

**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**

**Regional Office
for the Eastern Mediterranean**



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ**

**Bureau régional
pour la Méditerranée orientale**

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MANAGEMENT OF LEPROSY CONTROL PROGRAMMES

by

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(Outline)

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Management - the handling of technical processes as well as the handling of people.

Effective programmes are based on adequately trained staff and good organization.

1. Organizational requirements

1.1 Central level - Leprosy Section based on Central Service of Communicable Diseases - full-time specialist

1.2 Functions and responsibilities of Section

(a) Technical guidance and policy; coordination of services and agencies whether specialized or integrated

(b) Planning control activities, technical supervision

(c) Data collection and central register

(d) Responsible for ensuring adequate training of staff

1.3 Regional and/or District project areas

Specialized and/or integrated services with peripheral services

(a) Case-finding, treatment delivery and case management → *reactions* ↓

Clear definition of functions of individual workers

Feasible case loads for control workers

(b) Setting of targets for activities

(c) Manuals for standard procedures

(d) Simple records and accurate periodical reporting through District or Regional organization

1.4 Supervisory requirements

Regular monitoring and control of operational output.

(a) Programme Manager - achievement of programme objectives

(b) Supervision in the field - range of supervision; organizational and technical

- Project area level, e.g. District or Health centre area

Doctor or Senior Paramedical Worker -

may be specialist or multidisciplinary

- desirability of intermediate level supervisor to operate if necessary to village level

- value of annual review of individual patients and clear definition of final clinical responsibility

2. Evaluation

2.1 Concurrent - through supervisory procedures and periodic reporting

2.2 Annual - at project area and central level comprises

(a) operational assessment using annual targets and operational annual indicators mainly directed to case-finding, treatment regularity, inactivity, cases ready for release from control, etc.

(b) epidemiological assessment.

Annual incidence of new cases the most sensitive measure (case detection rate is normally the only available indicator).

Forms of leprosy newly detected, prevalence rates, proportion of infectious cases rendered negative, proportion of relapses.

2.3 Use of sample surveys - to establish existing epidemiological situation and to ascertain the proportion of undetected cases.