

Teaching Materials and Services

ALERT (All Africa Leprosy and Rehabilitation Training Centre: Courses in 1997)

Jan 13–Feb 21 Prevention and Management of Disabilities

Course aimed at qualified physiotherapists and occupational therapists as well as experienced leprosy workers involved in the prevention and care of disability. Emphasis on POD programme management and disability problem solving.

March 3–March 14 Introduction to Leprosy for Physicians

Although this course can be taken on its own, it is specifically aimed at the participants in the following 'Management of Combined Programmes' course who want to refresh their knowledge of clinical leprosy and the management of individual leprosy patients.

March 10–March 14 Introduction to Tuberculosis for Physicians

Although this course can be taken on its own, it is specifically aimed at the participants in the following 'Management of Combined Programmes' course who want to refresh their knowledge of clinical tuberculosis and the management of individual tuberculosis patients.

March 17–April 11 Management of Combined Leprosy and Tuberculosis Control Programmes for Physicians

Course aimed at experienced physicians responsible for managing a leprosy and tuberculosis control programme, preferably at the regional level or above. Participants are urged to enrol in one of the preceding introduction courses (either leprosy or tuberculosis according to their need), in order to be properly prepared for the management course.

April 14–April 25 Training Methodology

Course aimed at senior staff involved in human resource development. Emphasis on curriculum planning, learner centred teaching methods, appropriate teaching tools and course assessment.

May 5–May 16 Essentials of Leprosy and Tuberculosis for Administrative and Programme Support Staff

Course aimed at non-medical managers and administrative staff working in leprosy and TB programmes or donor agencies. Objectives: to gain a better understanding of the two diseases, to communicate more efficiently with the medical staff and to contribute more effectively in decision making and priority setting.

June 2–June 20 Tropical Dermatology for Physicians

Course aimed at physicians with experience and/or special interest in the diagnosis and management of skin diseases in Africa. Leprosy and its differential diagnosis will receive due attention.

June 23–July 11 Dermatology for Nurses and Other Paramedical Staff

Course aimed at clinical staff other than physicians, responsible for diagnosing and treating dermatological conditions. Leprosy and its differential diagnosis will receive due attention.

Sept 1–Oct 10 Essentials of Leprosy and Tuberculosis for Physicians

Introductory course aimed at physicians with limited experience in either leprosy or TB. Emphasis on clinical aspects and programme management.

Oct 20–Oct 31 Introduction to Leprosy for Senior Field Staff

Although this course can be taken on its own, it is specifically aimed at the participants in the following

'Management of Combined Programmes' course who want to refresh their knowledge of clinical leprosy and the management of individual leprosy patients.

Oct 27–Oct 31 Introduction to Tuberculosis for Senior Field Staff

Although this course can be taken on its own, it is specifically aimed at the participants in the following 'Management of Combined Programmes' course who want to refresh their knowledge of clinical tuberculosis and the management of individual tuberculosis patients.

Nov 3–Nov 28 Management of Leprosy and Tuberculosis Control Programmes for Senior Field Staff

Course aimed at experienced nurses and paramedical workers responsible for leprosy and tuberculosis control at the district (or equivalent) level. Emphasis on programme organization, support functions, supervision and evaluation.

Dec 1–Dec 12 Social Rehabilitation

Course targeting managers and planners of rehabilitation programmes. Emphasis on the reorientation of leprosy workers towards social and vocational rehabilitation, stressing community participation, sustainability and independence.

In-service training

ALERT offers excellent in-service training opportunities in physiotherapy, surgery, laboratory, dermatology, ophthalmology etc. The duration and content of the in-service training period will be arranged according to the experience and the interest of the individual trainee.

Training fees

Basic training fees, covering tuition, full board and lodging and living expenses, amount to US\$ 430 per week.

A brochure outlining course objectives and contents and more detailed training fees, together with an application form as well as a leaflet providing information about coming to ALERT, will be sent upon request.

For further information, please contact:

ALERT Training Division, P.O. Box 165, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Tel.: +(251) 1 711524 and +(251) 1 712792; Fax: +(251) 1 711199 and +(251) 1 711390; Email: alert@padis.bn.apc.org.

School of Medical Education, The University of New South Wales, Australia

The School of Medical Education is part of the Faculty of Medicine, The University of New South Wales. The World Health Organization Regional Training Centre within the School is constituted through a formal tripartite agreement between the World Health Organization, The Australian Government and The University of New South Wales.

The School contributes to the promotion of national and international health through the education and development of the health professions.

The School aims to:

- support the development of institutions and programmes for education in the health professions
- cultivate educational leadership for health promotion and development
- improve teaching and educational planning in health
- contribute to research and evaluation of education and management in the health professions
- promote staff development and in-service training in the health professions
- contribute to health workforce planning
- improve the management of human resources in health
- improve community-based education programmes in the health professions
- foster community-oriented health care in the education of health professionals.

