

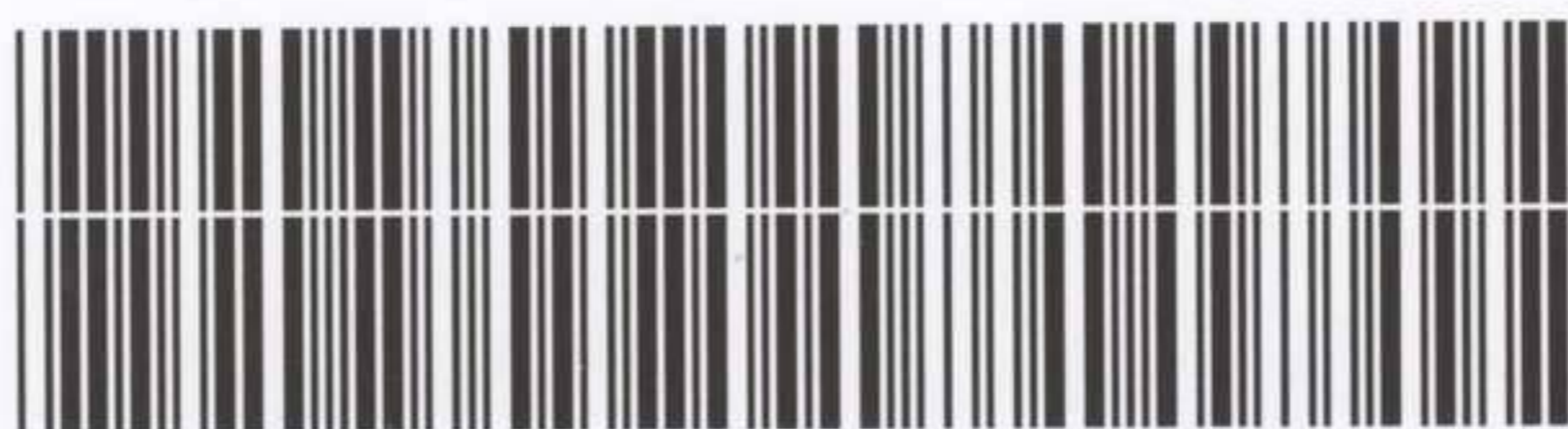
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/69/9

Title: No 1 Australian Dermatological
Hospital, Bulford

February 1918



AWM4-26/69/9

Confidential.

REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1918.

1. LOCATION - Bulford.

2. STAFF - Average Strength - 16 Officers 250 Other Ranks.

Changes in personnel - Officers -

Marched in -

T/Major C.W. Whiting M.C. as Registrar 5.2.18.
Major H.H. Griffiths, Temporary duty -18.2.18.
Captain O.F. DeLacy for Duty - 8.2.18.
Captain T.M. Barrow for Duty 18. 2.18.

Marched Out -

Lieut -Col G. Raffan to Administrative Headquarters - 5.2.18.
Major A.J. Kelsey to Overseas Unit - 17.2.18.
Hon Lieut (Late W.O.) C.Rudd to 6th Fld Amb - 19.2.18.

Other Ranks.

Marched in

Two.

Marched out.-

Fifteen

3. PATIENTS.-

Number of Admissions ...	...	...	...	912.
Number of Discharges ...	...	...	...	889
Number of re-admissions ...	...	...	...	25
Number of Fresh infections ...	...	...	...	16
Percentage using Prophylaxis (Statement only)				48.7.

Number in Hospital on 28.2.1918. - 1092.

Average stay in Hospital.

Gonorrhoea ...	...	...	...	50.5 days.
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	10 "
Syphilis and Gonorrhoea ...	...	...	...	43 "
Gonorrhoea & Chancroid ....	...	...	...	52 "
Scabies ...	...	...	...	7 "
M.V.D. ...	...	...	...	11 "

4. REMARKS.

(a) Administration. - The Commanding Officer of this hospital having taken over of the 28.1.18. has so far investigated the administrative and disciplinary methods of the Staff, Detention Huts, Officer Patients, patients and other Ranks, in the above order. It was found that standing Orders were non-existent for the Staff, Officer Patients, Cases in Detention and Nursing Orderlies, and also that one of the Divisions of the hospital that had six Medical Officers attached to it for Duty, all of whom treated Gonorrhoea, was not organised thoroughly as each M.O. followed his own line of treatment, and only sent up cases that had become extremely Chronic to the O.C., of the Division.

(Over)

(4) Remarks (Contd)

Standing Order have been compiled and promulgated in every instance and a special report on the whole question for the standardisation of the Treatment of Gonorrhoea has been submitted through the A.D.M.S. to the D.M.S. and approved. This will shortly be introduced and it is confidently expected will show good results two months hence.

(b)

Quartermaster's Department.

It was found that the Q.M. Store and Expense Hut were carrying a large amount of superfluous and unnecessary, as far as cases in this hospital are concerned, equipment and stores. An inventory was made out and the major portion of these articles have been handed over to Ordnance and receipts for same obtained. Fresh Inventories have been made of all Ward Equipment- Ward by Ward- and every Ward Orderly is now held personally responsible for the contents of his ward, and no alteration can be made except by the Q.M. or his Representative.

