

Oral health status in leprosy

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Sir, the recent report on oral health status in patients with leprosy is very interesting (Rawlani et al 2001). They concluded that "Overall Dental Health Status of the leprosy patients was poor and needed more attention for dental care" (Rawlani et al 2001). It is no doubt that poor dental health status could be expected. Indeed, there are many possible explanations for the poor dental health. The disease, leprosy, might affect the oral health status. Also, the leprosy is a disease of poverty and poor hygiene. The underlying poor sanitation can result in poor oral health. It is already confirmed that dental problem was significantly high among the poor in the rural communities (Shah and Sundaram 2004). A recent report from a rural area in India

showed a similar high rate of dental problem among the general populations without leprosy (Maru and Narendran 2012).

References

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