The activities of the School include:

- postgraduate academic programmes at Masters and Doctoral levels

- specially designed programmes for short-term Fellows and visiting scholars
- workshops and seminars conducted both at the School and in the field
- evaluation, research and development activities
- consultation and technical support
- publication of learning resources and materials and maintenance of a resource library.

The School obtains funds through tuition fees, consultants' fees and contractual arrangements with WHO and other organizations. The WHO Regional Training Centre receives an annual grant from the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health (International Health).

Further information: School of Medical Education, The University of New South Wales, Sydney 2052, NSW, Australia. Fax: 61 2 385 1526.

Tropical Health Technology

Tropical Health Technology is a nonprofit organization formed to assist developing countries in the field of tropical medicine by providing low priced up-to-date publications, learning aids and microscopes.

For further details please write to: Tropical Health Technology, 14 Bevills Close, Doddington, March, Cambs PE15 0TT, UK. Fax: 44 1354 740 013; Tel: 44 1354 740 825.

Free books from: Italian NGO Amici de Raoul Follereau (AIFO)

AIFO has the following publications available free of cost:

Community-based rehabilitation: country experiences, Human mycosis in tropical countries, VI symposium on leprosy research, Disability & Developing countries: which rehabilitation, Health laboratories in developing countries, Leprosy control in developed countries, Innovations in developing countries for persons with disabilities.

Anyone wishing to receive any of these should write to: AIFO, Via Borselli No. 4, Bologna 40135, Italy. Fax: 39 51 43 40 46; email: aifo@iperbole.bologna.it.

Leprosy; basic information and management (Ciba-Geigy) now in Chinese

Dr Hsu-Mei Hsu, Deputy Director, *Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, Department of Health*, The Executive Yuan, 100, Al Kuo Road, Taipei, Taiwan, ROC, has recently sent copies of the above Ciba-Geigy booklet, translated into Chinese. The original aim of this booklet (43 pages) was to provide basic information in relatively simple terms for nonmedical readers, including community readers, social workers, teachers, students and journalists. It has also been found acceptable to some grades of paramedical workers and nurses. Since the first edition in 1987, many thousands of copies have been distributed worldwide and translations made in French, Spanish, Indonesian, Bengali and Urdu. The new translation in Chinese has already been distributed to 5000 workers in Taiwan in health bureaux, leprosy institutes, dermatologists and hospitals. Copies are available from Dr Hsu-Mei Hsu at the above address.

Geographic Information Systems

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based on mapping from space satellites are being increasingly used in international public health to define the spatial relationships between disease distribution, health care systems and environmental factors. They enable information from one sector (such as safe water

supply, or education) to be combined with information from other sectors (such as health) to provide a comprehensive picture of the situation in a given community, district or country. This makes it easier to set priorities for control and surveillance activities, to plan effective control strategies and to conserve scarce resources.

Of particular interest to LEP is computerized mapping, whereby the distribution of 'pockets' of leprosy prevalence not yet fully covered by MDT can be instantly visualized and monitored. Inventories of comparable geographical data such as administrative boundaries and the location of villages can be made available for each selected country, with related databases comprising health infrastructure, disease indicators and so forth.

To take one example of its use: suppose we need to know the density of patients and the coverage with MDT in a given country. The data sent in by each leprosy unit concerned will be stored and updated at least once a month. In India alone, there are 64,000 leprosy points, so not all of them will have sent data. But those which have will suffice to give an immediate picture of the current situation throughout that country. The network will in effect provide a map of the epidemiology of leprosy, essential for accurate monitoring of the progress towards elimination.

Source: *LEPNews*, Vol. 5, No. 1, 1996, WHO, Geneva.

CMB/LEPRA Ophthalmic Course, Karigiri, India, 1996

The eleventh annual five-day ophthalmic teaching module was held at the Schieffelin Leprosy Research and Training Centre, Karigiri from 4 to 9 March 1996. The course, which was again sponsored jointly by the Christoffel Blindenmission and LEPRA, was designed to give instruction to leprologists on the detection, prevention and management of the ocular complications of leprosy by means of a series of lectures and videos, clinical and surgical demonstrations and a field trip.

Teaching included presentations on basic anatomy, physiology and pathology of the eye with special emphasis on leprosy: in addition there were lectures on the clinical signs and management of lagophthalmos, corneal ulcers, intraocular inflammation and infiltrative lesions, together with discussions on 'high risk eyes', ocular manifestations of relapsed disease, rehabilitation and the global aspects of blindness in leprosy.

The course, which was attended by fifteen participants working in India, Bangladesh and Thailand, was organised and run by Dr Margaret Brand of The Leprosy Mission, Dr Ebenezer Daniel of Karigiri and Mr Timothy ffytche from St Thomas's Hospital, London together with the assistance of several members of the staff of the Centre.

The Director of Karigiri, Dr P. S. S. Sundar Rao, is to be thanked for his continued support for this important and popular contribution to teaching.