



WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORT

A publication of the Epidemiology Unit
Ministry of Health

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Leprosy Situation in Sri Lanka (Part - I)

What is Leprosy?

Leprosy is a curable chronic infectious disease caused by the *Mycobacterium leprae*, which causes damage to the skin and the peripheral nervous system. The disease develops slowly; incubation period is about 5 years. The disease mainly affects the skin, peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract and also the eyes. Leprosy is a highly stigmatizing disease. It is transmitted via droplets, from the nose and mouth, during close and frequent contacts with untreated cases. Early diagnosis and treatment with multidrug therapy (MDT) remain the key in eliminating the disease as a public health concern. Untreated, leprosy can cause progressive and permanent damage to the skin, nerves, limbs and eyes. Besides the physical impairment it often affects the patient's socio-economic status.

Current situation

Official figures from 115 countries show the global registered prevalence of leprosy at 189 018 at the end of 2012 and during the same year, 232 857 new cases have been reported (WHO, 2014). About 95% of leprosy cases have been detected in 16 endemic countries including Sri Lanka.

New Case Detection rate per 100 000 population in SEAR countries (Year 2011)

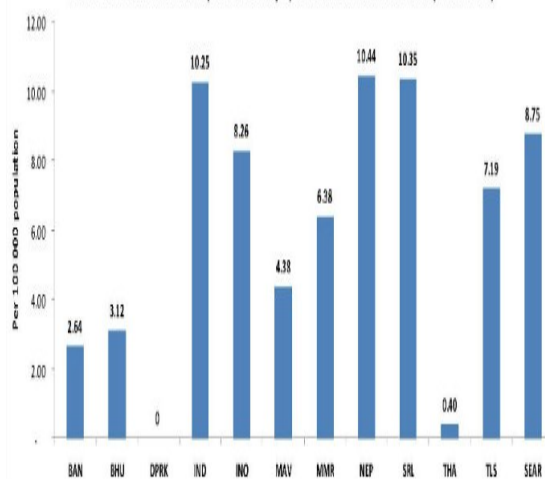


Figure 1: Leprosy new case detection rates in SEAR countries-2011

Distribution of Deformities and Types

Total registered cases	2131
New cases	1990
New case detection rate (NCDR)	9.60
New MB cases	947
New MB rate	48.8%
New Grade II deformity cases	133
Grade II deformity rate	6.7%
New child cases	182
Child rate	9.2%
Relapses	59
Defaulters restarting treatment	82

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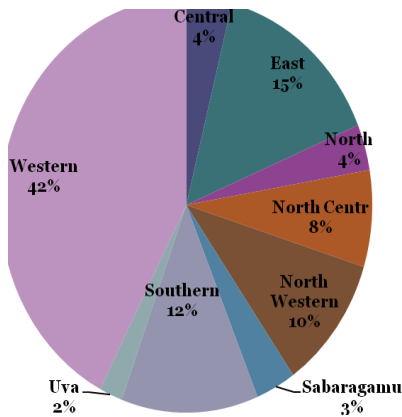
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WEEKLY
SRI LANKA - 2014

For the year 2013, two thousand one hundred and thirty one new cases have been detected in Sri Lanka and new case detection rate of leprosy is 9.6 per 100,000 populations. Further 48.8% of diagnosed leprosy cases were Multi-Bacillary type indicating high risk of transmission. A majority of leprosy cases have been detected in the Western province and Eastern province is the second high endemic province.

Figure 2: Leprosy disease burden by provinces 2013



High endemic districts have been identified within these provinces. New case detection rate of leprosy is shown in figure 3.

