



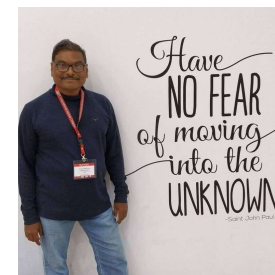
Establishing **LRC** within the **GHC setup** and **linkages**



Rajeev Dudhalkar

+91 9324381408

rajeevdudhalkar@gmail.com

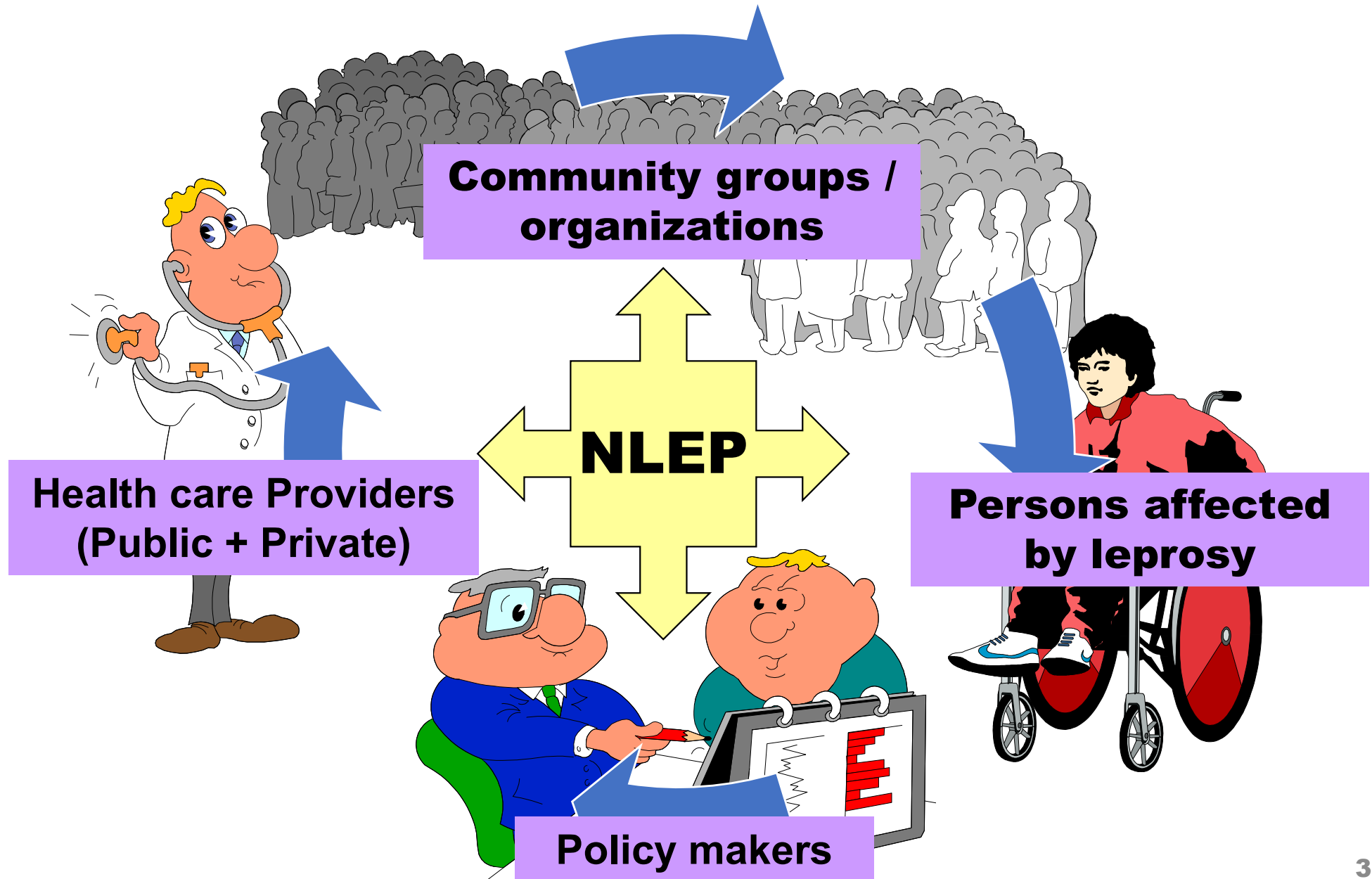




“Fostering disability-inclusive societies for advancing social progress.”

To promote a society where persons with disabilities can participate fully and equally in all areas of life.

Stakeholders for leprosy control



National Leprosy Eradication Program

Disability Prevention & Medical Rehabilitation

Guidelines for Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Level Care

Central Leprosy Division
Directorate General of Health Services,
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
Government of India
Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi

Introduction

National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) is implemented with major objectives of reducing the disease burden, preventing disabilities and to improve awareness about leprosy in the country through general health care system.

Multi Drug Therapy is still considered as most potent drug regimen to reduce the burden of leprosy by interrupting transmission of disease and curing all registered cases of leprosy and making them released from treatment within shortest possible time. India has achieved the milestone of leprosy elimination since Dec. 2005 with wider use of MDT. But still a considerable numbers of new cases are being detected every year with disability and deformity. There also exists large number of cases who have completed the full course of MDT but have got different types of deformities and disability due to consequences of permanent nerve damage. Amongst the leprosy cured there are some of them though presently do not have any deformity but may develop same due to negligence in taking care of their anesthetic eye, hand or feet. As now the vertical program has been integrated into general health care system, it has become the responsibility of general health care system not only to ensure early case detection and provide regular MDT but also carry out all the activities required to prevent disability and provide medical rehabilitative services to patients who require those.

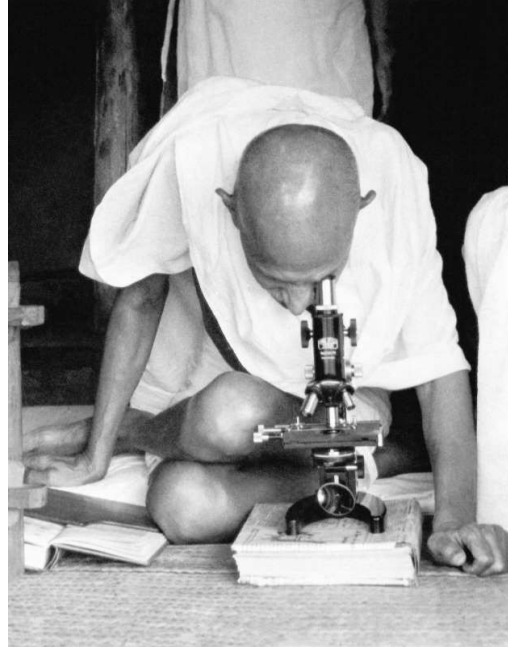
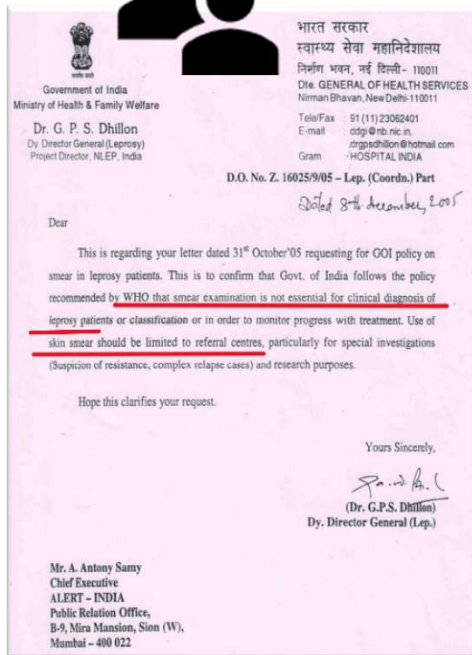
Presently the leprosy services like diagnosis & multi drug therapy, drug procurement and simplified information system have been well established in general health care system starting from sub center to district HQ hospitals and tertiary health care institutions. The disability prevention and medical rehabilitation services are comprehensive care to be provided to all old and new disability cases of leprosy so that they will not worsen their condition. It is estimated that around one million leprosy patients with disabilities exist in the country. There will be an average of 2000 to 3000 cured leprosy patients with disabilities living in a district. To institute care for individual leprosy patients with disabilities, it is essential to identify each patient having disability / deformity due to leprosy and motivate them to avail services at nearest CHC. Block CHC will be identified as first referral center for provision of DPMR services.

It is felt that prevention of deformities and disabilities need to be given higher emphasis during the 12th Five Year Plan period (2012-2017).

