

1976

## 2000 Navajo middle school youth risk behavior survey.

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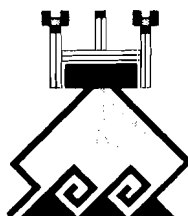
Otitis media report FY 1975 Indian Health Service, Sensory Disabilities Program, Rockville, MD. 1976

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# OTITIS MEDIA REPORT

FY 1975

Indian Health Service



Sensory Disabilities Program

April, 1976

## CONTENTS

	Page
I. INTRODUCTION.....	1
II. AREA REPORTS.....	5
Aberdeen .....	5
Alaska .....	9
Albuquerque.....	12
Bemidji.....	14
Billings.....	15
Navajo.....	22
Oklahoma.....	26
Phoenix.....	29
Portland.....	30
Tucson.....	31
USET.....	34
Communication Disorders Unit.....	35
III. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.....	36

## I. INTRODUCTION

This is the fifth in a series of reports on the Otitis Media Program established in July 1970 through Congressional appropriation and Administration reallocation of funds.

For the second straight year, since otitis media first became a reportable disease in the Indian Health Service, the otitis media rate shows a decline. These data are presented in Tables 1 and 2 on the following pages.

The same cautions pointed out in previous reports must be made with respect to this information again for this Fiscal Year. Cases reported are based upon highly variable criteria for diagnosis at the time of the hospital visits so that chronic otitis media, in particular, is probably considerably underestimated. Previously reported inconsistencies, such as the cases reported from Tucson, must make the system highly suspect; at the same time, the trend for increased disease in both categories peaking and now showing a decline might be expected to follow if the program is having an effect on the affected populations. Of more significance are the reports, from Billings and Alaska, indicating chronic otitis media being maintained at a maintenance level at the present time. These findings, again, do not match with the printout data from the hospital records.

In many respects, FY 75 was a year of maintaining program levels. During the year, all the Areas established an otitis media program with a special funding although comprehensive coverage was not obtainable in all Areas during this time. During FY 75 the previously reported trend toward a shift of emphasis to disease detection in younger children with additional added emphasis on parental contact, educational programs, and expanded rehabilitation services continued. Gradual expansion of the program into related communication disorders (such as speech and language problems) was undertaken in several Areas with programs in Billings, Albuquerque, and Phoenix providing limited amounts of such services.

TABLE 1

Chronic and Acute Otitis Media, by Area  
First and Revisits-----Fiscal Year 1975

## INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACUTE OTITIS MEDIA</u>	<u>CHRONIC OTITIS MEDIA W/WO MASTOIDITIS</u>
<u>Total Indian Health</u>		
First Visits	54,666	8,148
Revisits	22,223	14,216
<u>Aberdeen Area</u>		
First Visits	6,595	673
Revisits	1,501	1,066
<u>Alaska Area</u>		
First Visits	4,752	1,891
Revisits	4,107	2,843
<u>Albuquerque Area</u>		
First Visits	3,500	247
Revisits	1,327	395
<u>Billings Area</u>		
First Visits	3,511	234
Revisits	1,903	676
<u>Navajo Area</u>		
First Visits	18,929	2,185
Revisits	5,151	4,585
<u>Oklahoma Area</u>		
First Visits	4,471	489
Revisits	2,307	1,094

Table 1 (continued)

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACUTE OTITIS MEDIA</u>	<u>CHRONIC OTITIS MEDIA W/WO MASTOIDITIS</u>
<u>Phoenix Area</u>		
First Visits	8,974	666
Revisits	4,236	1,846
<u>Portland Area</u>		
First Visits	2,473	298
Revisits	1,295	922
<u>Tucson Program Area</u>		
First Visits	14	1,351
Revisits	1	560
<u>United Southeastern Tribes</u>		
First Visits	1,447	114
Revisits	395	229

Table 2  
Reported New Cases of Otitis Media  
and Incidence Rates for Indians and Alaska Natives  
Calendar Years 1962-1974

CY	Indian and Alaska Natives		Indians		Alaska Natives	
	Number of Cases	Rate Per 100,000	Number of Cases	Rate Per 100,000	Number of Cases	Rate Per 100,000
1974	53,555	10,958.2	48,708	11,202.0	4,847	8,991.6
1973	58,036	12,103.6	52,999	12,429.4	5,037	9,487.1
1972	57,781	12,289.8	53,419	12,780.1	4,362	8,361.4
1971	49,478	10,742.4	45,283	11,066.9	4,195	8,159.8
1970	44,008	9,745.0	41,109	10,253.1	2,899	5,723.2
1969	39,351	8,892.3	36,568	9,313.6	2,783	5,577.3
1968	36,470	8,413.7	33,503	8,717.5	2,967	6,038.0
1967	30,211	7,118.8	27,377	7,281.0	2,834	5,857.6
1966	28,224	6,909.6	25,144	6,968.0	3,080	6,467.2
1965	22,614	5,688.2	21,502	6,131.3	1,112	2,372.6
1964	22,290	6,243.7	21,267	6,772.9	1,023	2,379.1
1963	18,397	5,211.7	17,052	5,500.6	1,345	3,127.9
1962	13,382	3,801.7	12,383	4,007.4	999	2,323.3

ABERDEEN

The basic special otitis media program in operation in the Aberdeen Area continues to be that provided by contract with University of Nebraska Medical Center to operate an ENT program and provide the services of an ENT resident to the Service Unit at Pine Ridge, South Dakota with field clinics being held at a regular basis at Eagle Butte and Rosebud, South Dakota.

