

Introduction to Community Health

The Science of Nursing in the Community N5290

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Student Experience?

Brief History of Community Health

McKenzie et al, An Introduction to Community Health (2002)

# 500 B.C.-A.D. 500

• Greeks

- Exercise in physical games of strength
- Romans
- Aqueducts
- Sewer system
- Refuse removal
- hospital

# A.D. 500- 1500

#### Spiritual era of public health

- Belief of disease from supernatural causes
- Spread of communicable diseases
   Leprosy
  - Plague (half the population of London, France 1 in 10 survived)









CDC.gov (2004)

### **Pneumonic Plague**

- Result of sufficient dose of bacterial organisms is inhaled; a small percentage of bubonic cases develop pneumonic plague
- Can be spread person to person
- Incubation period: 2-3 days
- Bacillus viable one hour after attack

CDC.gov (2004)



### Ring Around the Rosy

Ring around the rosy (rose-colored purpuric lesions) Pocket full of posies (flowers carried to prevent the disease and cover the stench) Ashes, Ashes (death) We all fall down (we all die)





# A.D. 1500-1700

Renaissance and Exploration

- Plague killed saints and sinners alike
- · Environment played a role in disease

### **Eighteenth Century**

- Overcrowded cities
- Poor water supply
- Poor sanitation
- · Unsafe workplace

# Eighteenth Century communicable disease

- Small pox
- Cholera
- Typhoid fever
- Yellow fever
- Average age of death: 29

### Smallpox

- Orthopoxvirus family, (variola major)
- · Can spread from person to person, aerosolized
- · Signs and symptoms
  - flu-like beginning with high fever
  - maculopapular rash usually starts on face and hands then forearms and trunk and legs
  - become vesicular and pustular (embedded in dermis)
  - all lesions occur at same level of development
  - leave pitted scar after separation from skin



### Cholera

- Infection of small intestine by *Vibrio cholerae,* ingesting contaminated food and water
- · watery diarrhea
- Severe dehydration

   Review symptoms

# Typhoid

- Infection by salmonella typhi in contaminated food, water
- Diarrhea
- Systemic disease, high fever, weakness, fatigue, delirium
- Rash "rose spots" abdomen and chest

### Yellow Fever

- · Virus transmitted by mosquitoes
- Fever, jaundice, generally ill
- 15% progress to intoxication period
   Kidney failure, hemorrhage, brain dysfunction, seizures, coma, death

### **Eighteenth Century Advances**

- 1790 George Washington ordered the first US census (done every ten years since)
- 1796 Edward Jenner demonstrated vaccine against small pox by injecting a boy with cowpox.
- 1798 Marine health center (will become US Public Health Service)
- 1799 Municipal boards of health in major cities

### **Nineteenth Century**

- 1849 Dr. John Snow
- · 1850 Lemuel Shattuck, Massachusetts
- 1862 Louis Pasteur's germ theory disproved spontaneous generation
- 1876 Robert Koch: a particular microbe and no other causes a particular disease
- 1872 American Public Health Association founded
- 1890 pasteurization of milk
- 1895 septic tanks introduced



### Twentieth Century

- · Mass immigration and poverty
- Malnutrition
   Pellagra, rickets
- Communicable diseases
   Influenza, pneumonia, tuberculosis, GI, polio
- Death associated with pregnancy & childbirth

### Pellagra

- Vitamin deficiency, niacin or tryptophan Manifestations
  - Skin sores
  - Diarrhea
  - Inflamed mucous membranes
  - Mental confusion

### Rickets

- Vitamin D deficiency, phosphate
- Manifestation
  - Soft bones, bow legs, spinal deformities, fractures
  - Dental deformities
  - Bone pain

# Poliomyelitis

- Poliovirus, person to person contact by infected secretions of nose or mouth, feces
- Worldwide epidemic 1840-1950's
- Sub-clinical (95% cases)
- Non-paralytic
- Paralytic
  - Brain and spinal cord involvement









### **Twentieth Century Advances**

- Results of immigrant conditions

   1906 Pure Food and Drug Act
   1910 Workman's compensation
- 1902 Rochester City Hospital School for Nurses
- 1918 Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
- Prohibition

### **Twentieth Century Advances**

Roosevelt & WWII

- 1935 Social Security Act
- 1937 National Cancer Institute
- Penicillin: pneumonia, RF, syphilis, strepp
- DDT: malaria
- · CDC, Atlanta

### **Twentieth Century Advances**

Post war (1950's)

- Polio Vaccine
- Eisenhower's heart attack

### Aerial view of a crowd awaiting polio immunization, San Antonio, 1962



**Twentieth Century Advances** 

1965

- Medicare
- Medicaid

### **Twentieth Century Advances**

1980

Eradication of smallpox

### **Twentieth Century Advances**

1970- present The period of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

- · Diseases due to one's lifestyle or health behavior
- Global Health

### In Summary

- What have we accomplished from a community and public health perspective?
- How & Where is our work cut out for us in the future?





Organizations in Community Health

### **Governmental Agencies**

- International
- National
- State
- Local

### **International Agencies**

- WHO, 1948, Geneva
  - Six Regional Offices: AFRO, AMRO/PAHO, EMRO, EURO, WPRO, SEARO
  - Funded by country members "sliding scale"
    1980 eradication of smallpox
- UNICEF, 1946

### **National Agencies**

- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Agriculture
   WIC
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of labor
   OSHA
- Department of Commerce
  - Censes



### **State Agencies**

- Carry out core functions of public health
- Link between federal and local agencies
- Laboratory services
- Environmental health ie. Water and air pollution



### Local Agencies

- City or County Health Department
- School Health Program

### Quasi Governmental Health Organizations

American Red Cross

 Federal responsibilities
 Voluntary contributions

### Non-governmental Health Agencies

- Voluntary Agencies
  - MADD, SADD
- Professional Health Organizations
   American Nursing Association
- Philanthropic Foundations
  - Rockefeller, Robert Wood Johnson, Kaiser, Kellogg, Doris Duke
- Service, Social and Religious organizations
  - Rotary

Questions?

Remember to sign up for community assessment presentations