



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

PROFILE OF LEPROSY PATIENTS IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL

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Introduction: In last two decades, reported global prevalence of active leprosy infection dropped by 90% by efforts of World Health Organization (WHO), health professionals, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). A parallel drop in new case detection rate (NCDR) has not occurred. Prevalence of less than 1/10000 indicates “elimination”, when disease ceases to be public health problem. By end of 2010, prevalence came down to 0.69/10000. However there is a spurt of new cases.

Objective: To assess clinical, bacteriological and treatment profile of leprosy patients in 1 year in tertiary centre.

Materials and Methods: Ours is a retrospective study from hospital records between January 2014 to December 2014. The clinical, bacteriological and treatment profile of patients was noted.

Results: We had 113 patients, number of new cases were 17(15%). Of the total cases, 76(67%) were males, 37 (32%) females. We came across different spectra of leprosy, lepromatous 77 (68.1%), tuberculoid 13(11.5%), borderline lepromatous 12 (10.6%), borderline tuberculoid 8 (7%), and indeterminate leprosy 3 (2.6%). Smear positivity was seen in 55% with BI ranging from 0.5-4 and MI ranging from 20-75%. Reactions seen in 5 patients, 1 patient each had claw hand and foot drop deformity and 3 patients presented with trophic ulcers. Intensive phase therapy was administered to 6, 95 patients received MB-MDT and 18 received PB-MDT. Eleven (11) patients completed MDT and were released from treatment during 2014.,

Conclusion: We have won the battle but the war is still on and there is a need for research on early diagnosis, treatment and prevention. Our study done in a tertiary care hospital shows that there is a spurt of new cases. If extrapolated to field, there may be more number of undetected cases. Early detection of cases, treatment with multidrug therapy and adherence to treatment remain vital in decreasing the burden of leprosy.

