

SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases SBD-RESP na busca ativa de casos de hanseníase

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Abstract: BACKGROUND: The Brazilian Society of Dermatology of the State of Sao Paulo (SBD-RESP), supported by the Sao Paulo State Foundation Against Leprosy and acting jointly with Sao Paulo State Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, launched the campaign "SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases".

OBJECTIVES: To assist the National Leprosy Control Program in eliminating Hansen's disease.

METHODS: All of the Sao Paulo State Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, were invited to join the campaign. The 17 Services which accepted to participate received a spreadsheet of data and models of informative materials about the disease. The campaign lasted from May to July 2010. At the end of the campaign, each Service sent the spreadsheet data for statistical analysis.

RESULTS: 1,718 people were examined and 90 cases of Hansen's disease were diagnosed. Most of the individuals infected were male and white and presented similar percentages of multibacillary and paucibacillary groups. Twelve percent had a family history of leprosy. The highest number of cases was detected in Sao Paulo city, followed by the region of Presidente Prudente, located in the countryside of Sao Paulo State. The detection rate in children younger than 15 years old was 4%. CONCLUSION: The campaign results show the importance of the SBD-RESP initiative. It is suggested that similar actions be repeated and extended to other regional offices of the Brazilian Society of Dermatology.

Keywords: Communicable disease prevention; Diagnosis; Epidemiology; Leprosy;

Resumo: FUNDAMENTOS: A Sociedade Brasileira de Dermatologia Regional do Estado de São Paulo (SBD-RESP), apoiada pela Fundação Paulista Contra a Hanseníase, e em ação conjunta com os Serviços de Dermatologia do estado de São Paulo, credenciados pela Sociedade Brasileira de Dermatologia, lançou a campanha "SBD-RESP na Busca Ativa de Casos de Hanseníase".

OBJETIVOS: Auxiliar o Programa Nacional de Controle da Hanseníase no controle da doença.

MÉTODO: Todos os Serviços de Dermatologia do estado de São Paulo, credenciados pela Sociedade Brasileira de Dermatologia, foram convidados e os 17 que participaram receberam uma planilha de dados e modelos de materiais informativos sobre a doença. A campanha foi realizada entre os meses de maio e julho de 2010. Ao término do período, cada serviço encaminhou a planilha de dados para análise estatística.

RESULTADOS: Foram examinadas 1718 pessoas e diagnosticados, no total, 90 casos de hanseníase, a maioria do gênero masculino e da cor branca, com percentuais semelhantes de multibacilares e de paucibacilares. Doze por cento apresentavam história familiar de hanseníase. O maior número de casos detectados foi na capital, seguido, no interior, pela região de Presidente Prudente. O índice de detecção em menores de 15 anos foi 4%.

CONCLUSÕES: Os resultados da campanha mostram a importância desta iniciativa da SBD-RESP. Sugere-se que ações semelhantes sejam repetidas e que se estendam a outras regionais da Sociedade Brasileira de Dermatologia.

Palavras-chave: Diagnóstico; Epidemiologia; Hanseníase; Prevenção de doenças transmissíveis

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INTRODUCTION

The prevalence of leprosy registered by the World Health Organization at the end of the first quarter of 2010 was 38,179 cases in Brazil, with 37,610 new cases detected in 2009. Of these cases, 21,414 were multibacillary and 2,669 affected children younger than 15 years old.¹ The strategy of the National Leprosy Control Program (PNCH) is based on early detection and prompt treatment of new cases in order to eliminate sources of infection and prevent sequelae. Integrated services and partnerships sustain actions to control the endemic disease.²

The Brazilian Society of Dermatology of the State of Sao Paulo (SBD-RESP), supported by the Sao Paulo State Foundation Against Leprosy and acting jointly with the Sao Paulo State Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, launched the campaign “SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases”, with the aim of helping to eliminate the disease.

METHOD

All Services of Dermatology in the state of Sao Paulo, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, were invited to participate by means of a letter. The 17 Services that participated in the campaign received a data spreadsheet, elaborated for the campaign, and models of informative material about the disease, which were donated by the Sao Paulo State Health Secretariat. The advertisement of the campaign was advised by a communications company hired by the SBD-RESP. Each Head of Service appointed a local coordinator, who was responsible for conducting the campaign in the Service. The campaign was carried out in a personalized way in each Service between the months of May and July 2010. At the end of this time period, each Service sent the spreadsheet

with data on the respective observed cases for statistical analysis.

