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Foreword

In the 1950s, communicable diseases occupied the top position of the ten leading causes of death in Taiwan. Taiwan managed to overcome the crisis posed by these communicable diseases. For example, plague, smallpox, tuberculosis, malaria, and poliomyelitis have been eradicated in Taiwan. Taiwan has also successfully controlled and followed other communicable diseases such as measles, hepatitis B, and dengue fever. However, Taiwan now also faces the global control following increasing threats of emerging and re-emerging diseases such as HIV and drug-resistant tuberculosis.

Since CDC was established on July 1st, 1999, the Center has earned an outstanding reputation. For instance, during the SARS outbreaks in 2003, CDC adopted some prevention measures, which implemented across the world have proven to be effective against SARS, the outbreak has been successfully controlled. In the 21st century, CDC prepares its staff for prompt response to unknown diseases and outbreaks. In response to the greater challenge in the future, the center also re-built her organizational structure by creating special division of EID, nosocomial control and strengthen manpower in terms of recruiting more medical doctors and senior researchers with PhD training. Furthermore, the Center has as its vision “prevent communicable diseases promptly and professionally; mobilize all people for health promotion.” Community participation is the key to disease control, the Center is also dedicated to research and development as well as encourages its staff to stay alert and actively collect disease information and attack outbreaks. Finally, the world is becoming smaller. International cooperation is one of the Center’s adopted approaches for fighting communicable diseases with its global counterparts.

Looking back and facing forward, the Center has the responsibility for providing a healthy environment for the people of Taiwan. The Center is devoted to fighting not only microorganisms, but also the unavoidably enemy—time. The Center wishes to build up a lasting foundation for the control of communicable diseases.

Steve, Hsu-Sung Kuo MD, MPHPhD
Director-General
Center for Disease Control
About CDC

The goal is to promote national health by preventing disease through active involvement, sound healthcare networks, expertise and proficiency, the full participation of all people, and participation in international activities, and by implementing prevention and control measures against communicable diseases.
Introduction

In the recent years, with dramatic increases in international exchange and travel and the amount of foreign labor, various communicable diseases have been imported. Facing the threat of emerging diseases and the recurrence of indigenous communicable diseases, the existing policies on disease prevention, quarantine, and surveillance, and the capabilities of laboratory testing and research are considered inadequate to meet the needs of disease control. In coordination with the rapid development in high technology and the trend of internationalization, disease control must be more comprehensive, prompt, effective and international. The goal of the Center for Disease Control, therefore, is to combat the threat of communicable diseases.

Development

To deal with the changing patterns of communicable diseases, to consolidate disease control resources, and to establish a disease control system to face the challenges of the 21st century, the Center for Disease Control of the Department of Health was established on July 1, 1999 under the Organization Law of the Center for Center for Disease Control, the Department of Health, promulgated on February 3, 1999. The Center was established by merging the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, the National Institute of Preventive Medicine, and the National Quarantine Service of the Department of Health.

The “C” with an upward arrow symbolizes the continuous progress to reach the goal of better health and quality of life. The whole green circle outward means the perfect wellbeing under CDC's professional efforts.
Legal Basis
- Communicable Disease Control Act (Amended and promulgated on January 20, 2004)
- AIDS Prevention and Control Act (Amended and promulgated on July 19, 2000); and some ten regulations relevant to the above Acts.

Vision
To prevent diseases promptly and professionally; to mobilize all people for health promotion.
Principles

Flexibility in Disease Control
Disease control measures will stay flexible to positively cope with disease outbreaks at any time; to develop capability in crisis management; to actively collect domestic and international disease information; to stay alert at all time; and to promptly handle disease outbreaks.