The data reported herein, and from the summary table, are exclusively taken from the Pine Ridge program. During FY 75, 2,346 children and 26 adults were screened with 234 children and 8 adults being referred for diagnostic audiometry; 78 children were found to have hearing loss (58 unilateral, 20 bilateral) and 8 adults (6 with unilateral loss and 2 with bilateral). Of this number failing, 83 were referred for medical/surgical evaluation and 24 of these persons received medical/surgical services. Five children received hearing aids during this time and six persons received training in otitis media detection. The current estimated backlog of surgical procedures is 59 cases at an estimated cost of \$52,535.

Data from the ongoing hospital program are summarized on the following pages.

ABERDEEN  
ENT DEPARTMENT  
PINE RIDGE, SOUTH DAKOTA

FY 75

Total Number Screened	<u>2,372</u>
Children (below 17 years)	<u>2,346</u>
Adults	<u>26</u>
Number Failing	
Audiometry - children	<u>234</u>
- adults	<u>8</u>
Tympanometry - children	
- adults	
Otoscope - children	<u>205</u>
- adults	<u>6</u>
Number Referred for Diagnostic Audiometry	
Children	<u>234</u>
Adults	<u>8</u>
Number Found with Hearing Loss	
Children (unilateral)	<u>58</u>
Children (bilateral)	<u>20</u>
Adult (unilateral)	<u>6</u>
Adult (bilateral)	<u>2</u>
Number Referred for Medical/Surgical Evaluation	<u>83</u>
Number Receiving Medical/Surgical Services	<u>24</u>
Number of Hearing Aids Provided	
Children	<u>5</u>
Adults	

FY 75

## Number of Persons Trained for OM Activities

6

Audiometrists

1

CHRs

GMOs

1

Other

4

## Current Backlog of Surgical Procedures

59

Number

59

Estimated Cost (CMC)

\$52,535.00

OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY PROGRAM  
USPHS INDIAN HOSPITAL  
PINE RIDGE, SOUTH DAKOTA

DETAILED REPORT, Fiscal Year 1975

	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
TOTAL PATIENT VISITS	251	234	198	188	274	159	240	205	101	162	213	146	2371
INITIAL VISITS	84	82	67	77	167	62	100	99	43	75	91	53	1000
FOLLOW-UP VISITS	167	152	115	111	107	97	140	105	58	87	122	192	1453
			*16										
TOTAL VISITS - EAR DISEASE	189	155	113	117	210	107	147	124	57	100	112	96	1527
Acute Ear Disease	97	81	54	60	153	56	67	59	27	49	38	36	777
Initial Visits	53	34	30	45	127	38	40	41	20	36	17	17	498
Follow-up Visits	44	47	24	15	26	18	27	18	7	13	21	19	279
Chronic Ear Disease	92	74	59	57	57	51	80	65	30	51	74	60	750
Initial Visits	13	13	13	7	8	4	13	14	8	9	15	5	122
Follow-up Visits	79	61	46	50	49	47	67	51	22	42	59	17	590
TOTAL VISITS - OTHER ENT DISEASE	62	79	85	71	64	53	93	81	44	62	101	59	854
Acute ENT Disease	27	48	54	45	39	33	68	61	17	34	51	32	509
Initial Visits	15	26	35	20	25	23	42	44	14	23	37	20	324
Follow-up Visits	12	22	19	25	14	10	26	17	3	11	14	12	185
Chronic ENT Disease	35	31	31	26	25	20	25	20	27	28	50	27	345
Initial Visits	4	4	6	5	5	0	5	5	7	8	20	8	77
Follow-up Visits	31	27	25	21	20	20	20	15	20	20	30	19	268
TOTAL FIELD CLINIC VISITS	45	38	541	1347	592	53	25	17	39	32	24	47	2800
TOTAL SURGICAL CASES	25	17	20	19	14	17	27	13	13	20	23	22	230
In-patient Procedures	25	17	20	19	14	17	27	13	13	20	23	14	222
Ear Surgery	13	10	11	11	7	8	19	10	4	10	12	9	124
Other ENT Surgery	12	7	09	8	7	9	8	3	9	10	11	3	98
Out-patient Procedures	0	3	0	0	2	2	1	7	1	1	5	8	30
Ear Surgery	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	4	2	9
Other ENT Surgery	0	3	0	0	2	1	1	5	1	1	1	3	18
TOTAL NON-SURGICAL ADMISSIONS	1	2	03	0	1	1	1	3	0	4	5	5	26
REFERRALS THRU CONTRACT HEALTH SERV.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
DAYS OF CONSULTANT VISITS	4	0	2	2	2	4	4	2	2	4	1	2	29
NUMBER OF HOME VISITS	198	192	113	128	23	62	89	65	53	66	90	58	1137