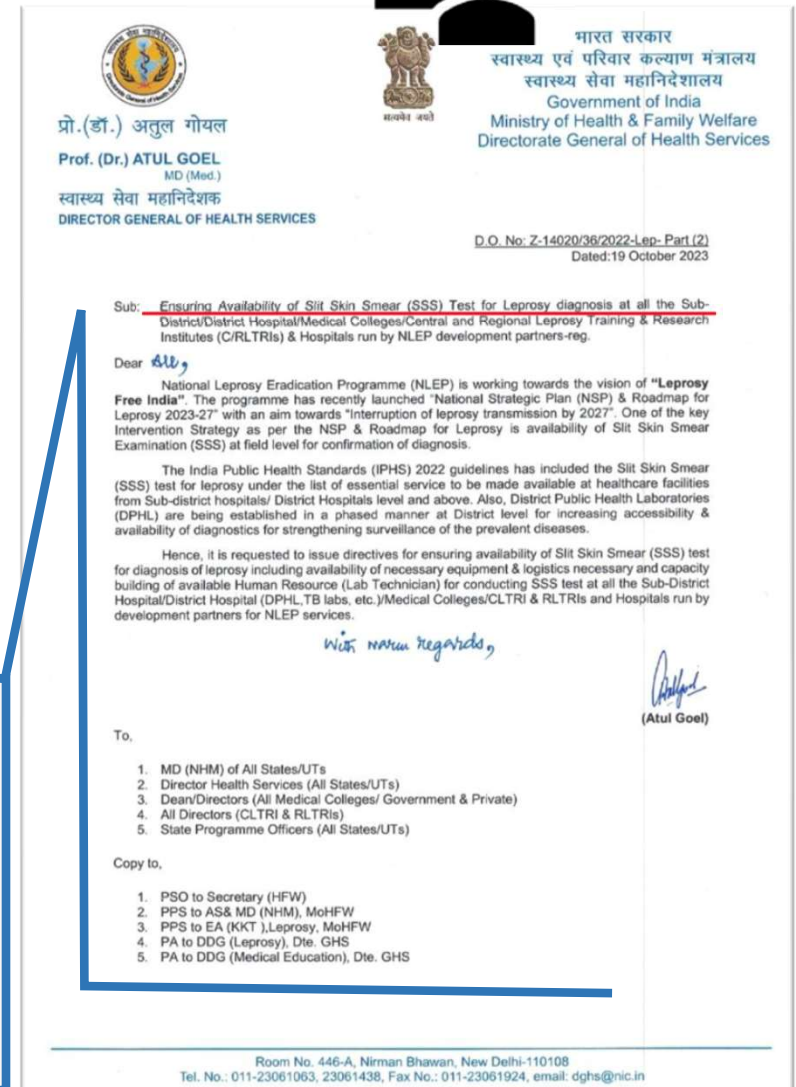
NLEP Mile-stones

- 1952
Dr. Wardekar's SET pattern for Survey Education and Treatment
- 1955
National Leprosy Control Program launched
- 1981
MDT (multidrug therapy) recommended by World Health Organisation as cure
- 1983
National Leprosy Eradication Program launched
- 1991
World Health Assembly adopts resolution to eliminate leprosy by the year 2000. Elimination was defined by WHO as prevalence of less than 1 per 10,000 population
- 1993
World Bank assisted the NLEP
- 2004
Leprosy integrated with GHS (general Health Service)
- 2005
Leprosy 'elimination' achieved at the National level in India
- 2006
DPMR introduced as a component of NLEP
- 2007
Disability Prevention & Medical Rehabilitation Guidelines for primary, secondary and tertiary level distributed by NLEP
- 2011
Guidelines on DPMR for NLEP revised

Leprosy of consequence



The India Public Health Standards (IPHS) 2022 guidelines has included the **Slit Skin Smear (SSS)** test for leprosy under the list of **essential services** to be **made available** at **healthcare facilities** from Sub-district hospitals/ District Hospitals level and above. Also, **District Public Health Laboratories (DPHL)** are being established in a phased manner at District level for increasing **accessibility & availability** of **diagnostics** for strengthening surveillance of the prevalent diseases.



What is the policy guideline of NLEP on skin smear examination?

NLEP no longer routinely advises skin smear examination in the leprosy control programme, as majority of the leprosy cases can be diagnosed clinically even without skin smears. However, it recommends skin smear examination, if you suspect leprosy without sensory loss or have any doubts on the clinical signs that can be done at any LRC or general hospital, which is equipped with reliable laboratory facilities and trained technicians, preferably at the sputom examination centre of RNTCP.

SERIES NO. 4

LEAP
LEPROSY
ELIMINATION
ACTION
PROGRAMME

OCT, 09 FOCUS

Partnership for Leprosy Control

Selective Special Drive (SSD) :
Operational Guidelines, LEAP

Leprosy Referral Centre (LRC) :
Operational Guidelines, LEAP

Decentralised Planning under NLEP :
Guidelines, GoI

- To **establish LRCs** within the existing health infrastructure of **GHS** as a '**secondary level care**' unit at the **block / taluk level** in a district.
- To provide quality care to leprosy cases during integration phase through **capacity building** of **GHS personnel**.
- To **create linkages** with the **specialized or tertiary level centres** at the district level and establish a referral system **with the care at primary level**.

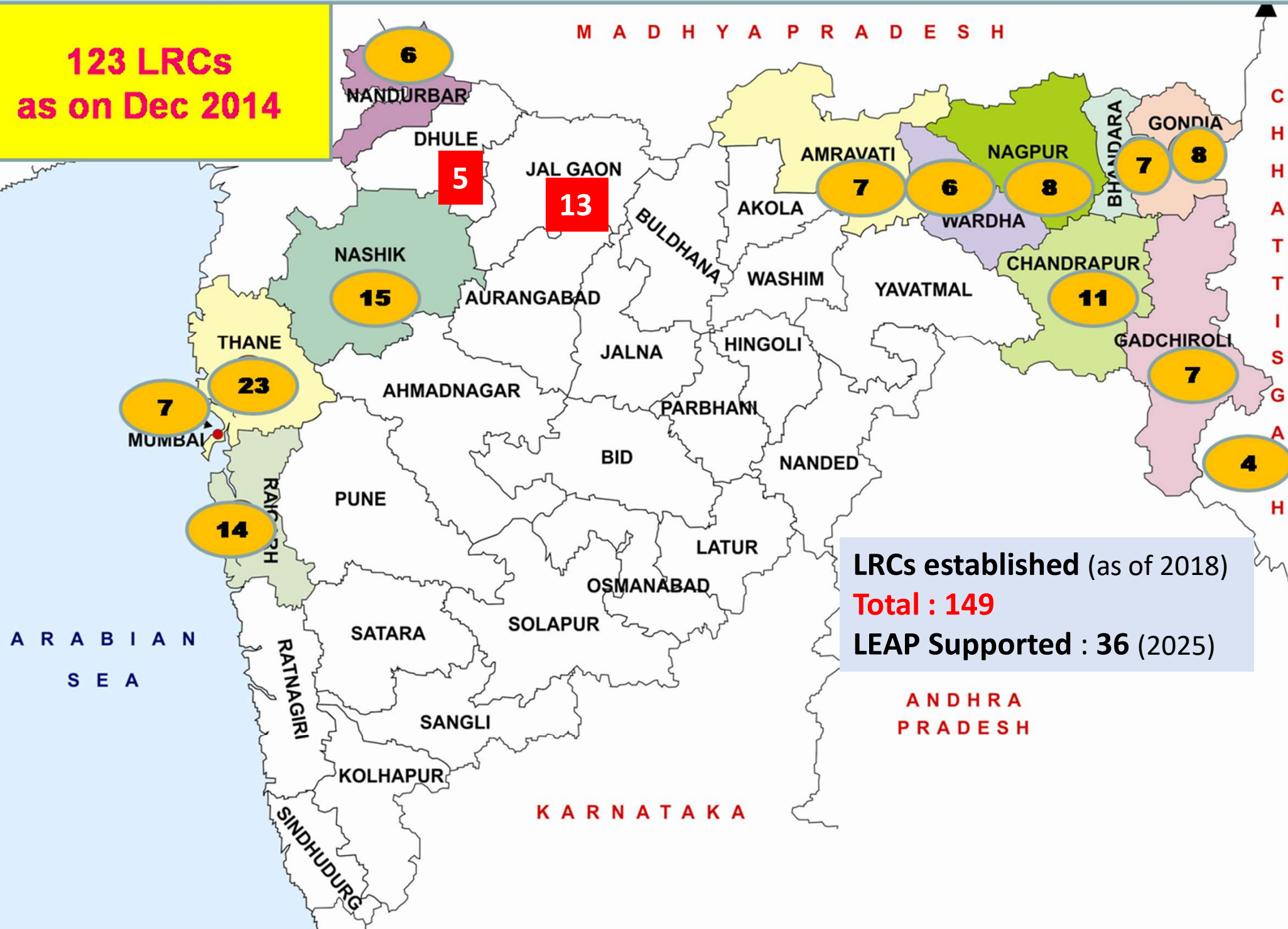
Accountability of the **District Nucleus Team (DNT)** in sustaining the quality care and also to involve the **GHC system in the leprosy control programme**.

DPMR programme, to strengthen the services at the 'secondary' level.

Referrals and re-referrals between 'primary' and 'tertiary' levels of public health care system.