Information-based Strategies
A complete information network including a reporting system for notification of disease outbreaks, a reporting system for syndromes, a geographic information system for communicable diseases, an on-line disease surveillance system, and an information system on immunization will be set up for better coordination. Disease control organization will have immediate on-line access to necessary information for more effective and prompt disease control.
Professionalization

Efforts will be made to recruit experts, encourage research, and apply scientific methods to disease control. Control measures will stay transparent and objective. Disease control manpower will be developed and professionals recruited to upgrade the professionalism of our disease control team.
Involvement of All People

Communicable diseases are preventable through various approaches. The effective control of outbreaks and transmission of communicable diseases, however, depends greatly on the public's understanding of communicable diseases and their prevention measures. Disease control requires the full participation and cooperation of all people.

Internationalization

The Center will continue to actively promote participation in international disease control activities, and to establish close communication and cooperation with all countries in the world. Disease prevention will be used as a channel to facilitate the entry of Taiwan into the World Health Organization as a member.
Functions

1. Planning of disease control system and drafting of relevant laws and regulations.
2. Prevention, control, survey and research of various communicable diseases.
4. Reporting of domestic disease information and surveillance of disease.
5. Collection, exchange and reporting of international disease information.
6. Procurement and management of drugs for disease control.
7. Planning and promotion of immunization; compensation for victims of vaccine-related hazards.
8. Manufacturing, supply, research and development and technology transfer of vaccines and biological products.
9. Laboratory testing for various diseases.
10. Formulation of laboratory testing standards of various diseases; verification of laboratory testing.
11. Quarantine and sanitary control of international ports.
12. Planning, promotion and supervision of the sanitation of business establishments.
13. Health management of foreign laborers.
14. Directing and supervising local health organizations for disease control.
15. International cooperation and exchanges on disease control.
16. Manpower development for disease control.
17. Other matters related to research and development, quarantine of disease control and preventive medicine, and instructions on disease control of the Department of Health.
Achievements

1. Plague was eradicated in 1948.
3. Smallpox was eradicated in 1955.
4. Rabies was eradicated in 1959.
5. Malaria was eradicated in 1965.
7. Immunization against hepatitis A began in 1995. Since then, no outbreaks have occurred in the mountain areas.

8. Immunization against influenza for the elderly began in 1998. Hospital care rate for the elderly has been reduced by 54%.

9. Polio was eradicated in 2000.
Organization

The Center for Disease Control is constructed by ten divisions, two centers, and six branch offices.
Planning Division

Vision:

CDC is the national authority on the prevention and control of infectious diseases, and is in charge of setting the related national policies, strategies, and plans. Planning Division is responsible for the over-all planning and coordination of the operation of CDC. The major responsibility is to employ scientific management techniques to plan and oversee the operation programs set up for each year. Tasks include research and development of technology, health education, collection and management of publications, study and amendment of the regulations on prevention and control of infectious diseases, etc. In addition, the Division is in charge of the over-all planning and execution of various training programs, which are designed to promote the professional abilities of infectious disease prevention and control personnel at all levels through on-the-job training and re-education.
Mission:
1. Diversified health education: provide health education with multiple channels, audience orientation, and community participation.
2. Up-graded training: provide various levels of training courses, so that disease-prevention personnel in local health agencies can obtain essential and comprehensive knowledge and skills pertinent to their jobs.
3. Regulated, standardized, and open technology development: establish a system for planning and evaluating research on disease prevention that is regulated, standardized, and open.
4. Enforcement of regulations, prospective planning, and establishment of evaluation systems: promote and implement the management of disease prevention by local governments through evaluation systems.
**Surveillance Division**

**Vision:**
Construct nationwide infectious disease surveillance networks. Closely monitor the occurrence of infectious diseases, detect epidemics in early stages.

**Mission:**
1. Construct diversified disease surveillance systems, including sentinel physician and laboratory surveillance, school-base surveillance and border surveillance systems.
2. Promote epidemiologic analysis, epidemic alert and prediction of seasonal diseases.
3. Provide the analysis and assessment for international and domestic infectious diseases on a daily basis.
Resources Management Division

Vision:
1. Working hard together for a healthier, safer, and brighter tomorrow.
2. Maintaining a good relationship with all concerned.