RESULTS

A total of 1,718 people were examined. The results of the analysis in terms of the number of people examined per region of the state of Sao Paulo and respective accredited Services are found in Chart 1.

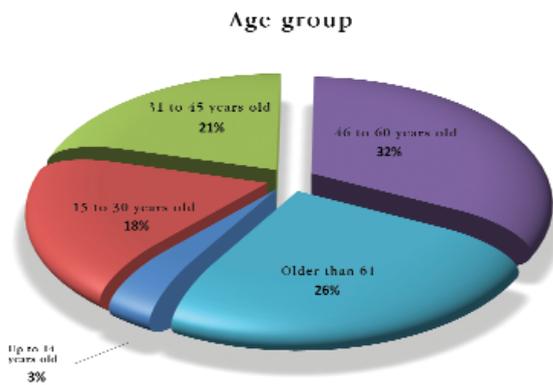
It is observed from Table 1 that the Service in Sao Jose do Rio Preto examined the largest number of people (25% of the total).

Among the people examined, there were predominantly females (61%) compared to males (39%). Of these individuals, 59% were white, 33% were mixed-raced (pardo), 7% were black and 1% was yellow (East Asians). In terms of age, 6% were younger than 14 years old, 15% were between 15 and 30 years old, 22% were between 31 and 45, 30% were between 46 and 60 and 27% were older than 61. Ninety percent of these individuals had no family history of leprosy.

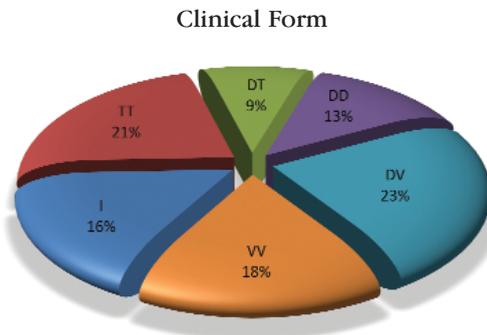
In total, 90 cases of leprosy were diagnosed, 59% of males and 41% of females; of these 61% were white, 31% were mixed-raced (pardo), 6% were black and 2% were yellow (East Asians). Twelve percent had a family history of leprosy. The percentage of diagnosed cases according to age and clinical form of the disease are presented in Graphs 1 and 2 respectively.

Chart 2 shows the results of the analysis regarding number of diagnosed cases per region of the state of Sao Paulo and its respective accredited Services. The percentage of cases detected per region in the state of Sao Paulo can be seen in Graph 3.

Figure 1 illustrates the distribution of the number of leprosy cases detected during the campaign on the map of the state of Sao Paulo.



GRAPH 1: Distribution of percentage of leprosy cases detected by the Sao Paulo State Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, according to age. SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases, 2010



GRAPH 2: Distribution of number of leprosy cases detected by the Sao Paulo State Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, according to clinical form of the disease. SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases, 2010

CHART 1: Total number of examined people per region in the state of Sao Paulo and respective Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology. SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases, 2010

REGION	ACCREDITED SERVICE OF SAO PAULO	NUMBER OF DIAGNOSED CASES	
		Total per Region	Total per Service
SÃO PAULO CAPITAL	Heliópolis Hospital Complex	359	1
	Clinics Hospital – FMUSP		315
	Sao Paulo’s School of Medicine		2
	Irmandade Santa Casa de Misericordia,		41
	Botucatu Medical School - UNESP		
ABC	Medicine College of the ABC Region	52	52
SANTOS	Lusiadas Foundation – Lusiadas University Center	28	28
SÃO JOSÉ DOS CAMPOS	Padre Bento Hospital Complex – Guarulhos	289	21
	Mogi das Cruzes University		10
	Luiza Pinho Melo Hospital		
	University Hospital of Taubate		258
SOROCABA			0
CAMPINAS	Celso Pierro Hospital and Maternity, Pontifical Catholic University (PUC) – University of Campinas, UNICAMP	154	110
			44
RIBEIRÃO PRETO	Medicine College of Ribeirao Preto – Clinics Hospital of Ribeirao Preto	6	6
BAURU E BOTUCATU	Lauro de Souza Lima Institute	52	45
	Medicine College of Botucatu – UNESP		7
SÃO JOSE DO RIO PRETO	Medicine College of Sao Jose do Rio Preto)	435	435
PRESIDENTE PRUDENTE	University of Oeste Paulista, Regional Hospital of Presidente Prudente	260	260
MARILIA	Medicine College of Marilia	83	83
TOTAL		1718	1718

