

REPLY: REVERSAL REACTIONS IN LEPROSY AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

Sir,

We welcome the comments by Miss McCusker and Dr Schreuder on the Editorial 'Reversal Reactions in Leprosy . . .' (*Lepr Rev* 1991; **62**: 113–121). Of course, sensory testing is important and should be performed routinely, with VMTs, to enable the field worker to monitor change and detect the early signs of nerve damage. Although sensory tests are not specifically mentioned by name, they are implied in the 'clinical' paragraph (page 114) where the need for careful records to detect new skin anaesthesia is mentioned (before VMTs!). Such regular sensory testing is an integral part of the ILEP reversal reaction protocols.

They are also correct in drawing attention to the need for continual and appropriate exercise, at the right time, to strengthen weakened muscles. Some patients will require more encouragement than others in this respect, but it is remarkable how much may be achieved.

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