

Letters to the Editor

BLISTER CALENDAR PACKS FOR THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS IN LEPROSY CONTROL PROGRAMMES WITH MULTIPLE DRUG THERAPY (MDT)

Sir,

With reference to the article published by Georgiev and Kielstrup on Blister Calendar packs (*Lepr Rev* 1987; **58**: 249–55), we would like to report that 4 districts in India, where MDT implementation is supported by DANIDA, have started using these blister packs. Up to now, about 7000 MB and 10,000 PB patients have been given blister packs. Our observations over the past 3 months indicate that blister packs have become extremely popular among patients. They take capsules and tablets as instructed and regularly come to service delivery points with empty packets. Similarly, the staff find the blister packs handy and time-saving when preparing for the clinic, delivering drugs to patients and counting tablets taken at the end of a month.

DANIDA has initiated a field trial in 4 districts to evaluate the advantages of blister packs over bulk drugs. A 10% sample is taken for trial, with a control group, and various parameters monitored. The results of this multicentre trial will be communicated later.

C R REVANKAR & BIRTE H SØRENSEN

*DANIDA Assisted National Leprosy
Eradication Programme (MDT Programme)
7 Golf Links Area
New Delhi 110 003
India*