

SOURCE OF INFECTION

→ nasal reproduction or ulcerated lesions of patients.

LEPROSY:

5-7 years incubation

- Chronic Granulomatous, slowly progressive - destructive infection caused by - Mycobacterium leprae.
- weakly Acid-fast organism
- Transmitted through Aerosols.
- Inhaled & taken up by Alveolar macrophage.
- Prolifere at low temperatures. (cannot be cultured on Artificial method)
- Antigen in lepra Bacilli $\begin{cases} \text{PGL-1} \\ \text{LAM} \end{cases}$

MODE OF TRANSMISSION:

- ⇒ Inoculation / Inhalation → Aerosols from lesion in the NRT inhaled & leprae taken up by Alveolar Macrophages & disseminated through the blood.
- ⇒ Intimate contact → transmitted by intimate contact for many years with untreated leprosy patients.

CLASSIFICATION:

WHO classification:

- Paucibacillary - Patient with few organisms in their tissue.
- Multibacillary - patient with large number of organisms.

RIDLEY - JOPLING'S CLASSIFICATION:

- TT - Tuberculoid leprosy (High Resistance)
- BT - Borderline Tuberculoid
- BB - Mid borderline
- BL - Borderline lepromatous.
- LL - lepromatous leprosy.