

# Leprosy

①

Also known as Hansen's disease

Infectious disease caused by Hansen's bacillus  
*Mycobacterium leprae*.

Transmission: Hansen's disease is transmitted from person to person by respiratory droplets.

→ Risk groups: Those living in endemic areas, contaminated water, and other diseases like HIV which affect immune system are under risk of getting leprosy

Classification of leprosy Most acceptable classification:

(1) Tuberculoid leprosy (TT) →

Ridley - Jopling

Few skin lesions

found on face limbs.

Dry & scaly, hairless.

Large & asymmetric

hypopigmented macule.

Anaesthetic lesion, Hypohidrosis

(2) Borderline tuberculoid (BT)



(3) Borderline lepromatous

(4) Lepromatous leprosy

Lesions similar as TT form

They are smaller & more numerous.

Nerves are less enlarged

Can remain in this stage or can

convert to TT or progress to LL

(back)

Bordeaux lepromatous →

Numberous lesions  
consist of Macules, papules, plaques, nodules  
Nodule like inverted saucer  
(Punched out lesions)

Lepromatous leprosy

Not Anesthetic -  
Disease may remain at this stage  
May improve or regress



Early cutaneous lesions

- consist mainly of pale macules
- late infiltrations are present & numerous bacilli
- Macular lesions are small, diffuse & symmetric
- little or no loss of sensation

Pathophysiology →

Transmission by aerosol spread  
from infected Nasal secretion to exposed  
Nasal & oral mucosa

Leprosy → Doesn't spread  
by direct contact  
through intact skin

Incubation period 6 months to 40 yrs or longer.  
Cogn - 17 / 10 yrs 22

→ cooler parts like  
Superficial peripheral  
nerves, skin, mucous membs  
of upper resp tract -  
Ant chamber of eyes, testes  
are commonly affected

→ Tissue damage depends on the degree  
to which cell mediated immunity  
is expressed

M. Leprae has affinity for Macrophages and Schwann cells → which produce Myelin sheath of Axon.  
 They multiply within the Schwann cell & stimulate Cell mediated response which becomes an inflammatory reaction  
 ↓  
 Swelling in perineurium  
 ↓  
 Ischemia, fibrosis & Axonal death.

Components of its cell wall stimulate a Tgm antibody and cell mediated immune response reaction

Diagnosis : Physical signs : 1) Cutaneous lesions are to be looked for 2) Neuropathic 3) Eyes

for Cutaneous lesion : Investigation done for number & distribution of skin lesions.

Hypo pigmented patch & raised border in first lesion.  
 Hypoesthetic lesion - for may not

Neuropathic : Most commonly affected Nerve is post tibial nerve other are ulnar, Median & lateral popliteal & fascial Nerve.  
 Besides sensory loss there may be tenderness & Motor loss.

Eye damage : Seen in facial lesions.  
 Lagophthalmos : Inability to close eye,  
 ↳ due to involvement of zygomatic & temporal branches of trigeminal nerve → tearing & dry eyes & reduced blink rate

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# Bacterial Index for Leprosy

The bacterial index was proposed by Ridley. He developed a logarithmic scale, from 0 to 6+. The scale is based on the average number of bacilli per microscopic field using an oil-immersion objective. In infections with a high bacterial load, it usually takes 5-8 years from the beginning of therapy before the bacterial index is negative. [A rule of thumb is 1+ per year].

## Bacterial index

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0	0 bacilli in 100 oil-immersion fields
1+	1 to 10 bacilli per 100 fields
2+	1 to 10 bacilli per 10 fields
3+	1 to 10 bacilli per field
4+	10 to 100 bacilli per field
5+	100 to 1000 bacilli per field
6+	> 1000 bacilli per field

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Clinical tests : 1. Tissue smear / slit skin smear. (4)

2. Histamine testing

3. Methylcholine sweat testing.

Tissue smear : In case of skin  
fluid is taken from lesion.  
stained by ziehl-nelson's technique.

BI  $\rightarrow$  Bacterial Index  $\rightarrow$  No of organisms per 100 fields examined (at magnification microscope) } Skin smears have high specificity but low sensitivity because 70% of pts.  $\bar{c}$  leprosy have Negative smears

Histamine test : To diagnose postganglionic nerve injury - Histamine diphosphate is dropped on normal skin & wheal formed on normal skin but not form where nerve is damaged.

Methylcholine test : Intradermal injection of Methylcholine demonstrates the absence of sweating in leprosy lesion.  
Useful for those pts. who are dark where the flare of Histamine cannot be seen test.

Clinical features % . Affect Skin  
Nerves  
Mucous membranes.

Periostriary (TT) : one or more Hypopigmented skin macules.  
Anaesthetic patches due to damaged peripheral Nerve.