LEAP supported LRCs in Maharashtra(12 districts) & CG(1 district)

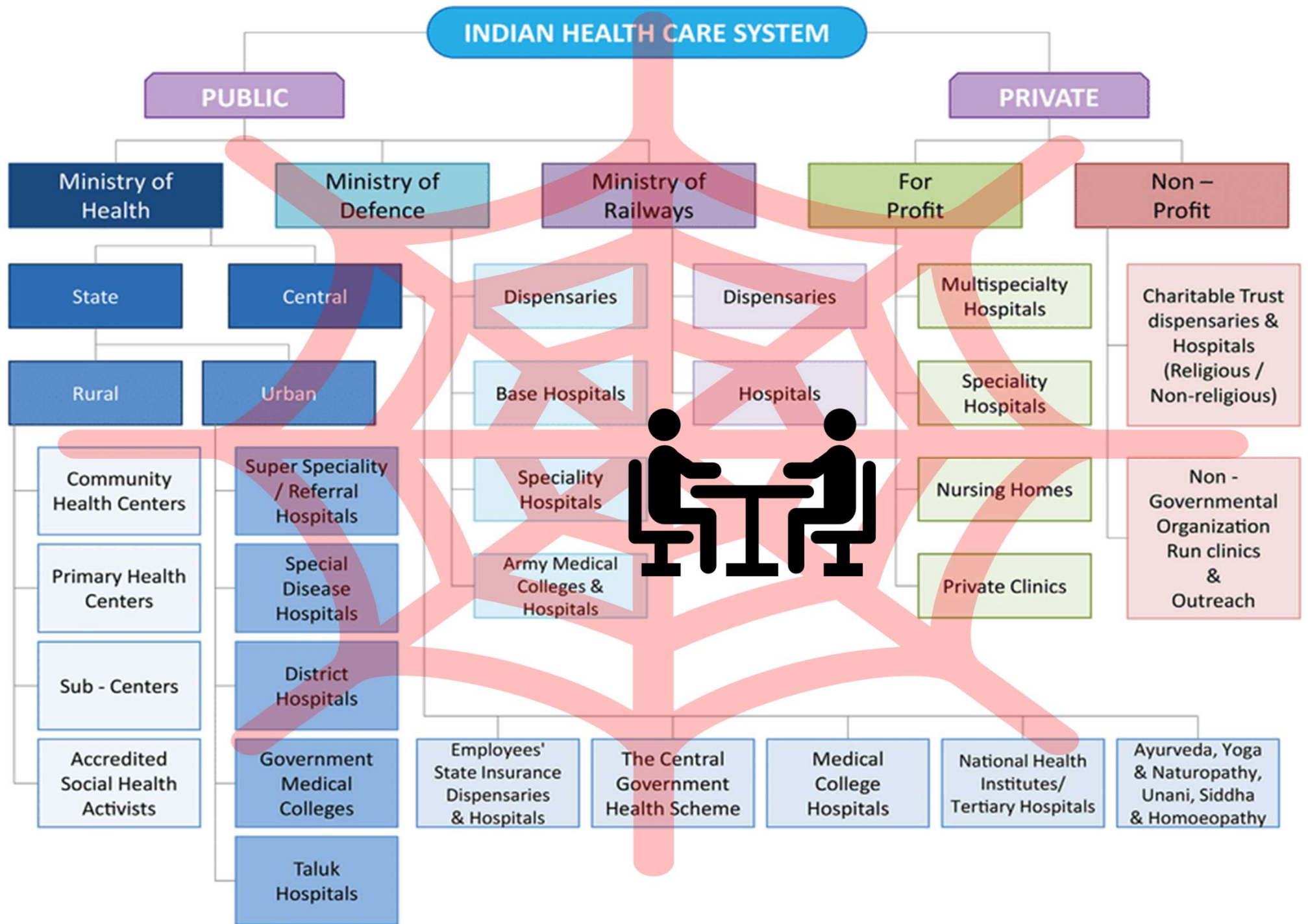
**123 LRCs
as on Dec 2014**



LRCs established (as of 2018)

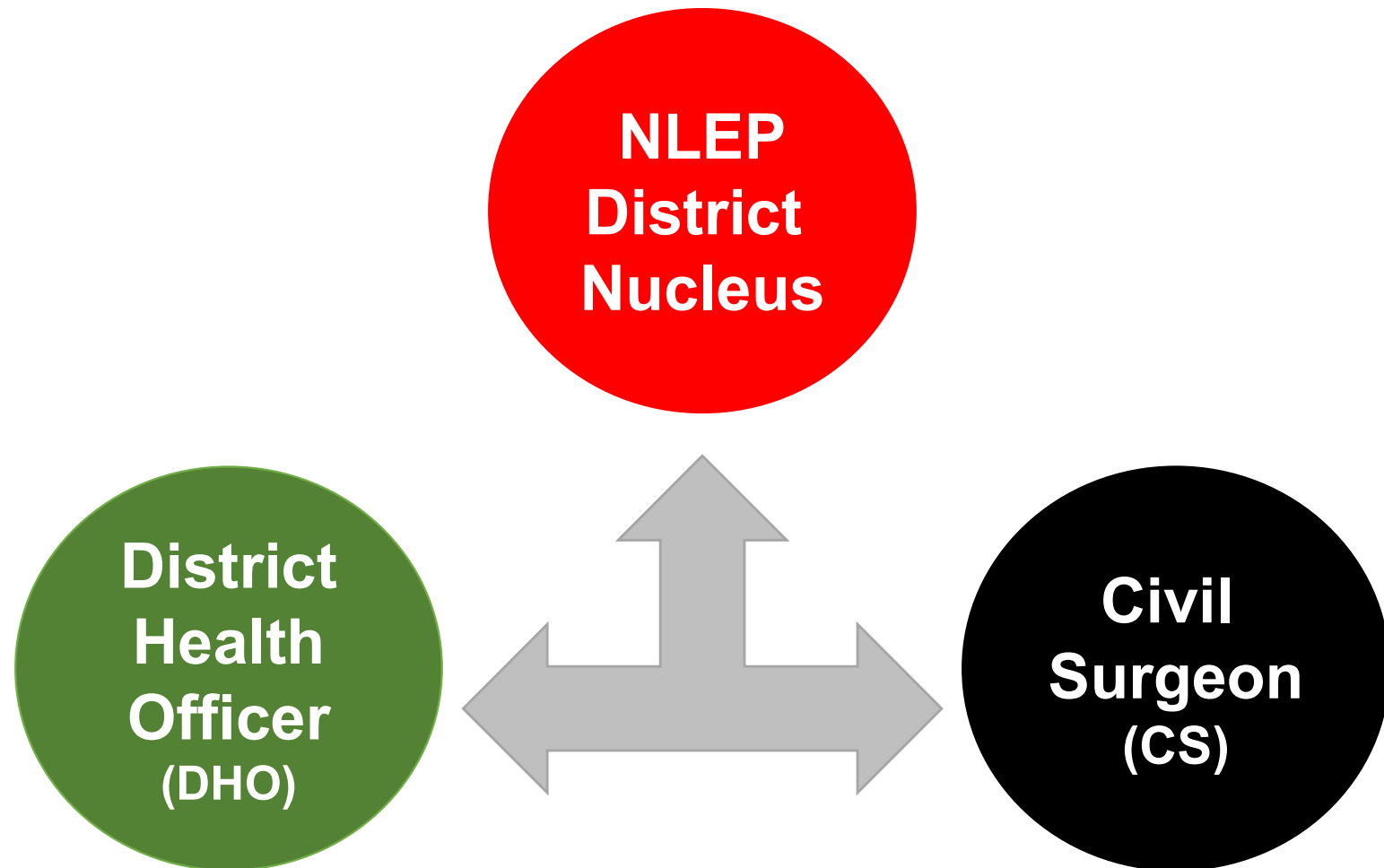
Total : 149

LEAP Supported : 36 (2025)