ALASKA

From the inception of the special otitis media program, Anchorage has been the only one with specific line item budget and staff and continues to be the most successful program to date.

Case finding is provided largely through the State Board of Health Program for Communicative Disorders and this arrangement could well serve as a model program for other States to follow in their programs relating to Indian Health Service activities. The screening failure rate of 29% (1604 of 5531) is still quite high even though the failure means a person may have failed any one or all of three tests. Of this number all 1604 failed audiometry, 1343 failed tympanometry and 1004 failed an otoscopic examination. The entire number of failures were referred for diagnostic audiometry and all were found to have hearing loss; further, all were referred for medical/surgical evaluation. The remarkable correlation between those failing and those found with hearing loss further points out the quality of the program. This failure rate shows a drastic drop from the 31% failure rate reported for FY 74 and the 34% for 1973. It should be pointed out that many of the failures and follow-ups are persons who will be seen routinely on an annual basis and followed throughout the course of the program. The previously reported decline in prevalence of new cases continues with the expectation being otitis media at a maintenance level of no more than 3% new cases per year by the end of next year.

ALASKA

10

FY 75

Total Number Screened

5,531

Children (below 17 years)

4,369

Adults

1,162

Number Failing

1,604Audiometry - children  
- adults1,306293Tympanometry - children  
- adults1,045186Otoscope - children  
- adults871133

Number Referred for Diagnostic Audiometry

1,604

Children

1,306

Adults

298

Number Found with Hearing Loss

1,604

Children (unilateral)

627

Children (bilateral)

679

Adult (unilateral)

140

Adult (bilateral)

158

Number Referred for Medical/Surgical Evaluation

1,604

Number Receiving Medical/Surgical Services

1,604

Number of Hearing Aids Provided

34

Children

18

Adults

16

FY 75

## Number of Persons Trained for OM Activities

9

Audiometrists

0

CHRs

0

GMOs

9

Other

0

## Current Backlog of Surgical Procedures

Number

983

Estimated Cost (CMC)

\$2,000,000

FY 75

## Number of Persons Trained for OM Activities

9

Audiometrists

0

CHRs

0

GMOs

9

Other

0

## Current Backlog of Surgical Procedures

Number

983

Estimated Cost (CMC)

\$2,000,000

ALBUQUERQUE

The Albuquerque Area program continued to be supported through a series of contracts with the University of New Mexico and the Zuni tribe with an additional otitis media worker being supported through CHR funds at his Pueblo(Isleta). These contracts provide for screening and follow-up, referral service, and aural rehabilitation services. Surgical services are provided by local private practitioners.

With a full complement of technicians on board throughout the year, the Albuquerque program shows substantial growth with 6,644 persons being screened with an overall failure rate of 27% (1,800 persons). Of this number, 8,531 (13%) were referred for medical/surgical evaluation. (This compares with a 24% failure rate the previous year and a medical referral rate of 20%).

In addition, 153 hearing evaluations, 97 hearing and hearing aid evaluations, 52 hearing aid evaluations were provided at the Communication Disorders Unit and 153 hearing aids were dispensed.

ALBUQUERQUEFY 75

Total Number Screened	<u>6,644</u>
Children	<u>6,163</u>
Adults	<u>481</u>
Number Failing	<u>1,800</u>
Audiometry - children	<u>259</u>
- adults	<u>205</u>
Tympanometry - children	<u>1,003</u>
- adults	<u>107</u>
Failing Both - children	<u>158</u>
- adults	<u>68</u>
Number Referred for Audiology	<u>158</u>
Children	<u>40</u>
Adults	<u>118</u>
Number Children with Hearing Loss or Middle Ear Disease	
Unilateral	<u>392</u>
Bilateral	<u>626</u>
Sensori-Neural or Mixed - Unilateral	<u>27</u>
Sensori-Neural or Mixed - Bilateral	<u>62</u>
Number Adults with Hearing Loss or Middle Ear Disease	
Unilateral	<u>65</u>
Bilateral	<u>218</u>
Sensori-Neural or Mixed - Unilateral	<u>24</u>
Sensori-Neural or Mixed - Bilateral	<u>134</u>
Number Referred for Medical/Surgical Evaluations	
Children	<u>648</u>
Adults	<u>205</u>
Hearing Aids Issued	<u>153</u>
Children	<u>13</u>
Adults	<u>140</u>
Hearing Aid Rechecks	<u>200</u>
Field	<u>48</u>
Communication Disorders Unit	<u>152</u>
	<u>200</u>