Missions:
1. Section I: Laboratory Animals
   (1) Feeding and keeping of venous snakes and venom collection.
   (2) Keeping horses and immunizing them with snake venoms.
   (3) Keeping medium and small size laboratory animals and management.
   (4) Being responsible for studies involving animals, providing animals for experiments, and animal breeding.
   (5) Enforcing rules and regulations regarding animal experiments.
   (6) Coordinating and seeing to the observance of biosafety during animal experiments.
   (7) Marketing and selling of biological products such as vaccines and immune sera.
   (8) Storing and managing anti-snake venom sera in remote areas.
   (9) Being responsible for disposition of medical wastes.
   (10) Others regarding laboratory animals.
2. Section II: Biological Materials
   (1) Collecting, storing, and managing biological materials.
(2) Setting up and managing a biological material database.
(3) Applications, exchanges of biological materials, and cooperation between different laboratories in their usage.
(4) Assuring the distribution, sharing and safe transportation of biological materials.
(5) Preserving and managing emerging infectious syndrome surveillance and pathological biopsy specimens.
(6) Managing highly infectious biological materials.
(7) Planning and implementing routine serological epidemiological surveillance.
(8) Other items regarding biological materials.

3. Section III: Quality Assurance and Biosafety
(1) Planning and monitoring laboratory QA, certification, and training.
(2) Planning and monitoring the QA of contract laboratories.
(3) Planning and supervising the qualification of the assigned hospitals for foreign laboratory physical exams.
(4) Planning, training, and monitoring the management of biosafety issues of laboratories.
(5) Performing other assignments due to special situations.

4. Section IV: Resource Control and Environment Safety
(1) Planning and managing disease-combating materials.
(2) Managing and deploying inventory of stored disease-combating materials.
(3) Purchasing disease-combating materials.
(4) Maintaining a management information system on disease-combating materials.
(5) Monitoring the inventory of disease-combating materials.
(6) Planning and up keeping of public area and entire environment safety of laboratories.
(7) Performing other assignments due to special situations.
Quarantine Division

Mission:

1. To prevent the three types of international quarantinable diseases, namely CHOLERA, PLAGE, and YELLOW FEVER, from entering the country through vessels, aircraft and other means of transportation and endangering national public safety, through quarantine procedure at international port.

2. To teach public about disease prevention through different media route and a variety of education material.

3. Traveler’s health education about international infectious disease prevention.

Vision:

Simplify the quarantine procedures to promote administrative efficiency in premise of preventing disease importation from foreign country.
Prevention Division

Mission:
1. To teach public about disease prevention through different media route and a variety of education material.
2. To prevent and control the occurrence and spread of enterovirus infectious and gastrointestinal disease by improving personal health and giving alert in epidemic season.
3. To prevent and control vector-borne disease such as dengue fever through multi-sector participation and community mobilization by reducing breeding site.
4. To control potential outbreak of gastrointestinal and vector-borne infectious disease through epidemiology investigation and blocking transmission route with emergency treatment of disinfection and dissection.

Vision:
Preventing and controlling vector-borne, food-borne and water-borne infectious diseases, which are vaccine unpreventable through surveillance, health education and vector control.
AIDS and STDs Division

Vision
1. Reverse the up-going HIV incidence rate
2. Every HIV/AIDS patient has an equal chance to receive the highest quality care and treatment
Mission

1. Leadership support and Organization: On Dec 19, 2001, a National Committee for the Promotion of AIDS Prevention and Treatment was established.

2. Promotion AIDS Prevention programme: Promote AIDS public awareness through TV campaign, internet and so on. According to the characteristic of the communication channel of different group, we offer different education program.

3. Accelerate Society empowerment: Elevation of AIDS prevention awareness, which include various departments from government, industry, media, religious leaders, NGOs, labor, etc.