DISCUSSION

The Southeast region of Brazil has already achieved the goal of elimination of leprosy (prevalence rate in 2005: 0.60 per 10,000 inhabitants); however, the distribution of the disease, as in the entire country, is uneven in the areas of this region, including Sao Paulo state.³ The detection rate of new cases in this state was 5.21 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2008, with 2,318 registered cases,⁴ downward trend, and a rate below that of Brazil and the Southeast region.⁵

The majority (42%) of the municipalities present detection rates lower than 2 cases/100,000 inhabitants, but 25% still have high endemicity. The municipalities in areas bordering the states of Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais and Parana are in this situation, with President Venceslau in first place, followed by Caraguatatuba and Jales.⁴ Other municipalities with high rates are Araçatuba, Barretos and Presidente Prudente. In accordance with these data, the cam-

CHART 2: Total number of leprosy cases diagnosed per region in the state of Sao Paulo and respective Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology. SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases, 2010

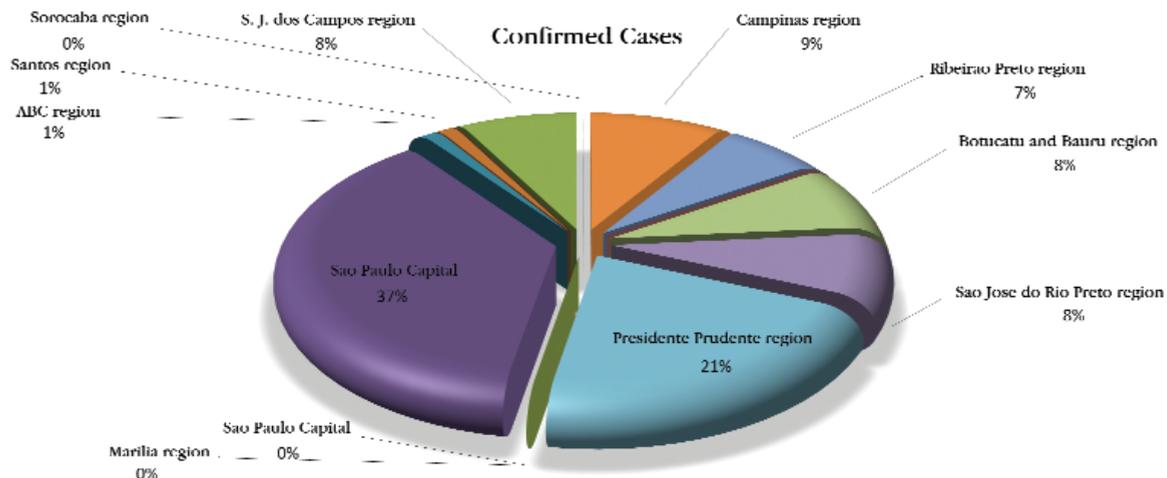
REGION	ACCREDITED SERVICE /SP	NUMBER OF DIAGNOSED CASES	
		Total cases per Region	Total cases per Service
SÃO PAULO CAPITAL	Heliópolis Hospital Complex	33	1
	Clinics Hospital – FMUSP		26
	Sao Paulo’s School of Medicine		2
	Irmandade Santa Casa de Misericórdia		4
ABC	Faculdade de Medicina do ABC	1	1
SANTOS	Lusiadas Foundation –	1	1
	Lusiadas University Center		
SÃO J. DOS CAMPOS	Padre Bento Hospital Complex – Guarulhos	7	0
	Mogi das Cruzes University –		1
	Luiza Pinho Melo Hospital		
	University Hospital of Taubate		6
SOROCABA			0
CAMPINAS	Celso Pierro Hospital and Maternity,	9	8
	Pontifical Catholic University (PUC) - University of Campinas – UNICAMP		1
RIBEIRÃO PRETO	Medicine College of Ribeirao Preto – Clinics Hospital of Ribeirao Preto	6	6
BAURU E BOTUCATU	Lauro de Souza Lima Institute	7	2
	Medicine College of Botucatu – UNESP	5	
SÃO J. DO R. PRETO	Medicine College of Sao Jose do Rio Preto	7	7
PRES. PRUDENTE	University of Oeste Paulista, Regional Hospital of Presidente Prudente	19	19
MARILIA	Medicine College of Marilia	0	0
TOTAL		90	90

