


Delay in presentation and start of treatment in leprosy patients: a case control study of disabled patients in three different settings in Ethiopia

International journal of leprosy and other mycobacterial diseases; March 1998

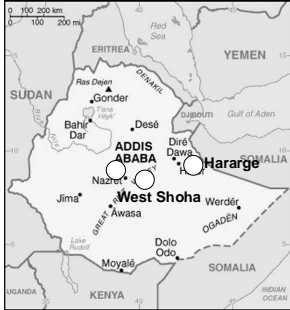
DTMPH, April 2007



The research question

Which are the factors that contribute to delay in presentation and start of treatment in leprosy patients in the three different settings in Ethiopia?

METHODS: Case control study



Cases: Disability score 2
Controls: Disability score 0

questionary

Time frame: 10 years

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

- AGE
- SEX
- RELIGION
- EDUCATION
- SYMPTOMS
- DELAY IN TREATMENT

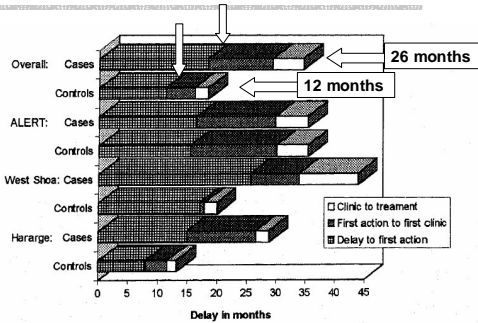
USE OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

- DISTANCE FROM THE CLINIC
- KNOW A PATIENT WITH LEPROSY
- KNOWLEDGE AND ACTITUDE
- EFFECT OF HEALTH EDUCATION

DELAY "A" DELAY "B" DELAY "C"

First symptom First action First clinic visit Start of treatment

The results:



Overall: Cases 26 months, Controls 12 months

ALERT: Cases, Controls

West Shoa: Cases, Controls

Hararge: Cases, Controls

Legend: □ Clinic to treatment, ■ First action to first clinic, ▨ Delay to first action

	CASES	CONTROLS	
Age	OLDER	YOUNGER	
Sex	NO SIGNIFICATIVE DIFFERENCE		
Education	ILITERATE	LITERATE	
Religion	CHRISTIANS	MUSLIM	
Skin lesion as first symptom	55%	82%	P<0.000005
Never used traditional medicine	32%	55%	P<0.005
Distance from the clinic	LESS IN CASES THAN IN CONTROLS		
Knowledge and attitude	NO DIFFERENCES IN BOTH CASES AND CONTROL		
Exposure to health education	JUST 10% OF BOTH CASES AND CONTROL HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO HEALTH EDUCATION		