Establishing LRCs at secondary level

Coordination



 TEAMWORK 

DPMR Referral system

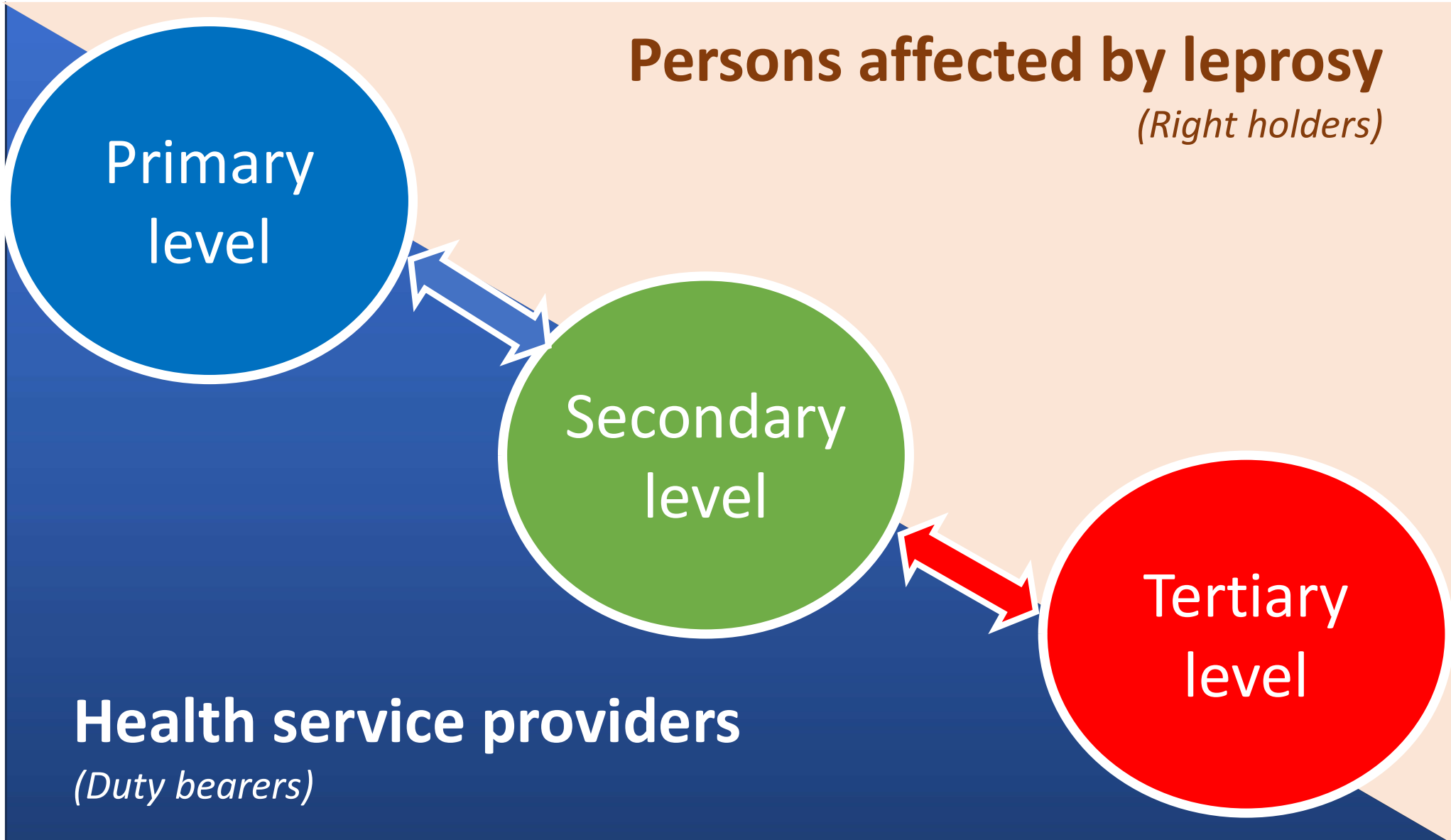
Persons affected by leprosy
(Right holders)

Primary
level

Secondary
level

Tertiary
level

Health service providers
(Duty bearers)



Viable referral level system under NLEP

Secondary

Sub-District/
Rural Hospital
First Referral
Unit / UHC

Tertiary

District Hospital
Civil Hospital
MC Hospital

LRC

Primary

PHC / CHC
UHP / MCD



"It was noted that the training issue was integrally linked to that of referral systems and centres. It was agreed that health staff in referral centres needed to have more clinical exposure to patients and leprosy issues and that people in general needed to be more sensitised to the referral process".

- Excerpts from the Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the ILEP Technical Commission (ITC),
19th April 2009, New Delhi, India

Look for **THREE** group of suggestive symptoms

for early leprosy case detection and management.

1. Suspect



Changes in skin texture

- Smooth, Oily, Shiny (SOS skin), **thickened** skin and **earlobe**.
- **Nodules**

2. Observe



Disability & deformity

- **Sensory loss** in hands and feet (palm and sole)
- **Muscle weakness** / paralysis face, hand & foot.

3. Examine



Skin patch/es

- **Pale**/lighter than skin color, **flat**.
- **Redish** than skin color, **raised**.

- ⦿ Sighting symptoms on exposed body parts is very simple and easier than examining covered body parts for patches is the challenge.
- ⦿ Cautious followup of suspect for diagnosis is must for early case detection.
- ⦿ Community awareness about leprosy is the strategy for leprosy eradication.

LEPROSY- Examining Leprosy suspects

1. Cases with Patches

Test patches for sensation

Patches with sensory loss

Patches without sensory loss

Examine commonly affected nerves for sensory loss

Sensory loss in the area of the distribution of nerve

No sensory loss in the area of the distribution of nerve

2. Cases without Patches

- Smooth, Oily and Shiny (SOS) skin
- Thickened earlobes with SOS skin
- Nodules: Skin colour/ erythematous

Skin Smear Examination

Sites for smear

- Earlobe
- Affected skin
- Normal skin

Smear
POSITIVE

Smear
NEGATIVE.
NO LEPROSY,
Rule out other conditions

Diagnose
LEPROSY

3. PURE NEURITIC CASES, with only nerve involvement:
Nerve examination and function Assessment (NFI-Nerve Function Impairment) showing sensory loss confirms the diagnosis.



DIAGNOSIS OF LEPROSY

It is usually **accepted** that in view of

the **social** and **medical** **implications** of leprosy,

it is **wiser** not to make the **diagnosis**,

unless the evidence is fairly **definite** !

Source of Leprosy infection

Untreated infectious cases

Undetected cases

*Backlog
Incubation period*

Individuals with
suggestive
symptoms

Managements of complication

*Lepra reactions I & II, relapses
Nerve function impairment (NFI)
Drug sensitivity*

Diagnosis of New Cases

Infectious
Risk for disability /deformity
With disability / deformity

MDT - Cure

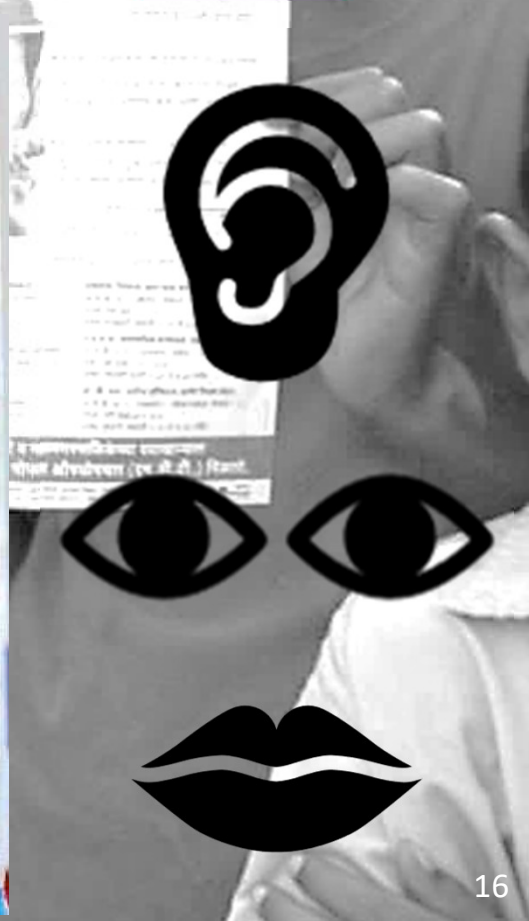
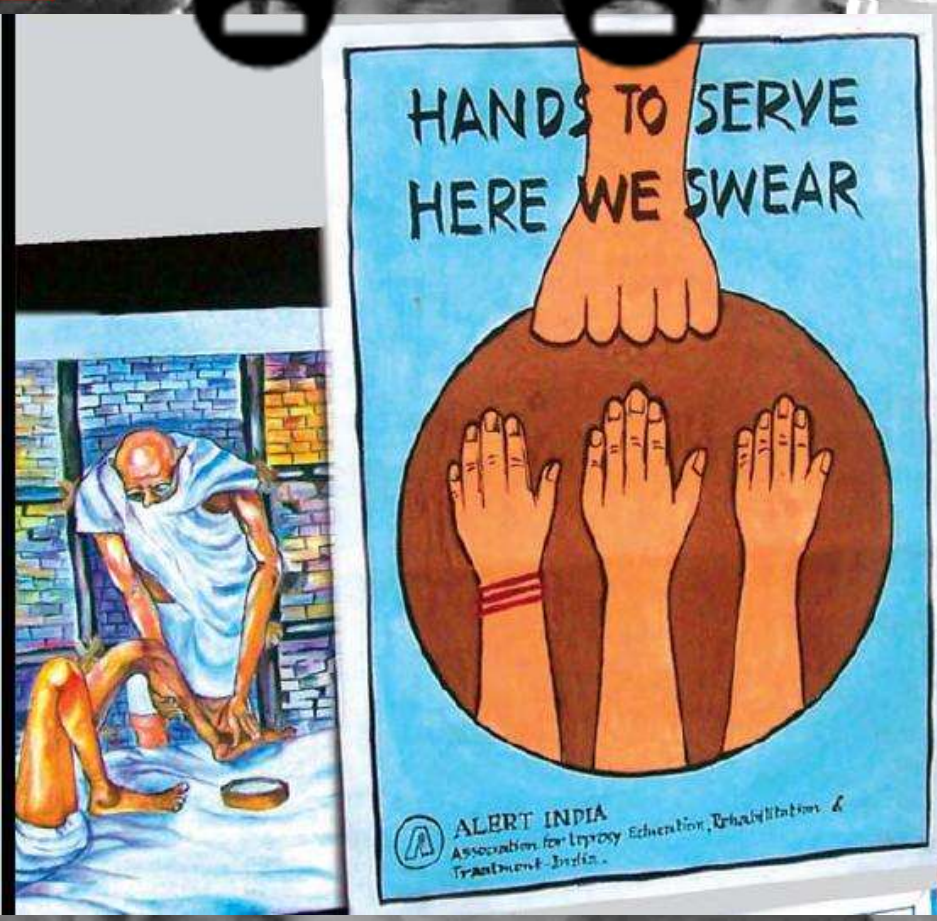
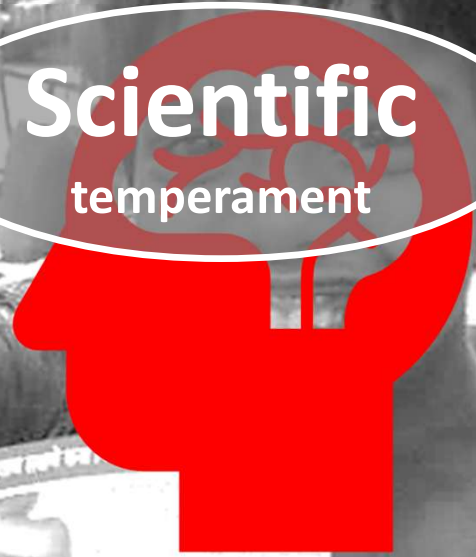
Infectious → Non-infectious

*Reduce the risk of nerve damage,
disability & deformity*





Scientific
temperament



leaflet changed the life....