BEMIDJI

Prior to this Fiscal Year, the bulk of the services provided to otitis media patients in the Bemidji Area were supported by Area resources and limited primarily to Minnesota where regularly scheduled ENT and audiological services were provided by private practitioners in Duluth and from the Mayo Clinic. With the advent of the special otitis media funds, however, a contract was negotiated during the year with Michigan State University to provide services to Indian beneficiaries residing in Michigan. As the contract was not negotiated until the end of the Fiscal Year, no services were provided during FY 75.

Basically, the contract calls for services of a full-time program coordinator who serves as liaison with individuals and agencies in the local communities. Included in these duties is the development of a referral system for patients to local medical vendors. In addition, the University provides one graduate assistant to assist in the planning and execution of the program. The contractor provides regularly scheduled screening and treatment trips to each of the four reservations involved, provides evaluation follow-up visits after each such reservation trip, and is developing a plan for future work once the initial survey and treatment phase has been completed.

BILLINGS

Beginning with FY 75, the otitis media program for Billings was changed from a contract program to a direct hire within PHS. Positions to staff the program were "borrowed" from the Billings Area office until such time the otitis media program can establish these positions directly.

Major emphasis in FY 75 was placed on coordination of school systems and tribal units to provide help through State Department of Health and the State Department of Education in establishing an on-going screening program using otoscopic examination, tympanometry, and audiometric evaluations. This shift in the screening activities will allow increased emphasis on the IHS part to be placed upon adequate follow-up and evaluation of those persons failing the screening exam.

Secondary emphasis was on the strengthening of the surgery programs operated within IHS facilities. This program has resulted in greatly improved surgical results, more convenient to the patient and their families, and at a markedly reduced cost over sending these persons to contract facilities. The convenience of the program was also led to markedly improved follow-up with a very small percentage of the individuals failing to show for post-surgical and medical treatment follow-up.

Third area of emphasis has been the generation of a stronger CHR otitis media worker program. Rather than have a separate group of audiometric technicians, the Area has developed audiometrically trained CHR's in three of the Service Units in the Billings Area. It is apparent from the clinic show-up rate, surgical follow-up rate, and surgical show-up rate that the presence of an otitis media worker at the Service Unit level is a positive factor in the increased success. The Service Units having active CHR programs have also resulted in enhanced referrals for hearing aid distribution and hearing aid repair and follow-up.

The previously reported mobile unit program is still very much in operation; the unit covers the entire Billings Area and is staffed by an audiologist and a physician assistant.

Personnel changes reduced the number of services somewhat during this Fiscal Year, particularly in the number of hearing aids dispensed. A total of 84 aids furnished by IHS and 11 through outside services were dispensed during this year.

Of particular significance during the latter part of the Fiscal Year was the document of finding that the new rate of chronic disease has been sharply reduced throughout the State of Montana.

BILLINGS

	<u>F.Y. 1975</u>
Total patient visits	<u>4411</u>
Total patients screened	<u>1389</u>
Patients seen for complete initial ENT evaluation	<u>2009</u>
Patient revisits	<u>1013</u>
 Total children visits	 <u>3056</u>
Total adult visits	<u>1355</u>
Total patients (children)	<u>2390</u>
Total patients (adults)	<u>1008</u>
 Of the 2,009 patients seen for complete initial ENT evaluations, the following numbers failed:	
<u>Audiometry</u>	
Children	<u>310</u>
Adults	<u>462</u>
 <u>Tympanometry</u>	
Children	<u>401</u>
Adults	<u>199</u>
 <u>Otoscopic</u>	
Children	<u>497</u>
Adults	<u>269</u>
 Number referred for diagnostic audiometry	 <u>2009</u>
Children	<u>1001</u>
Adults	<u>1008</u>

F.Y. 1975

Number found with hearing loss	<u>772</u>
Children (unilateral)	<u>142</u>
Children (bilateral)	<u>168</u>
Adult (unilateral)	<u>137</u>
Adult (bilateral)	<u>325</u>
 Number referred to otolaryngologist for medical/surgical evaluation	 <u>803</u>
Number receiving medical/surgical services	<u>768</u>
 Number of hearing aids provided	 <u>84</u>
Children	<u>3</u>
Adults	<u>81</u>
Aids obtained through outside services	<u>11</u>
 Number of persons trained for otitis media activities	 <u>26</u>
Audiometrists	<u>4</u>
Community Health Representatives	<u>6</u>
GMOs	<u>10</u>
Other	<u>6</u>
 Current backlog of surgical procedures (identified)	 <u>28</u>
Estimated Cost (Contract Medical Care)	<u>\$22,400</u>