The Q.M. Store has been completely rearranged, and each division in the Store is now tabulated, numbered, and the contents entered in a special ledger.

The Linen Store has been reorganised in the simialar manner and a ledger opened for stock, receipts and issues.

The Stewards Store was found to be issuing Diets on diet Sheets Demand without any proper check being kept over the actual number of patients in hospital, and very marked discrepancies were found to exist between the number of diets issued and the Bed Stats of the hospital. This was at once corrected and under the new method of the daily check, and by means of interchange of slips between Wardmasters and Blockmasters when any patient is transferred from one ward to another, the discrepancy has been reduced to a maximum difference of one; this has also enabled a fair number of outstanding diet charges being cleared. During the month the Hospital Stoppage Account was cleared of outstanding diet charges to the number of 1,125; these amounts were due from Officers and men of the Imperial Forces-were- for subsistence and treatment received in this hospital for May, June, September and December, 1917. Extensions have also been made to the Staff Library, and improvements for the safe keeping of Gramophone Records, writing material and papers.

Three of the Medical Wards for Lying Cases have had the inner walls repired and kalsomined.

(c) Report of Pathological Department is attached. Permission was also aplied for and obtained to acquire a live sheep, as the difficulty of obtaining fresh blood had become acute, The having of a live sheep on the premises is a considerable saving of time and a great convenience to the Pathologist. The cost of Guinea Pigs was also found to be considerable, as prices have of late greatly increased. To Combat this a number of Females and Two Good Males have been obtained with the object of breeding a sufficient number for the use of the pathologist. The benefit will be manifest within the next two months, & the cost of keeping these is nil.

(d) Treatment. Improvement in the average stay in hospital is noticeable in this months report and the number of officer patients remaining in at the end of the month is the lowest for some considerable time (9).

At present particular attention is being paid to the detail of irrigation in cases of Anterior Urethritis, and results so far point towards a distinct lessening of the number of days such cases will be retained in hospital.

The Treatment of Syphilis is receiving careful attention, and has a further protection both for the patient and the institution, the Pathologist visits the "606" and Mercury Treatment Room at irregular times once every eight days, for the purpose of criticising the technique and obtaining drops of fluid from the needle end s onagar, with the object of endeavouring to obtain cultures. His reports up to date have been that the technique is good and no cultures have been obtained on any media.

(e) Orderly Room.

(Over)

(e)

Orderly Room. - This is held 9.30.a.m. daily- Sundays excepted.- and a very marked decrease is noticeable during the month of February. At the commencement a daily average of 10 cases were dealt with, whereas during the last week of this month only seven cases were brought before the Commanding Officer.

(f) Cases in Detention - It is found that at present men under close and open arrest awaiting trial are sent to this hospital from various A.I.F. Units until they are well enough to be taken under escort to their unit for the purpose of a summary of evidence or a D.C.M. or both. Their absence from hospital treatment, and the cost of escort from their unit to convey them there and bring them back once more must also be a considerable expense, and a request has been made through the A.D.M.S. that summaries should be taken by the O.C. Guard at this hospital, and when the case is ready a D.C.M. should assemble either at the hospital or at Parkhouse. Such a procedure would greatly benefit the patients whose treatment would be uninterrupted and the travelling expenses of the witnesses in the case would be probably be less than expenses incurred by escorts and prisoners.

(g) Transport. - Only one Motor Ambulance Car "A Buick" is provided for the hospital and it is very necessary that a light ambulance car, such as a "Ford" should also be attached, as on many occasions only one or two cases require to be transported to hospital, C.T.D. and some other place in the vicinity. The present arrangement necessitates the running of car which consumed twice as much petrol as a light ambulance car would. The larger car could not, however, be dispensed with, but would only be used when the number of cases to be transported at one time exceeded the Light Car's load.



Col., A.A.M.C.
C.O. 1st A.D.Hospital A.I.F.

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A. WORK PERFORMED IN RELATION TO THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF SYPHILIS.

- (1). Blood specimens by venipuncture of median bacilic or neighbouring veins 649.
- (2) Blood specimens sent for examination from Reading, Sutton Veny, and other Camps. 11.
- (3) Wasserman Tests performed. 660.
- (4) Dark Ground Examinations of Serum obtained from Chancres of which 10% gave positive results, (12) 120.
- (5) Urines examined prior to Administration of Arseno - Benzol and similar compounds. 401.

B. WORK PERFORMED IN RELATION TO THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF GONNORHOEA.

- (1) Urethral Smears Stained and examined. 2078.
- (2) Urines centrifuged and deposits fixed, stained and examined for Gonococci. 25.
- (3) Autogenous Vaccines prepared - Titre. 500,000,000. CC E. 6.
- (4) Smears from conjunctiva. 2.

C. GENERAL BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL WORK.

- (1) Sputa examined for Tubercle Bacillus. 2.
- (2) Throats Swabs examined (of which four were cases of Vincents angina) 5.
- (3) Vaccines prepared for cures of boils, Acne and other pustular skin lesions. 11.
- (4) Urines, complete qualitative and ~~quantitati~~ quantitative analysis. 7.
- (5) Urines examined for contaminating organisms 4.
- (6) Blood examinations, enumeration of corpuscles, estimation of Hæmoglobin. 4.

Sgd J. Warne Captain
Pathologist.

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