Student shared a leaflet with neighbor





ASHA worker felicitated sharing her experience in THO meeting and government published health magazine 'Aarogya Patrika'.

Jijabai
can do
this!
Why not
We?



Infectious Case detected by MPW

referred for the confirmation of diagnosis at LRC



Lepromatous Case



Multi Purpose Worker

Case detected by MO PHC
on the next very next OPD day
of the training



Contacts examination



LOR camp: Medical Officer, PHC

New Cases detection



ASHA worker **suspect** and **referrer**
lepromatous case for **diagnosis** LOR Camp at **PHC**



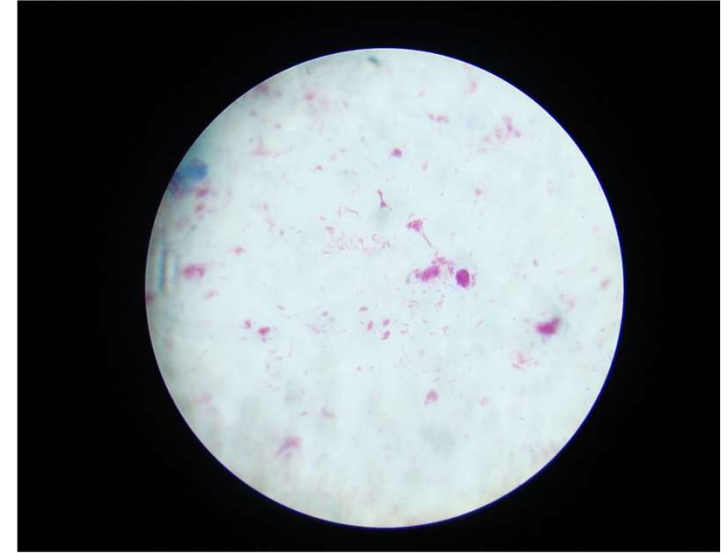
Leprosy Referral Centre (LRC)

LOR (LRC Out-reach) Camp



**Laboratory
technician**

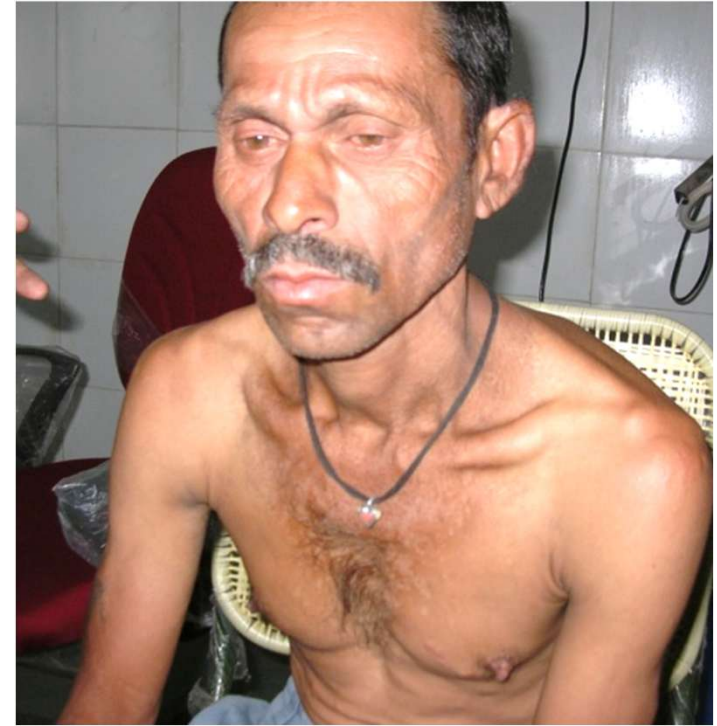
examining Skin
Skin Smear



Dr Mahulkar, ADHS Nashik



*Dr Mohite, MO PHC
Vadner Khakurdi Tal- Malegaon, Nashik*



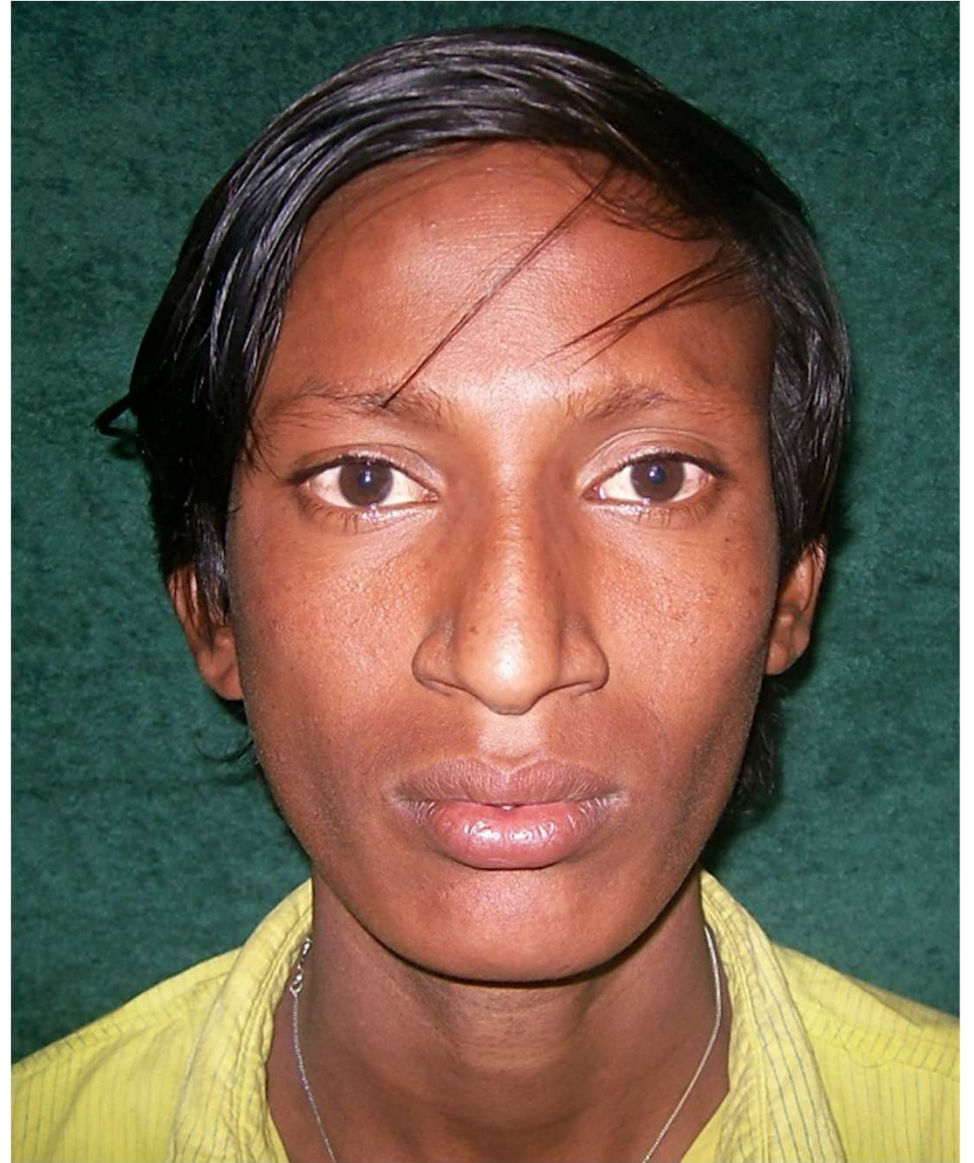
Case missed in OPD



**After initiation of MDT affected
can not spread Leprosy**



ASHA worker detected LL case





Type I lepra reaction

'High risk for deformity' treated at
Cottage Hospital LRC (Block level)



Baseline information at Primary level

Identify the leprosy patients with the following

Risk factors for nerve damage

1. Lepra Reaction (Type I & II)
2. Thickened nerve with or without neuritis (acute & silent)
3. Patch on face / on course of trunk nerve
4. Multi-Bacillary leprosy cases
5. Adolescent age group / pregnancy and child birth

Disability and deformity

1. Hand - sensory loss in palm, injury, blister, claw finger, wrist drop, absorption of hand
2. Foot - sensory loss in sole, injury, crack, claw toe, foot drop, absorption of foot
3. Eye - lagophthalmos, dim vision, red eye, facial palsy, blindness

Assess for nerve function loss

- Palpate the trunk nerves
- Test for sensation
- Test for muscle strenght

Assess for severity

- Examine the skin of hand & foot
- Test joints for range of motion
- Test for vision

Prevention of Disability

Medical & surgical

Physiotherapy

Aids & appliances

Educate and counsel

1. To be aware about possible complications and adhere to treatment compliance.
2. To practice self care regularly and report for treatment, if develop any warning signs / symptoms.
3. To adopt safe functions and activities that help to prevent or correct deformities.



