

was seen in two cases only. Amyloid change in the liver was not detected in any of them.

Lepra bacilli were detected in liver biopsy specimen of only 7 out of 50 patients studied. Liver function tests and serum transaminase did not show any abnormality.

Discussion

The results of present study show 90 per cent incidence of pathological changes in liver in lepromatous leprosy. This figure is consistent with those in other reports which give incidence of 80 to 100 per cent^{3,4,5,6}. The changes were either those of granuloma in the liver or of infiltrations by mononuclear inflammatory cells with or without fibrosis.

Opinion regarding development of fibrosis in leprosy is divided. Some workers consider fibrous extension of the portal tract in leprosy as the end result of the disease itself³, while others regard it as a nonspecific change in response to drug therapy⁷.

Fatty degeneration was observed in two cases only. Similar changes have also been reported by other workers^{3,6}. Lepra bacilli were present

in only 7 out of 50 liver biopsy specimens. Presence of lepra bacilli in the liver of patients with lepromatous leprosy has consistently been reported by various workers^{3,4,5}.

REFERENCES

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Announcements...

Hind Kush Nivaran Sangh has just added 2 new posters to the existing health education material under the guidance of Dr. Dharmendra.

These are :

1. Agricultural rehabilitation - leprosy patients can be rehabilitated through agriculture.
2. Rehabilitate leprosy patients through agriculture - sowing seeds for better tomorrow.

The Sangh has also just reprinted 'Six questions about leprosy' in English and 'preventive rehabilitation of leprosy patients' in English.

These posters and publications can be obtained direct from the store - office, Hind kush Nivaran Sangh, 1, Red Cross Road, New Delhi 110001

Cost of the posters is Rs. 1.15 per copy or Rs. 110/- per 100 copies.