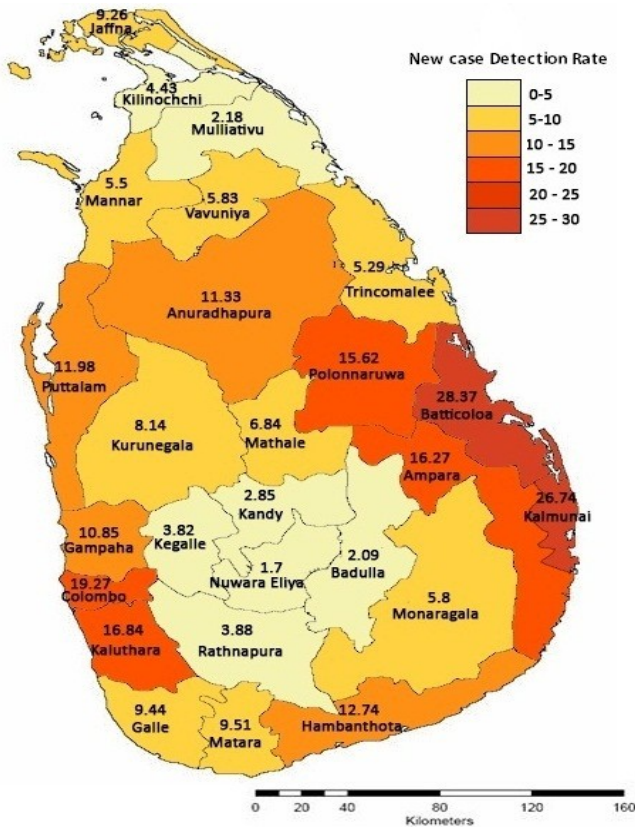


Figure 3: New case detection rates in each district in year 2013

Grade 2 deformity rate is shown in figure 4.

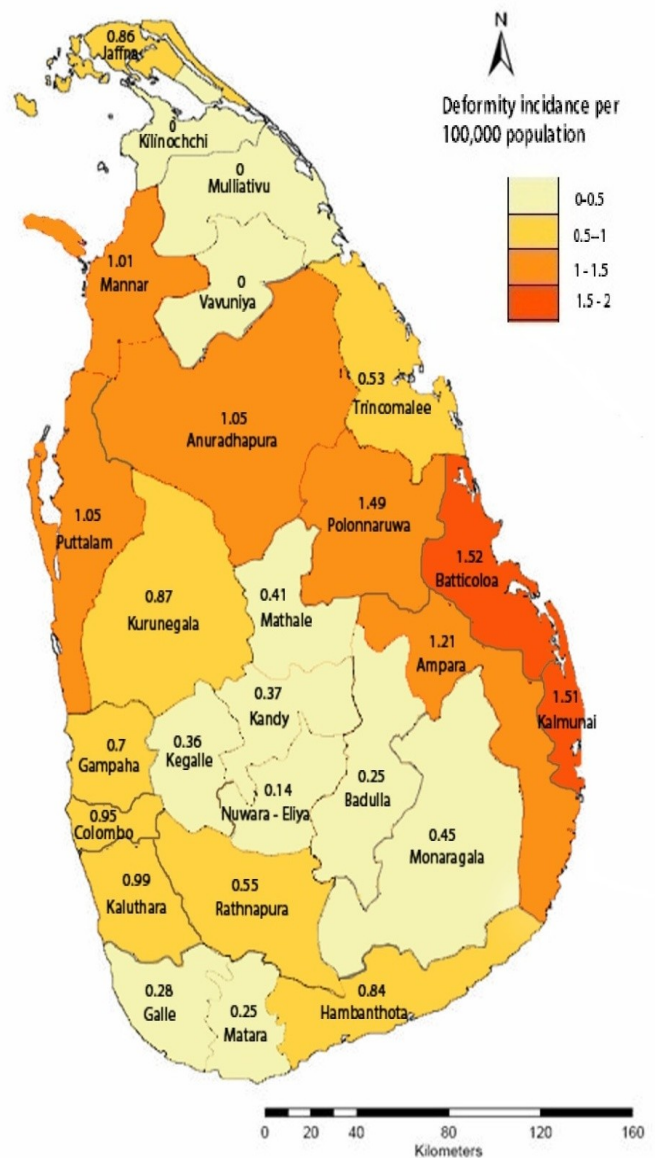


Figure 4: Grade 2 Deformity rates per 100,000 populations in year 2013 in each district

