

Healthcare

In line with its administrative guideline of building a quality society, the Macao SAR Government maintains its policy of “A sound healthcare system, putting prevention first” and is committed to improving medical and healthcare quality and safeguarding the health of the public.

There are five hospitals and 702 clinics that provide primary healthcare. During 2017, there were 1,730 doctors and 2,397 nurses, an increase of 0.2 percent and 2.3 percent, respectively, over the previous year. The ratio of doctors to residents was 2.6 per thousand residents, that of nurses to residents was 3.7 per thousand residents.

Medical and health services providers in Macao are classified as Governmental or non-governmental. The former includes Government Health Centres for primary healthcare and Conde S. Januario Hospital, which provides specialists medical services. The latter includes medical entities subsidised by the Government and other institutions, such as Kiang Wu Hospital, the university Hospital, the Workers’ Clinic and Tung Sin Tong Clinic, as well as various private clinics and laboratories. Most medical services provided by Government Health Centres and Tung Sin Tong Clinic are basically free of charge.

Healthcare Resources

The Government devotes considerable resources to medical and health care to optimise medical services and various health care facilities. In 2017, total expenditure on medical and health services was about 6.63 billion patacas, representing an increase of 5.19 percent over the 2016 figure.

During 2017, the hospitals in Macao received a total of 1,698,346 outpatients and 473,110 emergency cases. The general mortality rate was 3.3 per thousand inhabitants, while the mortality rate for infants under one year old was 2.3 per thousand live births. The average life expectancies for men and women in Macao were 80.3 and 86.4 years (2014-2017), respectively, which are among the highest life expectancies for any country or territory.

According to the ICD-10-CM classification system (International Classification of Disease, Tenth Edition, Clinical Modification), malignant tumours were the main cause of death in Macao, while circulatory diseases and respiratory diseases ranked second and third, respectively. In 2017, these three categories accounted for 34.8 percent, 24.7 percent and 19.2 percent, respectively, of all deaths during the year.

A Sound Primary Healthcare Network

To realise the objective of “Health for All” advocated by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Health Bureau has established Health Centres throughout the territory. The completion of a primary health care network with Health Centres as its operational units offers all Macao residents easy access to primary health care services in their own neighbourhoods.

At present, there are seven Health Centres and three Health Stations distributed throughout the different districts of Macao. Among them, the Fai Chi Kei and Areia Preta health centres are also equipped with traditional Chinese medicine clinics. All Health Centres provide prenatal care, family planning, children’s healthcare, adult healthcare, oral healthcare, student healthcare, health education and Traditional Chinese Medicine services.

The free healthcare services provided by Health Centres also include family visits, referral, vaccination, medical social work, mental health care, quit-smoking consultation, and other nursing services. All legal residents of Macao, regardless of their age or occupation, are entitled to free services at Health Centres and supplementary check ups at Conde S. Januario Hospital by referral from Health Centres. While non-residents are required to pay for such services according to rates established by the Health Bureau. Services provided by the Conde S. Januario Hospital are chargeable except for people specified by the Government, but Macao residents may enjoy a lower rate than non-residents.

The Government cooperates with many non-profit-making medical institutions to provide various services to residents including specialist health care (inpatient, emergency and cardiac surgery), Chinese medicine and dental care, rehabilitation, home care, cervical cancer screening, psychological therapy, patient transportation, and dental cavity filling service and periodontal cure service. It also provides education programmes on AIDS prevention and promotion of tobacco-free lifestyles.

Since 2009, the Government has implemented a medical subsidy scheme, distributing health care vouchers to every Macao permanent resident on an annual basis to enhance public health consciousness and subsidise medical expenses.

In addition, the Government has strengthened cooperation with mainland China in the areas of food safety, food inspection, Chinese medicine, pharmaceutical supervision, medical education and training in a bid to further the development of Macao’s public health sector.

Public Hygiene and Disease Prevention

In 2017, there were a total of 9,917 cases of infectious diseases requiring

compulsory declaration, the top three of which were influenza (4,110 cases), enteroviruses (3,398 cases) and chickenpox (697 cases). There were 11 imported cases of dengue fever, six local cases of dengue fever, one case of pertussis, one case of Jakob disease, three cases of legionnaires' disease, and 33 cases of HIV infections. There was no Avian influenza A (H7N9), Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS) or Ebola virus case.

To ensure public health, the Public Health Laboratory conducts chemical and microorganism tests for food safety, water quality, medicine, and clinical samples, as well as diagnostic services for some infectious diseases. In 2017, it tested 91,365 samples, and conducted a total of 309,269 tests.

Macao's Three Major Hospitals

Conde S. Januario Hospital

Conde S. Januario Hospital is a modern Government medical institution with advanced and comprehensive facilities. It has 93 departments including Inpatient, Outpatient, Emergency and other specialists departments. According to Health Bureau's statistics for 2017, its bed occupancy rate was 82.72 percent, and patients stayed in the hospital for an average of 10.53 days

According to Health Bureau's statistics for 2017, Conde S. Januario Hospital had 387 doctors and 1,033 nurses. There were a total of 906 beds; 795 in its Inpatient Department and 111 in its Outpatient Department. The Hospital treated 410,474 outpatients, 311,745 emergency cases and 21,535 inpatients.

Conde S. Januario Hospital provides free medical services for expectant mothers, new mothers, children under 10, primary and secondary school students, teachers and other school staff, patients suffering from infectious diseases, people with malignant tumours, drug addicts, the mentally ill, prisoners, civil servants, people aged 65 and above, people who hold proof of financial difficulty and inability to pay for medical services issued by Conde S. Januario Hospital, people holding Certificates of Indigence issued by the Social Welfare Bureau, and Macao permanent residents who hold Disability Assessment Cards.

Kiang Wu Hospital

Kiang Wu Hospital is a non-governmental medical and health institution administered by the Kiang Wu Hospital Charitable Association of Macao. Established in 1871, it is a charitable hospital founded and operated by Chinese people. Kiang Wu Hospital has now

developed into a modern and all-inclusive hospital. In 2017, it had a staff of 1,928, including 356 doctors, 581 nurses, 328 technicians and 663 health workers.

Kiang Wu Hospital has four outpatient departments and two emergency departments, on the Macao Peninsula and Taipa, respectively. During 2017, its outpatient departments treated over 1.32 million patients, an average of 4,028 per day.

University Hospital

Established in March 2006, the University Hospital is an institution under the Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) Foundation. It is an integrated, modern hospital that serves as the clinical and teaching base for the Faculty of Chinese Medicine and Faculty of Health Sciences of the MUST. The hospital has a team of local professional medical staff and medical consultants from overseas, mainland China and Hong Kong. The Inpatient Department has 60 beds; double rooms, single rooms and luxury rooms are available.

For more information:

Statistic and Census Service (<http://www.dsec.gov.mo>)

Health Bureau (<http://www.ssm.gov.mo>)

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