Multibacillary (LL) : Asymmetric & symmetric skin lesions.  
nodules, plaques - thickened cornea.  
Frequent involvement of nasal mucosa resulting in nasal congestion & epistaxis but NO Nerve damage.

⑤

Treatment : Pauci : combination of 2 drugs / Length of  
 WHO Regimens Multi : Triple drug therapy / treatment  
 1. Paucibacillary disease : Dapsone 100mg / day depends on type  
 + of disease  
 Rifampicin 600mg / once a month  
for 6 months

2. Multibacillary : Dapsone 100mg / day Rifampicin 600mg  
 once a month  
 +  
 Clofazimine 300mg / once a month +  
 50mg / d for 1 year

3. Single skin lesion : A single dose of Rifampicin 600mg  
 Ofloxacin 400mg + Minocycline  
 100mg

For one time administration, if child is half treated

Surgical care : Required when pat has profound tissue  
 inflammation & Nerve abscess / loss of <sup>new</sup> function  
 secondary to compression.

- Surgical drainage of abscess can restore nerve function
- Correction of lagophthalmos.
- Reconstructive surgery → to Repair Nasal collapse :

## Sexually Transmitted Diseases

(6)

STD → More than 20 different infections are transmitted through the exchange of body fluids like semen & blood.

- They are also called as venereal diseases.

Ex: Syphilis, Gonorrhoea, lymphogranuloma venereum

Viral infections such as Hepatitis B, AIDS are also sexually transmitted.

Gonorrhoea ∘ Highly contagious sexually transmitted disease caused by bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.

Mucous membrane of genital region may inflame and develop symptoms -

Etiology : Caused by N. Gonorrhoea. (7)  
Gram -ve bacillus.  
Can grow in warm moist areas of reproductive tract → Uterus  
Vagina } Women  
Fallopian tubes }  
Urethra in men.

Can also grow in the mouth  
Throat  
Eyes  
&  
anus.

Can be transmitted from Mother to baby through Normal delivery during birth.

Causes blindness.  
Joint infection  
blood infection

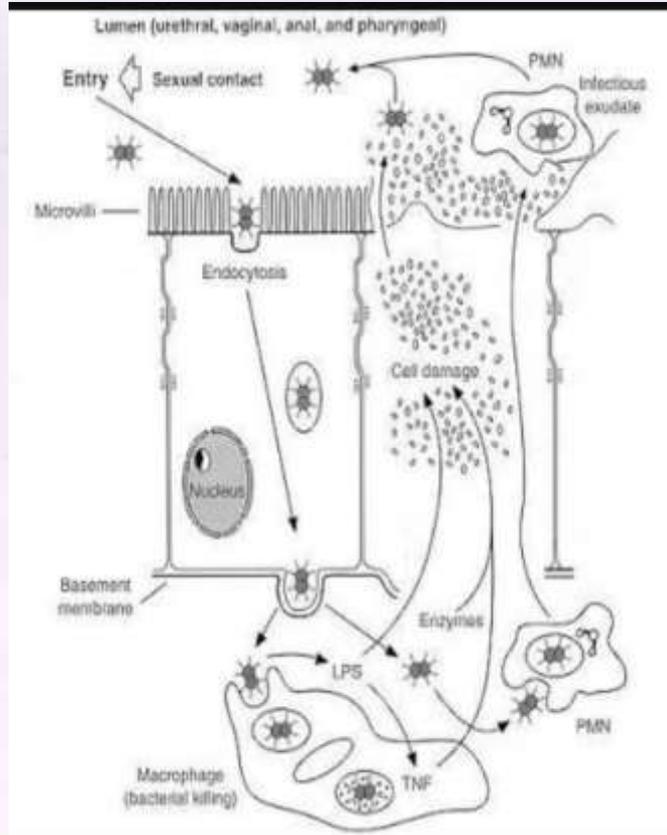
Symptoms : Most of the women have NO symptoms  
If symptoms appear after 10 days of infection  
They have pain during Micturition  
Vaginal discharge yellowish  
Pain during sex  
bleeding b/w menstrual cycles.

~~the~~ anal symptoms → Include  
Itching around the anus

Soreness  
bleeding  
discharge

If eyes are involved  
Symptoms include Redness  
Itching  
Discharge from  
eyes.

## Pathophysiology



## PATHOGENESIS:

### MODE OF TRANSMISSION:

- SEXUAL CONTACT (STD)

### VIRULENCE FACTOR:

- PILI: ATTACHMENT AND ANTIPHAGOCYTTIC.
  - CELL WALL: 2 FACTORS
  - ENDOTOXIN - TOXIGENICITY.
  - OUTER MEMBRANE PROTEINS(OMP) - ATTACHMENT
  - IgA PROTEASE - DESTROYS SECRETORY IgA.
- REPEATED GONOCOCCAL INFECTION DUE TO CHANGES OF PILI AND OMP