4. Give vulnerable group a supportive environment: Provide sex workers, homosexual group, drug use group, sailors, and mobile group AIDS prevention program.

5. Provide AIDS patient with appropriate medication treatment, meanwhile maintain their basic human right.

6. Continue disease surveillance: Perform analysis on data obtained from different group to provide the information for the guidelines of policy and service.

7. Undergo research and development: To strengthen research and development in AIDS prevention and treatment related aspects, such as social, economics, population, culture, medical health, etc.
Immunization Division

Mission
The division is responsible for
- the surveillance of vaccine-preventable disease
- promotion the research and development of vaccination
- assessing vaccination program and coverage rate
- setting the policy of vaccination
- processing the vaccine injury compensation program
- Planning and implementing specific vaccination program
- the procurement, distribution, allocation and management of vaccines and other biological agents
- developing the preparedness for influenza pandemic

History of Immunization program in Taiwan

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Diptheria toxoid</td>
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<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>diphtheria-whooping cough</td>
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<td>2022</td>
<td>MMRV</td>
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Center for Disease Control, Department of Health, Taiwan, R.O.C.
Vision

- Constructing a serological database of the vaccine preventable diseases
- Increasing the kinds of available vaccines
- Completing programs of eradicate polio, measles, congenital rubella syndrome, and neonatal tetanus
- Establishing a national immunization information system
- Overcoming the bottlenecks of vaccination coverage rate
Tuberculosis Division

Vision:
1. Construct a complete model for the local spread of TB.
2. Taiwan’s TB situation must show an obvious decrease, decreasing faster than in other countries with similar TB rates.
3. Whether male or female, old or young, every citizen must have the proper knowledge, attitude, and behavior for TB prevention. Whether rich or poor, or no matter where they live, every TB patient has an equal chance to receive the highest quality care and treatment.
Mission:
1. To strive for government prioritization of tuberculosis prevention, and to establish long-term (or at least intermediate-term) promises of government support.
2. To strengthen horizontal contact with other contagious disease prevention work and blend TB prevention into the whole epidemic prevention system for full support and cooperation.
3. Combine treatment and epidemic prevention systems and improve diagnostic accuracy to control epidemic conditions; raise the quality of treatment and management and effectively block transmission.
4. Review and adjust current prevention steps; apply international standards to epidemic needs, social environment, and economic efficiency.
5. Consolidate all national TB prevention work, working hard to lessen the differences in various organizations visions and goals.
6. Supervise and counsel each city and county to actively discover each local individual TB prevention problem, seeking resources to propose and push unique prevention plans.
7. To maximize efficiency by discussing and adjusting current arrangement and allocation of man power.
8. Discussing the current function and role of every layer within the organization, suggesting necessary adjustments.
9. Establish intermediate and long-term prevention goals and plans.
Emerging Infection Diseases Division

Vision

Well prepare and timely response to suspected bio-events.

Epidemiological cure of SARS CoV(+)
Case in Taiwan
SARS CoV(+): either PCR(+) or Ab(+)

Total cases: 946
Deaths: 73
Survivors: 873
Mission

2. Early awareness of emerging infectious diseases and abruptly establish integrated prevention and control measures through international cooperation.
3. Reorganizing an adequately equipped Bio-safety Level 4 autopsy room and facilities.
4. Strengthen systematic real-time web-based investigation module function. We work locally, think globally.
5. Fortify Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP): a practical training on field epidemiology research and public health measures.
6. Continue epidemiologic training for backup epidemiologists, local public health workers, medical or public health students and experts.
7. Exercise on Bioterrorism preparedness drill to strengthen inter-organization cooperation and exam the Bioterrorism Preparedness Plan.
8. Effective surveillance and rapid response to emerging infectious diseases.
9. Enhance infrastructure of public health and personnel training to combat emerging infectious diseases.
10. Improve local applied research on emerging infectious diseases.
Infection Control Division

Vision

1. Improve the national surveillance on nosocomial infections to have more representative data.

2. Assess the sensitivity and specificity of the surveillance and of our case definitions, particularly for difficult-to-diagnose infections.