Surgeries Performed in Fiscal Year 1975

Tonsillectomy & adenoidectomy - 92

Tympanotomy & insertion of PE tubes - 154

Myringoplasty - 20

Tympanoplasty - 44

Mastoidectomy - 5

Stapedectomy - 5

Ossicular reconstruction - 6

Tympanomastoidectomy - 1

Septoplasty - 37

Reduction of nasal fracture - 11

Laryngoscopy - 6

Otoplasty - 3

Excision of lesion - 5

Miscellaneous (tongue flap, lip shave, Z-plasty, scar revision, bronchoscopy, craniotomy, vocal nodules, fractured mandible, sinus wash, pharyngeal flap, facial fracture, skin graft, turbinectomy, tracheotomy, parotidectomy, meatoplasty) - 32

TOTAL SURGICAL PROCEDURES - 423

Total number of aids issued in Fiscal Year 1975 - 84 aids  
Total hearing aids repaired - 60 aids

Percentage of different models issued:

Behind-the-ear - 77%  
Body aids - 9.5%  
Eyeglass aids (CROS-BICROS) - 13%  
Bone conduction - .5%

Distribution of battery sizes:

Size 675 - 51%  
Size 76 - 40%  
Size 401 - 9%

Hearing aids issued as related to degree of hearing loss:

Mild loss category (25 dB - 35 dB SRT\*) - 1%  
Moderate loss category (40 dB - 60 dB SRT) - 42%  
Severe loss category (+ 65 dB SRT) - 48%  
Precipitous high frequency loss - 9%

\*SRT - Speech reception threshold

Hearing aids issued as related to type of hearing loss:

Sensori-neural hearing loss - 68%  
Conductive hearing loss - 3%  
Mixed hearing loss - 29%

Hearing aids issued as related to sex of patient:

Male patients issued aids - 55%  
Female patients issued aids - 45%

Hearing aids issued as related to age of patient:

Age 0-17 years - 3.5%  
Age 18-29 years - 3.5%  
Age 30-59 years - 32%  
Age 60+ years - 61%



Lois Ferguson, CHR, is pictured doing audiometric screening in the Head-start program on the Fort Peck Reservation. After returning from the otitis media worker training program, Lois has developed a very strong program at Fort Peck. Ms. Ferguson has the responsibility of establishing clinic schedules, making sure that all patients return for follow-up clinic visits at the appointed time, making pre-surgical home visits, explaining the operative procedure which is to take place to the parent or the individual involved. This is done to reinforce the initial description of the procedure given by the physician's assistant or the surgeon involved. In addition, Ms. Ferguson makes home visits following the surgery to stress the importance of surgical aftercare and follow-up appointments. Finally, Ms. Ferguson makes follow-up visits on hearing aid users who have been given a hearing aid through the otitis media program. She provides batteries and help in initially adjusting to the aid. She also provides simple hearing aid repairs and serves as a representative of the Otitis Media Project when the actual personnel are absent from her service unit.



Richard Figenshow, physician's assistant, is shown during a screening clinic in the Headstart program doing otoscopic examination of the tympanic membrane and external ear canal using a head light. This provides a very satisfactory method for doing screening evaluations where the microscope can not be used due to the pressure of time.

NAVAJO

As has been reported previously, the surgical program at the GIMC continues to have difficulty in making any significant inroads into the surgical backlog due to insufficient operating room time, operating room staff, etc. Some relief was provided during the year through the on-going contract at McKinley General Hospital along with other contracts (such as University of Pittsburgh), private practitioners, and hospitals outside Gallup.

The contracts with the University of Colorado were in effect again during this Fiscal Year, such contracts providing the services of an ENT Fellow and senior resident, audiologic staff, some operating room staff, and for the Audiology program which provides for services of two audiologists and four audiometric technicians.

The major shift of emphasis during this Fiscal Year was, now that the initial screening backlog has been reduced, that instead of a routine screening each person seen was given audiometric threshold test, tympanometer test, and otoscopic examination.

During the year a second public information film was completed, in two versions--one in English and one in Navajo.

As in previous years the Navajo Area has been outstanding in providing in-service training for Public Health Nurses, General Medical Officers, and other interested persons. During FY 75 217 persons received some training regarding the otitis media program.

