
LEPROSY (HANSEN'S DISEASE): A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Shahnaz Bashir^{*1}, Dr. Taniya Sharma²

¹Research Scholar, Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Mewar University, Chittorgarh, 312901, Rajasthan, India.

²HOD and Assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Mewar University, Chittorgarh 312901, Rajasthan India.

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*Corresponding Author: Shahnaz Bashir

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Research Scholar, Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

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Mewar University, Chittorgarh, 312901, Rajasthan, India.

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ABSTRACT

Leprosy is a chronic infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium leprae* affecting skin and peripheral nerves. Early diagnosis and multidrug therapy are essential to prevent disability and transmission.

KEYWORDS: Leprosy, Hansen's disease, *Mycobacterium*, Multidrug Therapy, Epidemiology, Nerve Damage, Neglected Tropical Disease.

INTRODUCTION

Leprosy is a chronic granulomatous disease affecting skin and nerves.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

It remains endemic in several developing regions.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

Disease depends on host immune response.

CLINICAL FEATURES

Includes hypopigmented patches and sensory loss.

DIAGNOSIS

Based on clinical signs and laboratory confirmation.

Management

WHO MDT includes rifampicin, dapson, clofazimine.

CONCLUSION

Early treatment prevents disability.

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