3. Ensuring the surveillance is valid in order to monitor health-care processes and outcomes, which will lead to core indicators and sentinel event monitoring.

4. To avoid nosocomial cluster infection by well combined the promoting medical system and the public health system; Urging the classification of emergency and infectious disease medical care; Establish the specialized medical system for infected patients.
Principle
1. Conduct surveillance of nosocomial infection for public interest.
2. Provide leadership in the management of nosocomial infection issues of national interest.
3. Set national standards for the prevention of nosocomial and occupational infections by developing, expanding, publishing, and updating the national Infection Control Guideline series.
4. Identify and evaluate nosocomial infection issues.

Function
1. Improve the design of invasive device that control nosocomial infections.
2. Working with hospital personnel for better implementation of existing infection control.
Laboratory Research and Development Division

Vision:
1. Integrate research and development on domestic infectious diseases.
2. Advance capability and quality of laboratory examinations to efficiently locate the pathogen of diseases.
3. To study the pathogen in order to help control the spread of the disease.

Mission:
1. Integrate various researches on infectious disease effectively.
2. Develop faster, more specific laboratory test kits and procedures.
3. Provide credible information about laboratory examination to enhance intervention activities.

Advanced examination in P3 laboratory.
Microscope for group observation.
Transmission electronic microscope.
Vaccine Center

Vision

1. In coordination with the government's policy of privatization, the center has gradually shifted its production technology to the grassroots and set up mechanism and infrastructure of technical transfer.

2. Establish an antivenin production and research center.

3. Develop cell-cultivation models for human-use vaccines research.

4. Construct a national pilot plant meet c-GMP/GLP/ITDA requirement and provide scale-up technology service or facilities to academic or private industry.
Mission

1. To fulfill the requirement of disease control, ten kinds of biological agents are produced and supplied to the health-care units nationwide, including cholera vaccine, tetanus toxoid alum precipitated, diphtheria and tetanus toxoids adsorbed (DT), tetanus and diphtheria toxoids adsorbed (adult use) (Td), freeze-dried BCG vaccine, antivenin of Deinagkistrodon acutus lyophilized, bivalent antivenin of Bungarus multicinctus and Naja naja atra lyophilized, bivalent antivenin of Trimeresurus macrosquamatus and Trimeresurus gramineus lyophilized, lyophilized tetanus antitoxin, lyophilized diphtheria antitoxin.

2. Research and development of biological products such as antivenin of Russell's viper, cell culture derived Japanese encephalitis vaccine, enterovirus 71 vaccine, diagnosis kit for Taiwan snake venom, development of BCG vaccine.

3. Supervise the operation, including hardware and software, of GMP plant and implement over-all quality assurance programs.
**Information Management Office**

**Vision:**
Apply IT for planning and establishing disease prevention systems, building a modern epidemic prevention data system to manage public health information, and using Internet and telecommunication technology to speed up the exchange of epidemic prevention data, in order to improve the efficiency and management of epidemic reporting.

**Mission:**
1. Use information and telecommunication technology to increase channels for collecting epidemic prevention data.
2. Establish a mobile surveillance system for epidemics and make connections with global epidemic prevention information.
3. Integrate each epidemic prevention system to build longterm data storage space for epidemic prevention.
4. Apply information technology to establish an epidemic prevention network and improve the office automation environment.
5. Improve recognition of information technology and strengthen the professional skills of IT personnel in CDC.
Branches