## NAVAJO

FY 75

Total Number Examined	<u>                    </u>
Children (below 17 years)	<u>    4,200    </u>
Adults	<u>        0        </u>
Number Failing	<u>        442        </u>
Audiometry-children	<u>        261        </u>
-adults	<u>          -          </u>
Tympanometry-children	<u>        429        </u>
-adults	<u>          -          </u>
Otoscopic-children	<u>        404        </u>
-adults	<u>          -          </u>
Number Referred for Diagnostic Audiometry	<u>        442        </u>
Children	<u>        442        </u>
Adults	<u>          -          </u>
Number Found with Hearing Loss	<u>                    </u>
Children (unilateral)	<u>        178        </u>
Children (bilateral)	<u>        67        </u>
Adult (unilateral)	<u>          -          </u>
Adult (bilateral)	<u>          -          </u>
Number Referred for Medical/Surgical Evaluation	<u>        442        </u>
Number Receiving Medical/Surgical Services	<u>                    </u>
Number of Hearing Aids Provided	<u>        195        </u>
Children	<u>        10        </u>
Adults	<u>       185       </u>

- (A) Persons trained -
- (1) Audiometrists - 2 (plus O.R. Training for 2)
  - (2) O.R. Tech - 1
  - (3) PHN's Field Health Staff, etc. (Aug. 74 O.M. Training program) - 120 estimated
  - (4) CHR's - 65 estimated
  - (5) ENT Residents - 3
  - (6) GMO's - 15 estimated
  - (7) Dental interns - 4
  - (8) Medical students - 4
  - (9) Persons trained by field lectures, teaching films, etc. Unable to estimate
- (B) BACKLOG
- (1) NUMBER (PER REPORTS)
- (a) Otitis Media Project
    - Chronic Otitis - 312
    - Serous Otitis - 92
  - (b) Shiprock - 200
  - (c) Winslow - 45
  - (d) Ft. Defiance - 94
  - (e) Tuba City - (not reported)
  - (f) Crownpoint - 73
  - (g) Chinle - 64
  - (h) Kayenta - 30
  - (i) Ganado - (Unknown)
  - (j) Keams Canyon (Navajos) - 35
  - (k) Cuba - 32 or 44
  - (l) Gallup S.U. - (not reported)
  - (m) Zuni (Navajos) - 5
  - (n) There is still a large number of adults being seen at Gallup ENT Clinic for chronic otitis media for the first time. There is no way of estimating the backlog of adults in need of surgery except by using percentage figures - derived from N.O.M.P. (5% being the lowest - this year's report suggests incidence closer to 7.5%)
  - (o) No tabulation of data from Field Otology Clinics.
  - (p) Total reported 982 + ? (probably several thousand).
- (2) Estimated Cost (CMC) @ \$1000 per patient  
\$982,000 + ??

## Addendum to FY 75 Otitis Media Report

- 1) Patients seen at Gallup Indian Medical Center ENT Clinic
 

FY 75	- 5036
(Patients in FY 74)	- (3948)
  
- 2) Patients seen summer '75 at  
 Tuba City (U. of Pittsburgh Program) - 279  
 Patients seen during year by U. of  
 Colo. Otology Fellow at Tuba City  
 not recorded.
  
- 3) Surgery
  - (a) Gallup Indian Medical Center
 

Total ENT cases	- 352
Otology cases	- ( 167)
Total # Patients	- ( 335)
  
  - (b) McKinley Gen. Hosp.-Gallup
 

Total ENT cases	- 235
Otology cases	- ( 177)
Total # Patients	- ( 216)
  
  - (c) Tuba City (U.of Pittsburgh)
 

Summer 74 (June-Aug.)	- 101
Summer 75 (June-Aug.)	76
Cases done by U.Of Colo.	
Fellow not tabulated	
  
  - (d) Cases done by contract otologist  
 Dr. Craig Edgerton from Shiprock  
 Service Unit (Period 11/13/74 to  
 3/19/75) Number of ear surgery  
 cases - 49  
 (Number of patients) - 48
  
  - (e) Cases done on contract from  
 Crownpoint S.U. Bernalillo County  
 Medica Center  
 (Dr.Herzon) - 16 ear surgery  
 Denver - 6 reported

OKLAHOMA

While the number of persons screened in FY 75 as substantially lower than those reported for FY 74 this finding is a reflection, first, of the fact that the additional backlog of persons to be screened has been reduced appreciably and, second, that the program has stabilized in this phase of the overall activity.

During FY 75, services of two audiologists were provided under contract to provide hearing aid evaluation services and professional and technical back-up to the Indian technicians at each Service Unit. During the year, full size sound suites were installed at six of the Service Units giving each such Unit the capability for full scale audiometric evaluation and hearing aid evaluation. Two hundred and eight hearing aids were purchased during the year and at the close of the Fiscal Year, additional instruments were provided through the Communication Disorders Unit in Albuquerque.

A total of 17 persons were trained in audiometric procedures during this period, nine audiometrists and eight CHR's who serve as back-up to each of the Service Units involved.

