

Bureau of Preventive Medicine

The Bureau of Preventive Medicine provides for technical and professional assistance to other subdivisions of the State Health Department, especially local health departments, and other agencies, groups, and institutions in the State engaged in the broad field of promotion of health and prevention of illness and disability.

Bureau of Laboratories

The Bureau of Laboratories has broad responsibilities to make a wide variety of laboratory tests to assist physicians and health officials in the diagnosis, prevention, and control of human diseases; to make examinations in connection with the enforcement of pure food and drug laws; and to establish minimum standards and qualifications for those making laboratory tests in connection with diagnosis and control of human diseases. It has further responsibility under Article 101 to make necessary laboratory tests in connection with the occupational health programs of the Department.

The Bureau has branch laboratories at Annapolis, Cambridge, Cheverly, Cumberland, Easton, Elkton, Frederick, Rockville and Salisbury.

Bureau of Tuberculosis

The Bureau of Tuberculosis administers the three tuberculosis hospitals and the State's program for the early detection, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of persons with tuberculosis. This program attempts to prevent the spread of tuberculosis from active cases to individuals free of the disease; to diagnose cases in the early stages of the disease; and to direct the clinical management of known cases before their hospital admission and after their hospital discharge.

Bureau of Environmental Hygiene

The Bureau of Environmental Hygiene acts in a consultatory and supervisory capacity in matters relating to public water supplies, sewage treatment plants, swimming pools, refuse disposal and land fill operations, food, milk, and beverage producers. The Bureau is also concerned with control of radiological problems, assistance to communities in housing hygiene, and control over pollution of the atmosphere.

Bureau of Medical Services and Hospitals

The Bureau of Medical Services and Hospitals is concerned primarily with the provision of medical services to those citizens of the State who, through lack of financial resources, might otherwise be deprived of needed medical care. Through a variety of programs, these services are provided in the patient's home, physician's and dentist's offices, hospital outpatient departments, general hospitals, or in State chronic disease hospitals.

The Bureau is also concerned with the improvement and expansion of medical facilities including voluntary hospitals, health centers, and nursing homes. This is effected, in part, through a Survey and Construction Program which includes preparation of an annual plea for construction of such facilities under the Federal Hospital Survey and Construction Act, Public Law 725—79th Congress and Amendments. The Bureau also licenses public and private hospitals and nursing, convalescent, and care homes which meet Health Department standards.