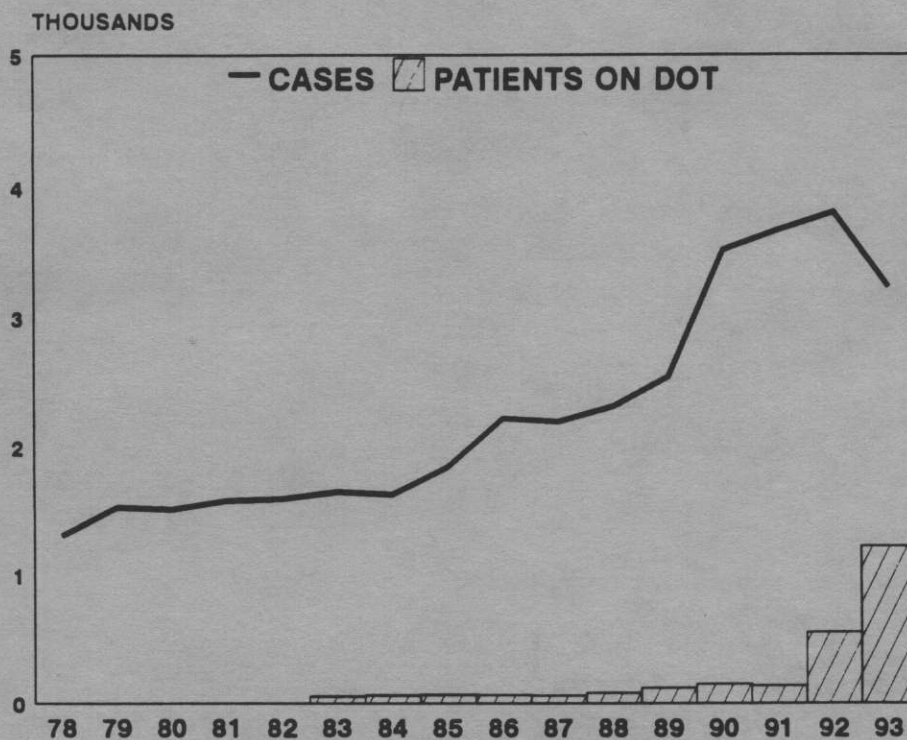


TUBERCULOSIS IN NEW YORK CITY 1993

Information Summary



**Bureau of Tuberculosis Control
New York City Department of Health**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control is to prevent the spread of tuberculosis and eliminate it as a public health problem in New York City. The goals of the tuberculosis control program are:

- 1 To assure identification and appropriate treatment of all individuals with suspected or confirmed tuberculosis disease;
- 2 To ensure that high risk individuals (e.g., contacts, immunocompromised persons, foreign-born persons from areas of high tuberculosis prevalence) who are infected with tuberculosis but without tuberculosis disease receive preventive treatment and do not develop disease.

The Bureau achieves its goals through direct patient care, education, surveillance and outreach. Mandated activities include:

- 1 Ensuring that suspected and confirmed cases of tuberculosis identified in all facilities in New York City are reported to the Bureau and documented on the computerized, confidential tuberculosis disease registry;
- 2 Conducting intensive case interviews and maintaining an effective outreach program so that tuberculosis cases remain under medical supervision until completion of a full course of treatment, and that identified contacts receive appropriate medical care;
- 3 Monitoring and documenting the treatment status of all patients with active tuberculosis;
- 4 Setting standards and guidelines, and providing consultation, on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis infection and disease in New York City;
- 5 Operating free chest clinics throughout New York City to provide state-of-the-art care for persons with suspected or confirmed tuberculosis disease and their close contacts; and
- 6 Ensuring free care for persons who have or are suspected of having active tuberculosis disease, in accordance with New York State Public Health Law 2202, Article 22, Title 1.

An Overview of Activities
of the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control

The Bureau of Tuberculosis Control operates a multifaceted program encompassing surveillance, epidemiology, outreach, clinical services, education, training, and other activities.

Clinical Services

The Clinical Services Unit operates ten chest clinics located throughout the City. The primary activity of these clinics is to provide specialty care, including directly observed therapy, for individuals with active tuberculosis. The clinics also provide preventive therapy, especially to individuals at high risk for developing TB. Services include tuberculin skin testing, chest x-rays, sputum induction, medical and nursing visits, social services, HIV counseling and testing, and other services. The clinics use a multi-disciplinary team approach to case management, in order to enhance patient adherence and treatment completion.

Outreach Services

The Bureau's outreach workers monitor hospitalized patients and outpatients, evaluate contacts of individuals with TB disease, and update patient information on a computerized registry. The unit provides medical case management, travels throughout the City to directly observe patients as they ingest their medication, locates and returns patients to medical care,