

ICEBERG PHENOMENON

- According to this concept
- Disease in a community is compared to an iceberg •

3 levels

- 1. floating tip
- 2. submerged portion
- 3. waterline

FLOATING TIP

- Represents what the physician sees in the community • Clinical and diagnosed

cases • Clinician concerned with tip •
Diagnostic test performed

SUBMERGED PORTION

- Hidden portion of the disease •
Latent, inapparent, presymptomatic,
undiagnosed, and carriers in the
community •

Epidemiologists concerned with hidden
portion of iceberg • Screening test done
for the hidden portion of the iceberg

WATERLINE • Represents the
demarcation between the apparent and
inapparent cases

- Used in > HTN, DM, ANEMIA AND
MALNUTRITION • INFLUENZA,
HEPATITIS A, B, POLIO, RUBELLA,
MUMPS, DIPHTHERIA • Not shown in >
measles rabies and

tetanus