% rate

Grand Total of Clinic and Private Female Screening:

11,579 Tests	557 positives	4.8% rate

Considering that El Paso County's female population in the 15-44 (reproductive) age group is presently estimated at 50,000, these 11,579 female tests provide a rough estimate of 23% of this population being tested in 1973. Even if duplicate testing in the same female is deducted the probability remains that one out of five females in that age group were tested for Gonorrhea.

CALENDAR YEAR 1973

JANUARY 1, 1973 - DECEMBER 31, 1973
VENEREAL DISEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITY

~~MONTH~~ _____

	Jul	Cum	Aug	Cum	Sept	Cum	Oct	Cum	Nov	Cum	Dec	Cum
Clinic Attendance												4488
No. Clinics												149
Testing G.C.												15566
Syphilis												3308
Non V.D.												1246
Treatment Syphilis												24
G.C.												663
Pro Syphilis												21
Pro G.C.												281
Non V.D. RX												940
Morbidity Syphilis												97
G.C.												1598
Epidemiology												
Total Interviews: G.C.												339
Syphilis												48
Total Investigations: G.C.												892
Syphilis												114
Rechecks & Positive Bloods												405

APPENDIX TO ANNUAL REPORT

"VENEREAL DISEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITY"

Clinic Attendance:

A total of 4488 patients were seen in the V.D. Clinic during 1973. Of these 2449 (54.5%) were new patients and 2039 (45.6%) were return patients. Since 149 Clinic sessions were held, the average clinic patient load stands at thirty.

Clinic Treatment:

A total of 1929 (43%) of patients received some form of treatment, of which 989 (22%) received treatment for Venereal Disease.

Clinic Testing:

9571 tests were performed on these 4488 patients, an average of 2 tests per patient; 8353 or 87.3% were Venereal disease tests only.

SUMMARY OF V.D. CLINIC MEDICATIONS DISPENSED

January 1, 1973 - December 31, 1973

Medications for the V.D. Clinic emanate from two sources: those secured under the auspices of the City-County Health Department V.D. budget and those supplied free of charge by the State Health Department.

The following analysis of medications dispensed during calendar 1973 should greatly facilitate projecting orders from both sources. Please keep in mind that a Fourth Clinic is scheduled for 1974 and that it should substantially (?) increase demand for these drugs.

Because Gonorrhea fluctuates during any given year, with highest morbidity during the July through September quarter, I have computed the information for two six monthly periods.

Treatment of Diagnosed Gonorrhea using 4.8 m.u. Procaine Penicillin and 1 gram Benemid:

January - June 1973	July - December 1973
221 Doses	300 Doses

Prophylactic Treatment of Contacts to G.C. (Cultures Negative) with 4.8 m.u. Procaine Penicillin and 1 gram Benemid:

100 Doses	124 Doses

Total Procaine Penicillin Used:

745 Doses or 10 trays of 50 vials each.

Treatment of Gonorrhea with 3.5 gram Ampicillin and 1 gram Benemid (with positive or negative cultures)

13 Doses	84 Doses !!

Treatment of P.I.D. with Ampicillin:

(Measured at 3.5 grams per dose for convenience)

5 Doses	46 Doses

Total Ampicillin Used:

1000 (500 mg.) capsules.

Summary of V.D. Clinic Medications Dispensed 1973

Note: The spectacular increase reflects the death due to I.M. penicillin anaphylaxis of a patient in Pueblo. Our clinician now treats only diagnosed Positive with I.M. penicillin. Borderline smears or male contacts to G.C. with Negative smears get Ampicillin.

Treatment of Gonorrhea with Spectinomycin (Trobicin)

18	2 gram doses	9	2 gram doses
29	4 gram doses	46	4 gram doses

Total Trobicin Used:

177 2 gram doses

Note: The increase reflects our clinician's use of 4 gram doses irrespective of gender since October 1973.

Treatment with Bicillin using 2.4 m.u. as a base.

41 doses 23 doses

Total Bicillin Used: 64 doses

Tetracycline: Most often prescribed for N.S.U. in 14 gram doses per patient.

58 doses 63 doses

Total Tetracycline Used:

121 doses or 6800 (250 mg.) capsules.

Note: Tetracycline is only dispensed to indigent patients. Those who can afford it are given written prescriptions.

Erythromycin: Usually dispensed in 7 gram doses.

21 doses 7 doses

Total Erythromycin Used:

400 (500 mg.) capsules.

Gantanol: Usually dispensed in 14 gram doses.

30 doses 27 doses

Total Gantanol Used:

800 grams

Summary of V.D. Clinic Medications Dispensed 1973

Vibramycin: Usually dispensed in 900 mg. packets.

14 packets (For G.C. Treatment) 8 packets

Vibramycin: For non-gonococcal therapy, dispensed in 900 mg. packets.

89 packets 80 packets

Note: Because Vibramycin is so expensive, use of this medication for non-gonococcal has been eliminated indefinitely effective December 1973.

Miscellaneous Drugs:

12 patients	Vanobid	12 patients
36 patients	A.V.C. Cream	48 patients
6 patients	Mycostatin	6 patients

Note: Approximately one (1) out of ten (10) patients treated for Gonorrhea or Gonococcal exposure (102 out of 988) required therapy with a drug other than pencillin due to sensitivity.