Improve the productivity and quality of life of affected person

Table 5: Indication for quality care and services to be provided at LRC

Problems / Indication	Quality care and services
Suspect with doubtful signs of leprosy	Clinical examination & diagnosis
Suspect with skin patch & no sensory loss	Skin smear examination & diagnosis
Case with active signs of reaction / neuritis	Steroid therapy
Case with 'risk' factor but no disability	Regular nerve function assessment
Case with Gr.I disability in hand / feet / eye	Demonstrate skin care (HOPE)
Case with weak muscles in hand / feet / eye	Steroid therapy + Muscle stimulation
Case with claw finger / thumb / Wrist drop	Exercises + Splints + Wax therapy
Case with foot drop / claw toes	Exercises + MCR sandals
Case with Lagophthalmos / watering of eyes	Exercises + Goggles + Eye drop
Case with wounds / ulcers on hand & foot	Medicine + Dressing + MCR Sandal



Skin smear: Uses

1. Diagnosis of leprosy
2. Classification of leprosy (TT-LL)
3. Prognosis of leprosy
4. To know the infectiousness
5. Therapeutic trials
6. Diagnosis of relapse



RH Medical Officer detects lepromatous case in OPD



8 DEC 2011

SIB Dr. Tejpal

1.2.10

Pruritus - lower upper limbs

force - occlusion area / eye

nose / orbit

lips

Shiny skin of face - nose

cheeks, lower

lips

No Sensory loss

Ref. for advice

Ref. for LHC

T. Arched

T. Septum

ST. Maxilla

X-ray

02-10

S.NO.	SITES	BI	MI
1	Right Ear	5+	
2	Left Ear	4+	
3	Lesion (Active site)	3+	
4	(Any other site-specify)	3+	
5			
6			
—	AVERAGE	3.75	

Collected by Rajeev D. Date 8/12/10

Examined by Chandra Date 14/12/10

This was the case from other block came to work at for brick making 14 days back.



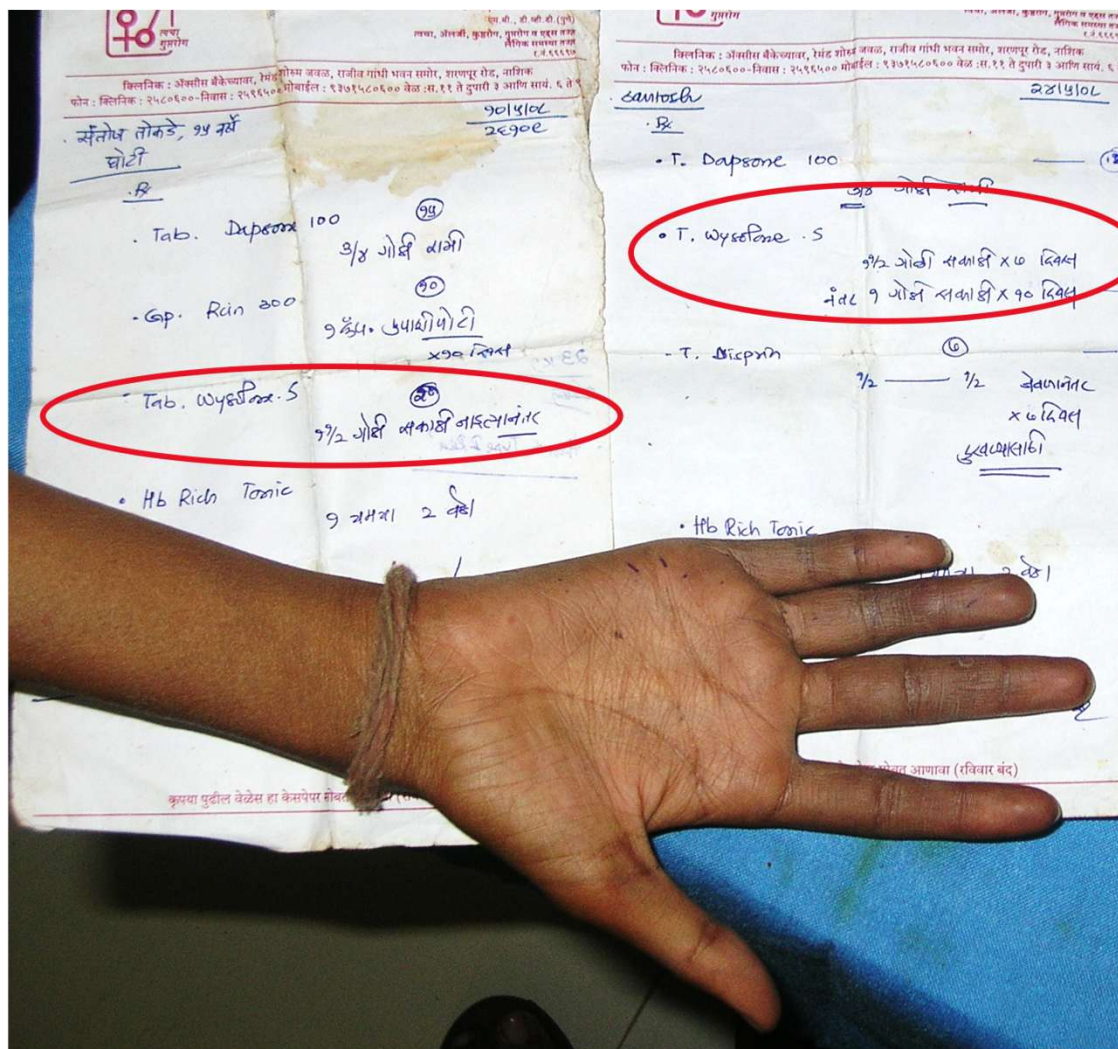
Type I Lepra-reaction



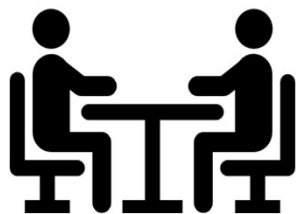
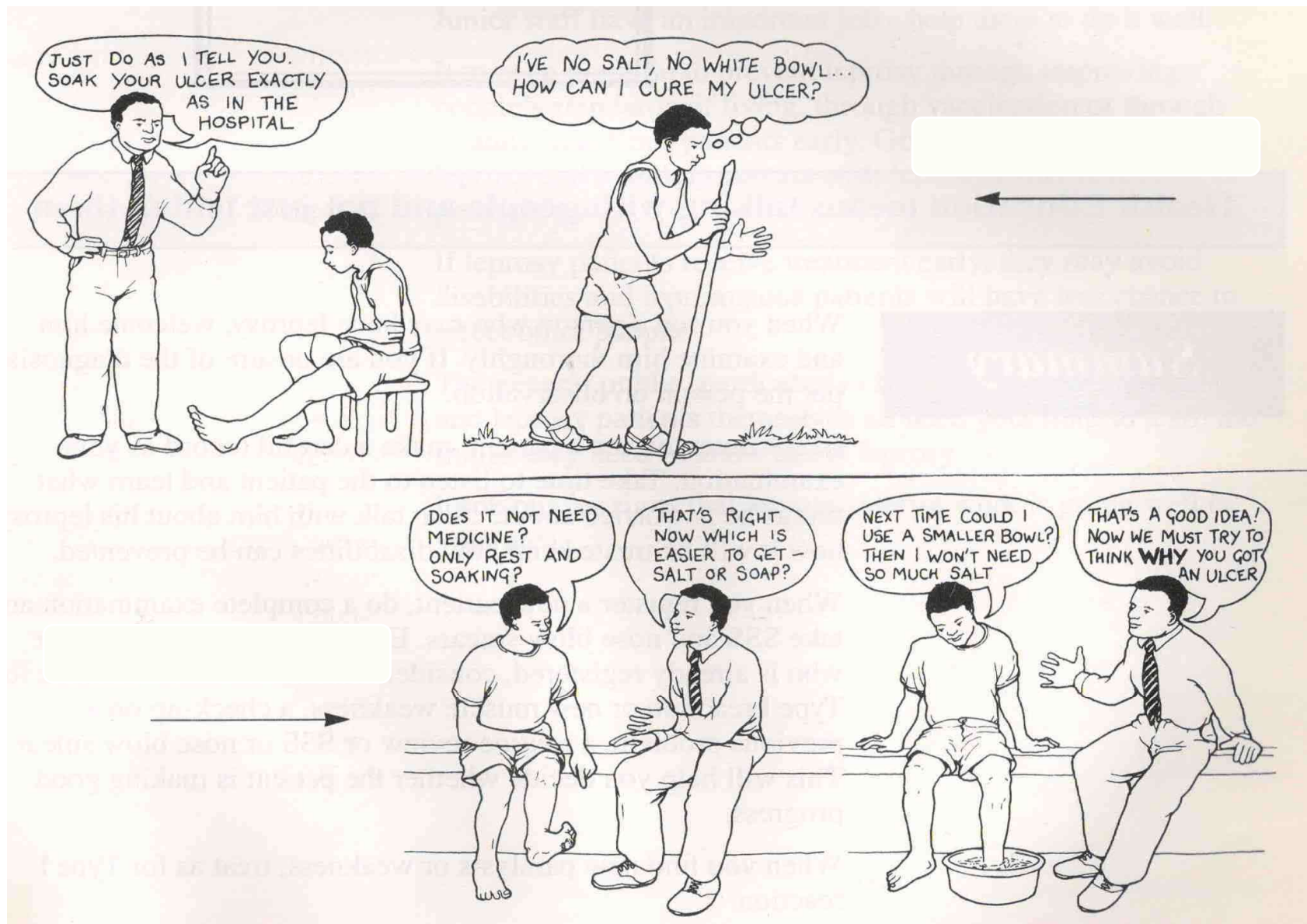
Type II Lepra-reaction (ENL)







- Child case treated by Dermatologist with the course of steroid treatment and MB MDT in the private referred to LRC.
- Surprisingly his mother is cured case of leprosy, still her son developed deformity.