OKLAHOMA

1. Total Number Screened	<u>18,172</u>
a. Children (Below 17 years)	<u>15,918</u>
b. Adults	<u>2,254</u>
2. Number Failing	<u>3,492</u>
a. Audiometry - Children	<u>2,130</u>
Adults	<u>1,362</u>
b. Tympanometry - Children	<u>-</u>
Adults	<u>-</u>
c. Otoscopic - Children	<u>-</u>
Adults	<u>-</u>
3. Number Referred for Diagnostic Audiometry	<u>1,546</u>
a. Children	<u>861</u>
b. Adults	<u>685</u>
4. Number Found with Hearing Loss	<u>1,344</u>
a. Children (Unilateral)	<u>293</u>
b. Children (Bilateral)	<u>362</u>
c. Adults (Unilateral)	<u>313</u>
d. Adults (Bilateral)	<u>376</u>
5. Number Referred for Medical/Surgical Evaluation	<u>860</u>
a. To Contract Otologist	<u>860</u>
6. Total Number of Procedures by Contract	<u>346</u>

7. Total Amounts Spent for Otologic Surgery	<u>\$86,102</u>
a. IHS Funds	<u>\$84,352</u>
b. Other Sources	<u>1,750</u>
8. Number of Children Receiving Speech and/or Hearing Therapy Services	<u>31</u>
9. Number of Hearing Aids Purchased	<u>208</u>
a. Children	<u>4</u>
b. Adults	<u>204</u>
10. Number of Persons Trained Under OM Program	<u>17</u>
a. Audiometrists	<u>9</u>
b. CHRs	<u>8</u>
c. GMOs	<u>-</u>
d. Other	<u>-</u>
11. Current Backlog of Surgical Procedures	
a. Number	<u>58</u>
b. Estimated Cost	<u>\$40,000</u>

PHOENIX

The otitis media program in the Phoenix Area is concentrated on three different activities: (1) the on-going ENT program at Phoenix Indian Medical Center; (2) contract with Oak Knolls Naval Hospital; (3) contract with the University of Arizona, Department of Community Medicine.

At PIMC, 114 relevant surgical procedures were undertaken (with an additional 3 under contract) and, through the audiologic services provided by contract with Memorial Hospital in Phoenix, 1,158 audiologic patients were seen with 80 hearing aids dispensed. An additional contract, for provision of speech therapy services, has also been undertaken but no data are available yet as to patients seen.

The Oak Knolls Naval contract provides audiologic-otologic services at Whiteriver. Since the inception of the program, 804 patients have been examined with 402 being found with otologic disease. A total of 194 surgical patients have been seen representing 242 surgical procedures. In addition, there were 2,904 outpatient visits, 589 audiograms performed, and 11 hearing aids issued. To date, 23 clinics have been held at Whiteriver and the waiting list consists of 61 patients in need of surgery.

The University of Arizona contract is conducted at Keams Canyon, San Carlos, and Parker with local technicians focusing on prevention of chronic otitis media through following up patients seen at the Service Unit and in home visits, examining other persons in the family, visiting two cohort group, and collecting data on the such variables as medication usage, and environmental data in the homes of the affected persons. During the year, the Service Units involved reported 879 encounters for acute suppurative otitis media with 231 newborns in the cohort group. A total of 550 visits to the otitis media group were made with 228 visits to the cohort group. In addition, 1,188 persons were examined in addition to the patients during the home visits. Other data collecting on an on-going basis are to be analyzed in more detail at the conclusion of the contract.

PORTLAND

During FY 75, the Portland Area supported four otitis media projects at each of the following Service Units: Northern Idaho, Yakima, Ft. Hall, and Lummi. The Ft. Hall project was only in operation one month during this Fiscal Year. Each project, in general, is a portion of a generalized maternal and child health program emphasizing preventive care for mothers and children and includes, from other resources, pre-natal, post-partum, and family planning services as well. Each contract is maintained by the tribal organization involved. During the year, a total of 667 otitis media contacts were made in these Service Units.

A unique feature of these contracts is the complete stress on preventive activities for the infant and young child with the concomitant emphasis on parent education, surveillance of active disease, etc. Throughout the Portland Area, the "usual" screening activities for otitis media are undertaken in the school system allowing for the present emphasis on prevention to develop.

During FY 75 a total of 81 relevant surgical procedures were performed, all on contract.

TUCSON

The mobile screening clinic operated under contract with the Papago tribe by the Sells Service Unit was again supported throughout 1975. As reported for FY 74, the program at that time appeared to have achieved a maintenance level with no backlog of previously screened patients listed needing services. No surgical procedures were performed again in FY 75.

A total of 846 children were screened in FY 75, with 27 failing audiometry; 26 of these were then referred for diagnostic audiometry and one child was found to have a unilateral hearing loss. Twenty-six were referred for medical/surgical evaluation and seven received treatment. Ten persons were trained in some aspect of otitis media during this time.