paign detected a large number of cases in the region of Presidente Prudente, but also showed high rates in sectors of the capital, noticeably 19 cases diagnosed by the Service of the Clinics Hospital of the Medicine College of the University of Sao Paulo during an action carried out in the Community of Brasília.

As observed in Brazil, the distribution of cases detected during the campaign was greater among males and the percentage of multibacillary and paucibacillary reached similar levels. The percentage of detection in children younger than 15 years old was 4%, similar to the rate of 3.8% reported in the state of Sao Paulo in 2007.²

CONCLUSION

The 90 cases detected, besides the possible existence of additional cases among household contacts, show the importance of the SBD-RESP initiative. The Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, have a large number of highly skilled dermatologists apt to diagnose leprosy. It is suggested that similar actions be undertaken in the future by the subsequent administrations of the SBD-RESP and that they be extended to other regional offices of the Brazilian Society of Dermatology. □



GRAPH 3: Distribution of percentage of leprosy cases detected by the Sao Paulo State Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, according to regions in the state. SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases, 2010

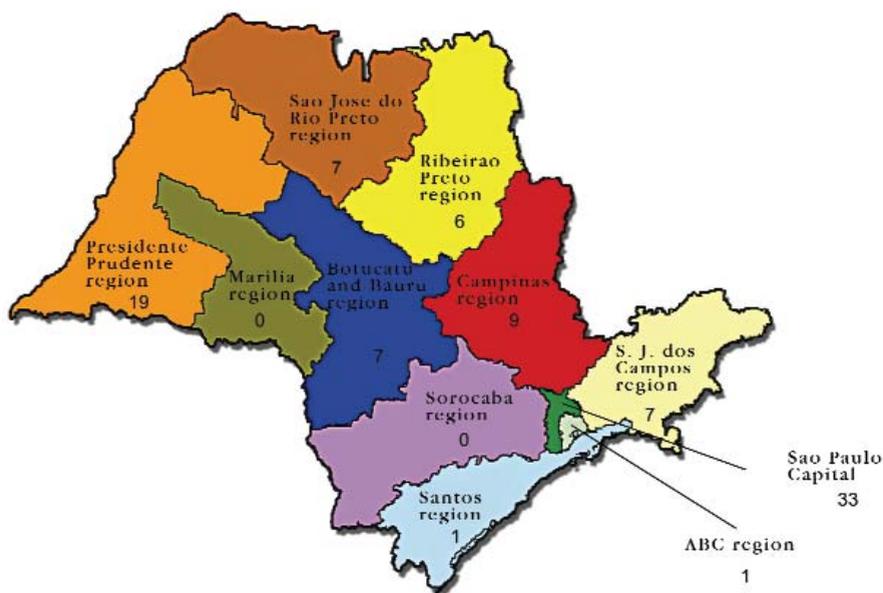


FIGURE 1: Distribution of number of leprosy cases detected by the Services of Dermatology, accredited by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology, on the map of Sao Paulo. SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases, 2010

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This report by the Brazilian Society of Dermatology of the State of Sao Paulo shows the results of the campaign "SBD-RESP in active search for leprosy cases," carried out by the accredited Services of Dermatology of this state during the 2010 administration of the SBD-RESP. It was drafted by the coordinators of the campaign, Dr. Marilda Aparecida Milanez Morgado de Abreu and Dr. Joel Carlos Lastória.

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