Deformity is a reality,
we should all **accept** but
it should always be **addressed** and
attended to at **whatever the stage**.

NERVE FUNCTION IMPAIRMENT (NFI) ASSESSMENT (At registration and repeated after 3 months. Once in a two weeks in case of neuritis / reaction): चेतातंतूच्या कार्याची तपासणी

Nerves	Date																								
	Side	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt	Rt	Lt
Ulnar	Nerve																								
	Sensation																								
	Motor - Little finger out																								
Median	Nerve																								
	Sensation																								
	Motor - Thumb up																								
Radial	Nerve																								
	Sensation																								
	Motor - Wrist up																								
Lat. Popliteal	Nerve																								
	Sensation																								
	Motor - Foot up																								
Post. Tibial	Nerve																								
	Sensation																								
Facial	Motor - Close eyelids																								

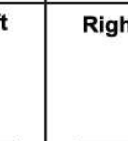
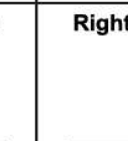
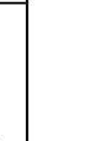
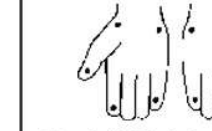
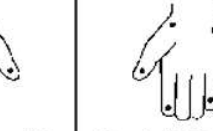
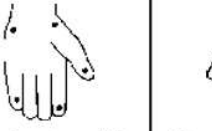
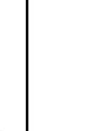
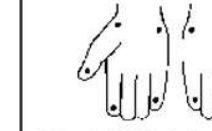
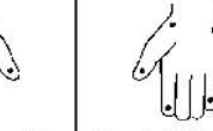
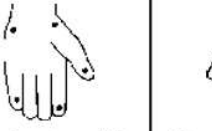
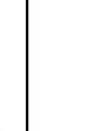
Keys: For Nerve : 'N' - Normal; 'E' - Enlarged / thickened; 'T' - Tender or painful; 'A' - Abscess;

For Sensation : 'P' - Present; 'A' - Absent;

For Motor : 'S' - Strong; 'W' - Weak; 'P' - Paralyzed

DISABILITY / DEFORMITY ASSESSMENT (once a year) :

असमर्थता आणि विकृतीची तपासणी

Date of assessment:			Initial:				Year 1:				Year 2:				Year 3:				Year 4:			
Key	Disability / Deformity	Duration	Right		Left		Right		Left		Right		Left		Right		Left		Right		Left	
☒	Sensation present																					
☐	Sensation absent																					
☐	Mobile claw finger																					
☐	Fixed claw finger																					
☐	'Z' / Ape thumb																					
☐	Wrist / Foot drop																					
☐	Ulcer Wound																					
☐	Mark Absorption Level																					
☐	Lagophthalmos																					
☐	Facial Palsy																					
EHF score			Eye	Hand	Foot	Total	Eye	Hand	Foot	Total	Eye	Hand	Foot	Total	Eye	Hand	Foot	Total	Eye	Hand	Foot	Total
			Rt																			
			Lt																			

M. Leprae invade peripheral nerve

Nerve consist of

Sensory fibers

Sensory loss



**Daily
Self care
Inspection**

Motor fibers

**Muscle
weakness/paralysis**



**Daily
HOPE
Massage/Exercise**

**Autonomic
fibers**

**Lack of sweat and
sebum**



**Daily
Soaking and
lubrication**

Early deformity
steroids
counseling
physiotherapy
PT, aids and appliances

Grade 1 deformity
Self care advice

Established deformity

Follow-up by Peripheral Health Personnel

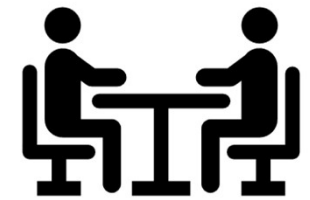
Advice to prevent worsening.

**Individual is himself responsible for maintaining
good quality of life when guided by health staff.**

When should person seek medical advice?

Relevant PT aids and appliances are timely provided.





Know their environment

Mental status

ADL (Activities of daily life)

Occupation hazard

Locomotion Mode:
Travelling

Distance : Services available

Practical solution



**LRC teams to utilize
available expertise at
all levels & institutions**





Cure at all stages of Leprosy



Table 8: Criteria for referral to Tertiary care centre for specialized services

Criteria for referral	Specialized services
1. Difficult to diagnose by clinical / skin smear	Skin / nerve biopsy
2. Suspected relapse – clinical / bacteriological	Drug sensitivity test (MDT)
3. Chronic / recurrent reaction / Steroid dependent	Alternate drugs
4. Neuritis / NFI not responding to steroid therapy	Nerve release surgery
5. 'Dapsone' syndrome / Intolerance to MDT	Alternate drug (Anti-leprosy)
6. Chronic / infected non-healing plantar ulcer	Septic / skin graft surgery
7. Neuropathic joint / Disorganized foot	Foot Orthosis (Mould shoes)
8. Red eye / Impaired vision due to leprosy	Ophthalmic care
9. Deformities of hand / foot / eye / face	Reconstructive surgery
10. Psycho-social / Economic problems	Counselling / Rehabilitation

Differentiate.....

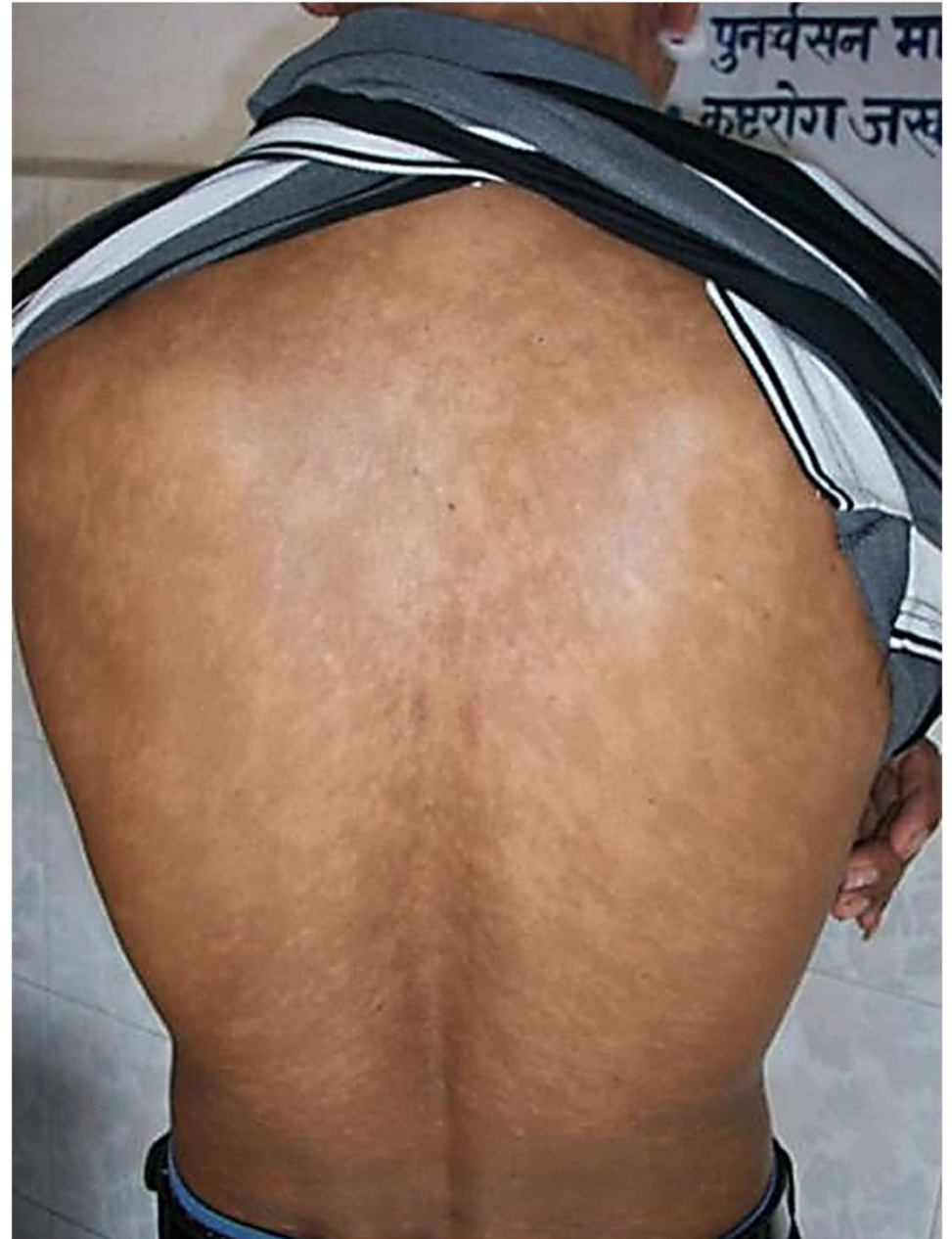


Difficult to diagnose



Lepra-reaction

Is it leprosy ?