TUCSON

	<u>FY 75</u>
Total Number Screened	<u>846</u>
Children (below 17 years)	<u>846</u>
Adults	<u>          </u>
Number Failing	<u>27</u>
Audiometry - children	<u>27</u>
- adults	<u>27</u>
Tympanometry - children	<u>          </u>
- adults	<u>          </u>
Otoscopic - children	<u>          </u>
- adults	<u>          </u>
Number Referred for Diagnostic Audiometry	<u>26</u>
Children	<u>          </u>
Adults	<u>          </u>
Number Found with Hearing Loss	<u>          </u>
Children (unilateral)	<u>1</u>
Children (bilateral)	<u>          </u>
Adult ( unilateral)	<u>          </u>
Adult (bilateral)	<u>          </u>
Number Referred for Medical/Surgical Evaluation	<u>26</u>
Number Receiving Medical/Surgical Services	<u>7</u>
Number of Hearing Aids Provided	<u>          </u>
Children	<u>          </u>
Adults	<u>          </u>

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FY 75

## Number of Persons Trained For OM Activities

10

Audiometrists

CHRs

GMOs

Other(teachers,aides,etc.)

10

## Current Backlog of Surgical Procedures

Unknown

Number

Estimated Cost (CMC)

USET

During FY 75, three contractual programs were in operation in the USET Area---Cherokee, Choctaw, and Seminole for purposes of case finding, referral, and follow-up services using local professional and para-professional personnel.

No further data were received from USET in time to be included in this report.

CDU (Albuquerque)

During FY 75, the Communication Disorders Unit continued to serve as the locale for coordination of all Indian Health Service otitis media activities. The Unit as a service-wide facility for hearing aid distribution, calibration and repair of audiometric-tympanometric equipment, training site for audiometric technicians, etc.

During FY 75, 97 audiometers and 20 impedance units were calibrated and/or repaired.

The hearing aid program to this date dispensed or obligated some 1,689 hearing aids. At this time, only Bemidji, Portland and USET have not submitted hearing aid distribution plans. The major change of emphasis of the hearing aid distribution plan at this time is the shifting of responsibility for hearing aid ordering and stocking to several of the Area Offices where audiologic capability exists in order to maintain such a program. At such time as the various areas develop such capabilities they will be allotted additional monies to purchase aids directly through the V.A. sources thereby eliminating the need for centralized distribution. At such time as this capability is developed universally, the hearing aid distribution program will be phased out of Albuquerque completely.

## III.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

From the beginning, the otitis media program has shown annual growth and progress. Table 3 is a summary of services provided over the years of the program and indicates two things: (1) the rapid expansion of the program in terms of number of persons seen peaking in FY 74 and (2) the present stability of the program once the large screening backlog has been accounted for. A major discrepancy of concern is the relationship between the number of medical/surgical referrals and the number of completed surgical referrals which tends to indicate that the surgery rate in relation to the disease detection rate continues to lag considerably.

In Table 4, a comparison is made of the percentage of funds available in FY 75 related to the population of the various service areas. Now that the program seems to have achieved some stability in the Alaska and Billings areas, it is projected that additional funds of subsequent fiscal years will be utilized to provide a better balance between populations served and dollars available for such services.

Major recurring problems during FY 75 were (1) lack of sufficient CMC funds to make significant inroads into the chronic otitis media surgery caseload and (2) insufficient personnel to establish and sustain long time direct patient care services. The bulk of funds available are expended on contractual services which have risen drastically in cost without concomitant budgetary increases to offset these gains.

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Table 3

SUMMARY OF SERVICES PROVIDED, RESULTS, AND FOLLOW-UP  
REPORTED FOR OTITIS MEDIA PROGRAM FY 71-75 (Provisional)

	<u>FY 71</u>	<u>FY 72</u>	<u>FY 73</u>	<u>FY 74</u>	<u>FY 75</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number Screened <u>1/</u>	20,930	21,676	29,286	53,211	46,016	171,119
Number Screening Failures <u>2/</u>	4,061	9,038	9,629	9,176	9,009	40,913
Confirmed Hearing Losses	2,879	3,071	4,616	5,944	4,588	21,748
Medical/Surgical Referrals	2,683	3,501	10,543	6,376	5,656	28,759
Completed Surgical Procedures	2,160	1,779	2,285	2,164	1,754 <sup><u>3/</u></sup>	10,142
Number of Hearing Aids Dispensed	71	131	440	479	754	1,874

1/ In FY 75, "Screened" also includes more refined testing and follow-up visits from hospital referred patients.

2/ Test battery includes three examinations; one patient may fail any or all three.

3/ Includes Oak Knoll surgery.

Table 4

Comparison of Percentages  
Population vs. Available Funds

	%-\$ FY 75	% Population
Aberdeen	07	14
Alaska	24	11
Albuquerque	07	7
Bemidji	02	4
Billings	10	6
Oklahoma	09	22
Navajo	14	19
Phoenix	08	11
Portland	05	5
Tucson	01	2
USET	08	2
CDU	09	--