

## Letter to the Editor

Madrid,  
29th June, 1965

Dear Sir,

Dr V. K. Loginov in a paper published in *Leprosy Review*, Vol. 35, No. 1, 1964, page 17, refers to an experiment carried out by Drs Guy Prieto and F. Contreras stating that the doctors had intentionally inoculated leprosy many times into a male nurse.

Doubtless, Dr Loginov had read on page 475 of the Memorial of the Sixth International Congress of Leprosy a paper entitled 'Immunity and Contagion in the Adult' in which we reported the attempts carried out by a nurse, but these were done at night and in secret without medical knowledge and were attempts at inoculating leprosy by various procedures.

We believe that such attempts demonstrate the difficulties with which contagion is attained in leprosy and it should be noted that these experiments under discussion were against our will, and it was necessary to give vigorous prohibition to the nurse against coming back to the clinics.

We agree with Dr Loginov that no doctor is authorised to do such inoculations and are not surprised at his reaction, but doubtless there has been misunderstanding and confusion by Dr Loginov because of defective translation of our language. It was perfectly clear in the original paper\* that these inoculations were not under our control and approval.

Dr Felix Contreras.

\* *Memoria del VI Congreso Internacional de Leprología.*