

*Lepr Rev* (1987) **58**, 304–309

## Letters to the Editor

### THE DIAGNOSTIC EFFICIENCY OF PARAMEDICAL WORKERS IN LEPROSY

Sir,

The work of Ashok Kumar *et al.* (*Lepr Rev* 1985; **56**: 309–14) was informative as well as interesting. However it needs to be pointed out that among 314 cases which could not be re-examined by the study doctor, 245 cases diagnosed by other Medical Officers should also have been included for analysis. Calculated this way the PMWs were able to correctly diagnose over 90% of cases.

Further it needs to be pointed out that the confirming medical officer himself could err on either side. Therefore for a study of this nature, diagnosis should have been confirmed by a panel of doctors whose interobserver variation is insignificant. Or else there should also have been histopathological confirmation.

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