EXAMPLES OF OLD PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

- **Quarantine laws**- protect the population from outbreaks of diseases transferred between countries
- **Department of Health**- Established in 1921 to assist in undertaking health research and data collection
- **National Health and Medical Research Council**- established during the Great Depression to better living standards and nutrition
- **Antenatal and Infant Welfare Centres**- regulations to provide better quality milk, increase breastfeeding rates to improve infant mortality
OLD PUBLIC HEALTH

Is concerned with the organisation and collective effort to improve the health status of the entire population. It refers particularly to the ways in which governments monitor, regulate and promote health status and prevent disease.

EXAMPLES OF OLD PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

- **DISCOVERY OF VACCINES** - reduced the morbidity and mortality of smallpox, polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tuberculosis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and hepatitis B.
- **SEWAGE SYSTEMS** - people had clean water to drink and better sanitation, less bacteria causing infectious disease
- **IMPROVED NUTRITION** – led to a decrease in CVD, cancer rates
- **IMPROVED HOUSING CONDITIONS AND BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS** – less injuries and premature death

SHIFT TO HEALTH PROMOTION IN OLD PUBLIC HEALTH

The emergence of lifestyle diseases during the 50’s and 60’s lead to the implementation of public health promotion campaigns that strived to bring individual behaviour changes by creating awareness of the causes of ill health.

E.g. LIFE. BE IN IT. CAMPAIGN- physical inactivity and unhealthy eating

E.g. Drink Driving Restrictions, Seatbelt Laws and Lower Speed Limits- public health initiatives reducing road fatalities.