Community response to IEC



Dapsone sensitivity case managed at **Civil Hospital Nashik** (Student, *TLM vocational training center, Nashik*)







"Society just does not recognize that there has been a cure for leprosy for more than 60 years. I have traveled around the world. Why is it that I cannot go back to my hometown? Between my wife and I, we have close to 50 relatives . . . the majority of them do not even know that I exist."

Yasuji Hirasawa, Japan



Makes the difference....!

persons, review may be done after two years, if needed or desired by the affected person, in view of likely worsening of deformities in some persons.

SECTION I:

16. Leprosy Cured Persons with disabilities

16.1. Definition- "leprosy cured person" means a person who has been cured of leprosy, but is suffering from-

- (i) loss of sensation in hands or feet as well as loss of sensation and paresis in the eye and eye-lid but with no manifest deformity;
- (ii) manifest deformity and paresis but having sufficient mobility in their hands and feet to enable them to engage in normal economic activity;
- (iii) extreme physical deformity as well as advanced age which prevents him/her from undertaking any gainful occupation, and the expression "leprosy cured" shall construed accordingly.

16.2. WHO grading of disability in Leprosy:

Highest grade for each eye or hand or foot = 2. Maximum EHF sum score = 12. (E= Eyes, H= Hands, F= Feet)

Grade	Eyes	Hands	Feet
0	No eye problem due to leprosy; no evidence of visual loss	No anaesthesia, no visible deformity or damage	No anaesthesia, no visible deformity or damage
1	Eye problem due to leprosy present, but vision not severely affected as a result of these (vision: 6/60 or better; can count fingers at 6 metres).	Anaesthesia present, but no visible deformity or damage	Anaesthesia present, but no visible deformity or damage
2	Severe visual impairment (vision worse than 6/60, inability to count fingers at 6 metres). Also includes lagophthalmos, iridocyclitis and corneal opacities	Visible deformity or damage present (such as cracks/wounds, claw fingers, wrist drop, contractures, amputation etc.)	Visible deformity or damage present (such as cracks/wounds, claw toes, foot drop, contractures, amputation etc.)

16.3. For sensory testing of hands and feet, light touch (just enough to indent the skin very slightly) of the tip of ball point pen is recommended.

16.4. For testing loss of corneal sensation, light touch of the clean cotton wisp from the lateral side is recommended. It is also to be noted whether blinking of the eyes is normal or not.

16.5. Muscle power is tested clinically by Voluntary Muscle testing of commonly examined peripheral nerves and graded as per the Medical Research Council, London Scale.

EHF (Eyes, Hands, Feet) Grade Score is calculated.

Higher the Score, greater the Disability. Maximum EHF Score possible is 12.

EHF Score is 0-1, then % of Disability is up to 20%.

EHF Score is 2-3, then % of Disability is 20% to 40%.

EHF Score is 4-5 then % of Disability is 41% to 60%.

EHF Score is 6-7 then % of Disability is 61% to 70%.

EHF Score is 8-9 then % of Disability is 71% to 80%.

EHF Score is 10-11 then % of Disability is 81% to 90%.

EHF Score is 12 then % of Disability is 91 to 100%.

On the baseline data persons with **EHF score > 40** are eligible for 'Disability Certificate' is a beneficiary, so the target.

16.6. In a leprosy cured person with involvement of dominant upper extremity (mostly right hand), additional 10% weightage is to be given. Total permanent physical impairment/disability % will not exceed 100%. In a leprosy cured

कुष्ठ रुग्णांसाठी शासकीय योजना



कुष्ठ रुग्णांसाठी लाभाच्या शासकीय योजना

बस व
रेल्वे प्रवास
सवलत

अंत्योदय
अन्न योजना

संजय गांधी
निराधार अनुदान
योजना

पंतप्रधान
आवास
योजना

दिव्यांग
प्रमाणपत्र

रुग्णांनी आपली पात्रता तपासून वरील योजनांचा लाभ घ्यावा !

आपल्या जवळच्या आरोग्य केंद्राशी संपर्क साधा



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Disability and Deformity

Life time care:

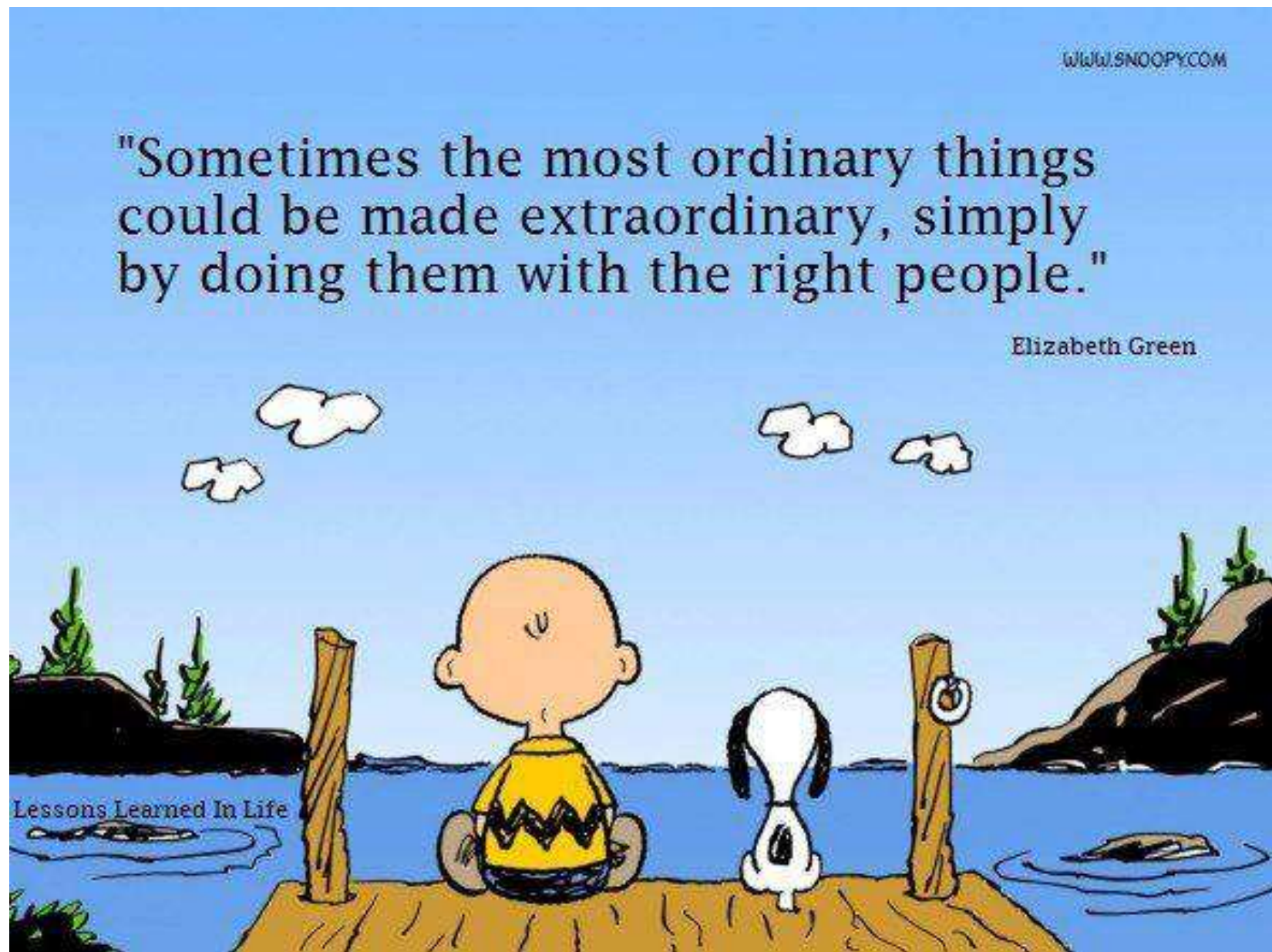
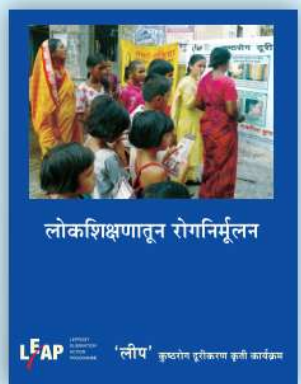
- Anesthetic parts
- Joints mobility
- Muscle strength
- Functional adaptation
- Cosmetic

Self care practices

RCS

Happiness comes
when you believe in
what you are doing,
know what you are
doing, and love
what you are doing.





Thanks...!

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