Sources

PubMed-(Walker & Lockwood,2007).-avialle at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17350495>

Leprosy statistics - latest data-WHO 2014-available at <http://www.who.int/wer/2013/wer8835.pdf?ua=1>

Compiled by Dr. Monika Wijerathne

Consultant Community Physician-Anti Leprosy Campaign

Table 1: Selected notifiable diseases reported by Medical Officers of Health 20th - 26th Sep 2014 (39th Week)

RDHS Division	Dengue Fever		Dysentery		Encephalitis		Enteric Fever		Food Poisoning		Leptospirosis		Typhus Fever		Viral Hepatitis		Human Rabies		Chickenpox		Meningitis		Leishmaniasis		WRCD	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	T*	C**
Colombo	158	10521	2	113	0	11	3	84	2	171	5	116	0	2	1	36	0	0	7	340	0	49	0	3	75	25
Gampaha	85	5422	2	111	0	10	0	32	0	24	25	208	2	18	5	196	0	5	1	235	0	53	0	2	53	47
Kalutara	34	2087	3	135	0	6	2	43	0	59	16	226	0	2	2	16	0	1	5	203	1	62	0	0	100	0
Kandy	40	1245	0	77	1	5	0	19	1	17	2	39	0	72	4	136	0	1	4	160	0	22	0	4	100	0
Matale	5	357	4	57	0	2	1	17	0	17	1	33	0	2	1	115	0	1	2	46	2	45	0	26	92	8
NuwaraEliya	5	232	6	208	0	3	1	17	0	69	2	22	0	55	1	29	0	0	2	97	2	28	0	0	77	23
Galle	13	836	2	97	1	6	0	8	0	33	2	141	0	80	0	6	0	0	6	348	1	43	0	3	65	35
Hambantota	7	519	0	41	0	4	0	10	2	15	2	75	3	62	1	16	0	0	5	124	0	40	11	292	92	8
Matara	27	477	1	81	0	4	1	22	0	18	6	67	4	45	1	33	0	0	4	146	0	27	4	73	100	0
Jaffna	18	882	23	412	0	7	4	173	1	55	0	7	0	268	0	8	0	0	2	118	4	46	0	1	92	8
Kilinochchi	0	46	0	77	0	1	0	21	0	0	0	1	0	19	0	0	0	0	1	15	0	6	0	11	25	75
Mannar	14	89	0	32	0	10	0	34	0	9	0	4	0	24	0	1	0	0	0	10	1	7	0	3	80	20
Vavuniya	1	105	2	42	0	1	0	27	1	22	0	9	0	6	0	5	0	0	0	11	0	13	0	2	75	25
Mullaitivu	2	85	3	52	0	0	0	10	1	18	0	8	0	11	0	0	1	2	0	5	0	5	0	7	60	40
Batticaloa	4	657	6	237	0	3	1	29	0	30	0	14	0	2	0	7	0	1	1	48	0	6	0	0	93	7
Ampara	1	126	0	59	0	1	1	3	0	10	0	15	0	12	0	4	0	1	3	85	0	8	1	10	100	0
Trincomalee	3	500	2	39	0	1	0	4	0	9	0	16	0	20	0	2	0	0	4	86	0	13	0	5	67	33
Kurunegala	60	1595	3	107	0	26	1	17	0	25	2	75	2	42	6	48	0	1	5	339	1	64	6	115	96	4
Puttalam	5	520	2	58	0	2	0	11	0	10	0	58	0	21	0	3	0	3	2	73	0	22	0	6	62	38
Anuradhapura	6	416	3	123	0	5	0	3	0	45	0	80	0	27	0	10	0	0	4	189	2	43	12	324	63	37
Polonnaruwa	4	414	2	39	0	4	0	6	0	1	0	57	1	8	0	6	0	0	1	132	0	25	0	104	71	29
Badulla	29	531	7	128	0	9	0	11	1	9	2	46	6	92	0	116	0	0	3	63	4	107	0	0	88	12
Monaragala	4	221	4	49	0	4	0	8	0	33	1	63	2	142	3	102	0	2	2	69	3	20	1	27	100	0
Ratnapura	12	2415	1	185	1	21	0	23	0	26	4	291	2	87	3	349	0	1	2	166	0	37	1	27	67	33
Kegalle	17	1311	0	92	0	9	6	37	0	34	8	143	3	51	11	205	0	0	3	215	1	67	0	2	73	27
Kalmune	3	133	3	102	0	1	0	6	0	74	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	88	0	7	0	0	85	15
SRI LANKA	557	31742	81	2753	3	156	21	675	9	833	78	1815	25	1170	39	1449	1	19	70	3411	22	865	36	1047	81	19

