

Teaching Materials and Services

'Action Kit'; facts and information on leprosy, AHM, Germany

Aussätzigen-Hilfswerk München e.V., Zenettistrasse 45, D-8000, München 2, Germany, have produced an 'Action Kit' of basic information on leprosy in the form of a ring binder, with the following main aims:

- 1 To give the correct and recent scientific facts about leprosy to people at large.
- 2 To stimulate interest in people to accept leprosy as a normal physical sickness.
- 3 To promote decisively the role and importance of medication and therapeutic effectiveness.
- 4 To overcome the deep-rooted stigma and unnecessary bias still attached to leprosy.
- 5 To integrate the leprosy afflicted within the community.

The main headings are: the leprosy problem; basic information on leprosy; prevention and care of deformities in leprosy patients; involvement of community groups; list of educational and training material; names and addresses of agencies, for local preparation.

(Section 1 on the global perspective gives 'around 12 million' as the WHO estimate for the number of people, worldwide affected by leprosy, but this should be corrected to 5.5 million—see 'Estimated number of leprosy cases in the world' by S K Noordeen *et al.*, *WHO Bull*, 70, (1992), 7–10 or *Lep Rev*, 63 (1992), 282–7.)

On page 2.4 under 'How leprosy can be detected and treated', the daily dose of clofazimine should be 50 mg daily and **NOT** 150 mg daily.

ELBS—low-priced book scheme, UK

The Educational Low-Priced Books Scheme (ELBS) is funded by the Overseas Development Administration as part of the British Government overseas aid programme and administered by International Book Development Ltd. It makes available specially selected, unabridged editions of British textbooks to students in developing countries. The books are produced and marketed by their original publisher with the aid of a subsidy which enables them to be priced at between *one-fifth and one-third the price of the cheapest standard edition*. A reasonable mark-up is agreed by local booksellers' associations to cover postal and freight charges.

Booksellers should order through the usual book trade channels from stockists in those countries where they have been appointed, from the publisher, the publisher's agent or from a United Kingdom exporting wholesaler.

Academics and students should order books from their local bookseller or from a United Kingdom exporting retailer. Academics requiring specimen copies should write direct to the publishers.

All orders should include the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) given in the catalogue.

Books cannot be ordered direct from the Educational Low-Priced Books Scheme.

Academic staff are invited to suggest additions to the ELBS list. Only British books published for the first time or with a new edition within the last 5 years are eligible for consideration. Please state whether the books are recommended at universities, polytechnics, technical colleges, or other education or professional training institutes.

Annotated subject catalogues can be obtained from ELBS Administration at the address below or, in some instances, from the local British Council office. Copies of ELBS books may also be found in some British Council libraries. Complete sets of ELBS texts can be seen and consulted in the British Council Libraries.

Books cannot be supplied free of charge by ELBS Administration, who also regret that they cannot answer students' letters. The address is:

ELBS Administration, International Book Development Ltd, 10 Barley Mow Passage, London W4 4PH.

The following titles are included in the Tropical and Communicable Diseases Section:

Bryceson ADM, Pfaltzgraf RE	<i>Leprosy.</i> £3.35 ISBN 0 443 04370 1 (Churchill Livingstone, 3rd edn 1990)
Emond RTD, Rowland HAK	<i>A Colour Atlas of Infectious Diseases.</i> £7.50 ISBN 0 7234 0986 2 (Wolfe Publishing, 2nd edn 1987)
Manson-Bahr PEC, Bell DR	<i>Manson's Tropical Diseases.</i> £16.50 ISBN 0 7020 1197 5 (Baillière Tindall, 19th edn 1987)
Parry EHO (editor)	<i>Principles of Medicine in Africa.</i> £17.50 ISBN 0 19 442383 2 (Oxford University Press, 2nd edn 1984)
Peters W Gilles HM	<i>A Colour Atlas of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology.</i> £11.00 ISBN 0 7234 1598 6 (Wolfe Publishing, 3rd edn 1989)

Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE)

- 1 Members of AMEE are teachers in medicine or the healthcare professions, and organizations or national bodies committed to high standards in medical education.
- 2 AMEE is concerned with the continuum of education from undergraduate or basic training through postgraduate, specialty or vocational training to continuing education.
- 3 AMEE is concerned with the facilitation of high quality research in medical education and with the dissemination of the findings.
- 4 AMEE recognizes the need to appraise, and where necessary, improve the quality of teaching.
- 5 AMEE serves as a source of advice on matters relating to medical education in a national, European and worldwide context.
- 6 AMEE encourages students and junior staff to take an interest in medical education and assists with the development of the skills required by medical teachers.
- 7 AMEE assists physicians and teachers in the health-care professions to keep up-to-date with current developments in medical education.
- 8 AMEE encourages and offers assistance with the development of high quality learning resources and assessment materials.
- 9 AMEE facilitates the exchange of information on medical education.
- 10 AMEE is concerned with the development of medical education to meet current and future needs, particularly in the European context.

Association for Medical Education in Europe, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee DD1 9SY, Scotland, United Kingdom; Telephone 0382 60111; Ext 3141 Fax 0382 645748.

Centre for Medical Education, University of Dundee, UK

Since the Centre for Medical Education was established in 1972 it has developed into a leading international centre in undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing education. It has pioneered new approaches in teaching methods, including distance learning, assessment and curriculum planning. The staff come from a wide range of backgrounds and bring together a unique blend of expertise in medical education.

The Centre runs numerous courses and workshops throughout the year, many of them are

appropriate for applicants from Third World countries. Apply: Course Director, Centre for Medical Education, at the above address.