To assist the health agencies of the local governments in disease prevention and control and to gather information on infectious diseases, the CDC has six branch offices located in the northern, central, southern and eastern parts of Taiwan. Each division's responsibilities are detailed in the following chart:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch Offices</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Areas</th>
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</table>
| I             | 1. The quarantine of inbound and outbound vessels, crew and passengers, and aquatic products.  
| II            | 1. The quarantine of aircrafts and passengers and crew on board.  
               2. The control, education, and prevention of infectious diseases.  
               3. The quarantine of imported aquatic products and corneas  
               4. Laboratory tests, control of vectors in the airport area.  
               5. Related administrative matters. | Changhua County, Miaoli County, Nantou County, Taichung City, Taichung County, Yunlin County, Maillao Harbor, and Taichung Harbor. |
| III           | 1. Education, laboratory testing, surveillance, supporting local governments, and other operations related to the control and prevention of infectious diseases.  
               2. The quarantine and examination of disease in the harbor areas. | Chiayi City, Chiayi County, Kaohsiung City, Kaohsiung County, Penghu County, Pingtung County, Tainan City, Tainan County, An-pin Harbor, Kaohsiung Harbor, Makung Harbor, and Yun-an Harbor. |
| IV            | 1. The education laboratory testing, surveillance, supporting local governments, and other operations related to the control and prevention of infectious diseases.  
               2. The quarantine and examination of diseases in harbor areas. | Hualien County, Taitung County, Hoping Harbor and Hualien Harbor. |
| V             | 1. The education, vaccination, and the quarantine of crew, passengers, and aquatic products.  
               2. Environment sanitation and the control of vector insects and rodents. |  |
Mission:

A. Third, Fourth, and Sixth Branch: Disease prevention operations
   1. To establish regional stationary reporting systems for infectious diseases.
   2. To conduct disease surveillance.
   3. To investigate and manage epidemics.
   4. To store and manage drugs and devices used for disease prevention and to distribute drugs used for the prevention of malaria.
   5. To carry out examinations of human biological specimens for medical surveillance.
B. First to Sixth Branch: Quarantine operations

1. Quarantine inbound and outbound aircraft, vessels, and crew; quarantine of vessels includes review of documents and on-board inspection.

2. Quarantine of aquatic products, vaccination against various infectious diseases, issue of international vaccination certificates, and issue of certificates of mouse elimination.

3. Management of hygiene in harbor areas, including the control of mice, arthropods, surveillance of plaque-causing bacteria (Yersinia pestis), surveying of mouse shields on the vessels in harbors, and eradication of mice in harbor areas in accordance with annual "mouse elimination week".

4. Quarantine examination, including the examinations of vessels, aircraft, food, drinking water, and specimens of imported aquatic products.

5. Examination of environmental samples in the harbor areas.
International Cooperation Affairs

Mission

1. Realization of the globalization of disease prevention: promote and develop the exchanges of technology, personnel, and training with allied Asian-Pacific, European, African and American countries.

2. Collection and exchange global outbreaks.

3. To promote bilateral projects.
Vision

1. To continue constructing the collaboration platform and channel with international health organizations.
2. To train experts in international public health, infectious disease prevention and tropical medicine.
3. Getting more involved in international communicable disease prevention projects.
Prospects

1. Private sector resources will be consolidated and full public participation in disease control encouraged.

2. Professionals in disease control will be developed to upgrade the professional proficiency of disease control. The scientific method will be applied to disease control.

3. A sound and complete network will be established for disease surveillance to facilitate the control of disease.

4. Efforts will be made to actively collect domestic and international information for the prompt and effective management of disease. Flexibility will be maintained in disease control.

5. Disease recognizes no boundary, and health is a basic human right. Efforts will be made to strengthen cooperation with other countries, to participate in international disease control activities, and to join international health organizations such as the World Health Organization for collaboration in disease control.

6. More immunizations will be made available, and immunization coverage improved to promote national health and prevent infection by communicable disease.

7. New technology in disease control will be brought in for disease surveillance for the prevention of emerging communicable disease. Reporting rates of both notifiable and reportable disease will be increased to over 80%.
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TAIWAN, R.O.C

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