Source: Weekly Returns of Communicable Diseases (WRCD).

*T=Timeliness refers to returns received on or before 26th September, 2014. Total number of reporting units 337. Number of reporting units data provided for the current week; 277. C**=Completeness

Table 2: Vaccine-Preventable Diseases & AFP

20th – 26th Sep 2014 (39th Week)

Disease	No. of Cases by Province									Number of cases during current week in 2014	Number of cases during same week in 2013	Total number of cases to date in 2014	Total number of cases to date in 2013	Difference between the number of cases to date in 2013& 2014
	W	C	S	N	E	NW	NC	U	Sab					
AFP*	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	61	68	-10.3%
Diphtheria	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	-	00	-	%
Mumps	01	00	02	00	00	00	00	01	01	05	19	539	1223	-56.1%
Measles	12	01	08	01	02	02	03	03	00	32	96	2733	2971	-8.0%
Rubella	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	01	16	25	-36%
CRS**	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	04	06	-33.3%
Tetanus	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01	11	19	-42.1%
Neonatal Tetanus	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	%
Japanese Encephalitis	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	22	66	-66.7%
Whooping Cough	00	00	02	00	00	00	00	00	01	03	01	50	66	-24.2%
Tuberculosis	56	15	30	09	22	00	13	10	30	185	98	7442	6362	+17.1%

Key to Table 1 & 2

Provinces: W: Western, C: Central, S: Southern, N: North, E: East, NC: North Central, NW: North Western, U: Uva, Sab: Sabaragamuwa.
 RDHS Divisions: CB: Colombo, GM: Gampaha, KL: Kalutara, KD: Kandy, ML: Matale, NE: Nuwara Eliya, GL: Galle, HB: Hambantota, MT: Matara, JF: Jaffna, KN: Killinochchi, MN: Mannar, VA: Vavuniya, MU: Mullaitivu, BT: Batticaloa, AM: Ampara, TR: Trincomalee, KM: Kalmunai, KR: Kurunegala, PU: Puttalam, AP: Anuradhapura, PO: Polonnaruwa, BD: Badulla, MO: Moneragala, RP: Ratnapura, KG: Kegalle.

Data Sources:

Weekly Return of Communicable Diseases: Diphtheria, Measles, Tetanus, Neonatal Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Chickenpox, Meningitis, Mumps., Rubella, CRS,

Special Surveillance: AFP* (Acute Flaccid Paralysis), Japanese Encephalitis

CRS** =Congenital Rubella Syndrome

AFP and all clinically confirmed Vaccine Preventable Diseases except Tuberculosis and Mumps should be investigated by the MOH

Dengue Prevention and Control Health Messages

Look for plants such as bamboo, bohemia, rampe and banana in your surroundings and maintain them

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Comments and contributions for publication in the WER Sri Lanka are welcome. However, the editor reserves the right to accept or reject items for publication. All correspondence should be mailed to The Editor, WER Sri Lanka, Epidemiological Unit, P.O. Box 1567, Colombo or sent by E-mail to chepid@slt.net.lk. Prior approval should be obtained from the Epidemiology Unit before publishing data in this publication

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