Research Training Grants, 1993, UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR)

TDR invites applications for research training grants to be awarded in 1993 to researchers from countries where TDR 'target diseases'—malaria, leprosy, schistosomiasis, leishmaniasis, lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, African trypanosomiasis and Chagas disease—are endemic. (As a matter of policy, TDR cannot provide funds for the training of scientists who are nationals of developed countries.) These grants are awarded to enable researchers to acquire skills related to one or more of the above diseases, such as molecular and cell biology, immunology, parasitology, epidemiology, clinical pharmacology and the social sciences.

Applications for training in research on the following topics are particularly welcome:

- Molecular entomology, aimed at introducing molecular genetic approaches and technologies to medical entomology, especially for the study of plasmodium behaviour in vectors and the possible genetic modification of the mosquito so as to disrupt the malaria parasite's life cycle.
- Product development in such areas as synthetic chemistry, novel systems for screening compounds against the above TDR target diseases, process development and different genetic vector expression systems.
- Health economics, related—for example—to direct and indirect costs imposed by the TDR target diseases, the cost-effectiveness of different control strategies, the impact of changes in health care financing on the control of tropical diseases, innovative financing of programmes for controlling the TDR target diseases, etc.
- Women and tropical diseases, especially in relation to (a) women's health-seeking behaviour and decision-making within their households; (b) gender differences in clinical manifestations; and (c) interventions, using formal and informal educational systems, that might increase women's knowledge of tropical diseases.

The research training grants can be used to help a researcher join an established training programme (whether or not in the applicant's own country) culminating in a doctoral degree or an individualized training programme in a centre for research and training in tropical diseases. Support for attendance at a master's degree course abroad will be considered in exceptional cases. Grants supporting research training for a doctoral degree are awarded for a maximum of 3 years; grants supporting other types of research training are generally awarded for 6 months to a year.

Those eligible to apply for TDR research training grants include:

- staff members of an institution that is currently receiving a TDR institution-strengthening grant or that has ceased receiving such support within the past 3 years;
- scientists from other institutions in countries where a TDR target disease is endemic, who are already engaged in research or committed to undertaking research on one or more of the TDR target diseases and whose home institution possesses the necessary research facilities;
- staff members of health ministries who are involved in the planning, implementation or evaluation of programmes set up to control a TDR target disease;
- scientists with postgraduate research training who are actively involved in postdoctoral clinical, field or laboratory research on a TDR target disease and who wish to spend up to a year in a research centre or laboratory upgrading their skills or conducting specialized experiments or data analyses;
- scientists who are registered in their own country for a PhD, whose thesis is related to a TDR target disease and who wish to spend 6 months to a year in a research centre or laboratory upgrading their skills in conducting specialized experiments or data analyses.

For further information apply: Dr J A Hashmi, TDR, WHO, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

MSc Course, Heidelberg, Germany—Community health and health management in developing countries

The Institute of Tropical Hygiene and Public Health, University of Heidelberg, offers a 1-year English language, postgraduate course in Community Health and Health Management in Developing Countries. The course aims to provide specialized training in those skills (planning, communication, organization and administration, implementation and evaluation) required to manage health care in developing countries successfully.

The course is open to medical doctors and other graduates in the health and social science sectors who have at least 2 years' working experience in community health care/management of health services in developing countries. The university reserves the right to make exceptions to this general requirement. It is expected that participants return to this type of work after the course to put their newly-acquired skills and knowledge into practice and they will be encouraged to maintain links with the Institute.

A high standard of spoken and written English is required and has to be proved by a standard test (TOEFL, minimum requirement: 550; ELTS, British Council, minimum requirement: 'band 6'). Applicants can only be exempted from this standard test if they come from a country in which English is the administrative language and/or if their higher education was in English.

A maximum of 25 participants will be accepted each year, drawn from a wide range of countries. It is intended to achieve a balance between participants from industrialized and developing countries.

The course begins 1 October each year and continues until September the following year. The application deadline is 31 December of the year preceding the course.

The curriculum is divided into 4 modules plus an introductory period. An essential additional part of the curriculum is a field-study project in a developing country in which participants will work on an actual problem faced by the health system, using methods developed during the modules. The results of this work are to be presented as a thesis which will form part of the final examination.

Enquiries to: Institut für Tropenhygiene und Öffentliches Gesundheitswesen (ITHÖG) SAI, Universität Heidelberg—Postgraduate Studies—Im Neuenheimer Feld 324, D-6900 Heidelberg 1, Germany.

Teaching and learning materials for leprosy; TALMILEP

An English language booklist of teaching and learning materials for leprosy is available from the Leprosy Mission International, 80 Windmill Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 0QH, UK. A wide range of materials is listed for leprosy specialists, general practitioners, medical students, paramedical professionals, senior health workers, nurses, junior health workers, programme managers and trainers.

Manual of training; multiple drug therapy for leprosy; The Philippines

Amongst many manuals produced by national programmes, the above one from the Philippines (1987) is notably comprehensive and well written and could be used as an example for other countries. Apart from standard, basic information, there are chapters on operational aspects of multidrug therapy, monitoring, supervision and evaluation. It is distributed by TALMILEP by the Leprosy Mission International, 80 Windmill Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 0QH, England.

Major equipment for peripheral laboratories, PATH, USA

In the series *Health Technology Directions*, the Program for Appropriate Technology for Health (PATH), 4 Nickerson Street, Seattle, WA 98109-1699, USA, has recently produced an issue on the above subject, which discusses major pieces of laboratory equipment used in district and health centre laboratories in developing countries. The information is very practical and there is a list of materials available, other resources of supply and information. Previous issues cover such topics as leprosy, tuberculosis, anaesthesia, venereal diseases, essential drugs and blood transfusion.