

PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF ABU ZAABAL  
TRIAL ON THE TREATMENT OF DAPSONE  
RESISTANT LEPROMATOUS CASES  
-----

The trial started on the 7th of December 1978 in ABU ZAABAL LEPROSARIUM which is the biggest of its kind in the Middle East. It includes 1200 beds with 900 leprotics.

MATERIAL & METHODS  
-----

25 cases of frank LL were selected. Dapsone resistance was considered on clinical grounds according to the following criteria :-

- 1 - All cases were inpatients in Abu Zaabal under controlled Dapsone treatment for long periods ranging for 1 - 20 years.
- 2 - Appearance of new active nodules in spite of continuous Dapsone administration.
- 3 - Bacterioscopy showing solid staining M. Leprae & MI not less than 40%.

Careful clinical examination was carried out and cases were re-examined and photographed every month. The ages of the patient ranged from 7 to 51 years. And the age distribution among the groups was as follows :-

11 - 20 years :	10 cases
21 - 30 years :	6 cases
31 - 40 years :	4 cases
41 - 50 years :	3 cases
above 50 :	2 cases

The duration of the disease ranged from 1 year to 25 years. Investigations carried out at the start of the trial and repeated every month were the following :

- 1 - Bacterioscopy
- 2 - Full urine analysis : Chemical and Microscopical
- 3 - Blood : R.B.C , HB% , E.S.R. total and differential leucocytic counts.
- 4 - Liver function tests : Bilirubin, SGOT, SGPT, Serum Alk. phosphatase

The results of treatment were followed-up for from 3 to 13 months and observation of patients is still going on.

CASES REPORTS :  
-----

Few cases will be reported here for special interesting features in each

## THE PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE TRIAL

---

- 1 - Complete clinical cure has been achieved in 9 cases. In all the 9 cases MI became zero in periods varying from 3 - 6 months.
- 2 - 13 cases were much improved with flattening of the nodules.
- 3 - In case No 5 treatment was stopped after one month because of the appearance of jaundice and impairment of liver functions as indicated by the tests used. Within 60 days jaundice disappeared and liver functions markedly improved.
- 4 - E.N.L. appeared in case No 13 after 8 months of study treatment and while the patient was on Lamprone 100mg alone for 5 months. The eruption was precipitated by an emotional crisis due to the sudden death of the patient's sister.
- 5 - Case No 15 developed infective hepatitis with mild jaundice 10 months after starting treatment and 8 months after stopping Rifampicin and continuing Lamprone 100mg daily. A mild E.N.L. appeared one month later which responded well to prednisolone 2 tablets daily and antihistamines.
- 6 - The detailed report of the trial and the analysis of the investigations done will be reported when the follow-up of the last patient admitted is completed.