Introduction:

The Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute (CLT&RI), Chengalpattu was originally established in 1955 by the Government of India under a Governing Body by taking over Lady Wellington Leprosy Sanatorium established in 1924. Later, in 1974, Govt. of India had made CLT&RI as a subordinate office of Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare with an objective to provide diagnostic, treatment and referral services to leprosy patients, trained manpower development for leprosy, control / elimination besides, research on various aspects of leprosy and its control. It has separate wings of Epidemiology and Statistics, Clinical, Medicine, Microbiology and Bio-chemistry laboratories with Animal House facilities, Surgery and Physiotherapy. This institute caters to both indoor and outdoor patients. The hospital has bed capacity of 124 patients. This Institute is also recognized as one of the nodal center by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI), DGHS, Govt. of India for conducting Health Statistics training course for Medical Officers.

Objectives:

1. To undertake research in basic problems relating to the occurrence and spread and complication of leprosy.
2. To train manpower necessary to implement NLEP
3. To provide specialized services for diagnosis of leprosy, reaction, relapse and Reconstructive of surgery
4. To monitor and evaluate National Leprosy Eradication Programme
5. To function as a pivotal center for promoting anti leprosy work in the country

Training:
The institute is actively involved in the training of Laboratory Technician (one year course), Physiotherapy Technician (9 months course), District Medical Officer (5-days), Reconstructive surgery (one month), Medical Officer (5-days), Non-Medical Supervisor (2 months), Health Statistics (3 days) and CRRI (5-days). In addition to this a special one day training for various medical and non-medical personnel are also conducted at CLTRI.

Indoor Patient data:

Hospitalized patients include cases of Multi Drug Therapy (MDT) complication, reaction, ulcer management, reconstructive surgery required cases and Prevention of Deformity (POD) management cases. In-patients service also includes expertise management of lepra-reactions with steroids/thalidomide and investigation for drug relapse / resistance. Currently CLT & RI is investigating cases of suspected relapse / treatment failures for drug resistance use Mouse Food Pad (MFP) technique and also modern PCR based molecular methods.

Out Patient Department (OPD)

OPD provide services for diagnosis of leprosy, relapse, reaction and manageable general disease of RFT cases. On average 50 patients are attending OPD daily.

Rural Field Operation Area

The Rural Field Operation Area (RFOA) covers a population of 1,50,000 in 62 villages situated in and around Kunnathur of Sriperumpudur Taluk in Kancheepuram District of Tamil Nadu in the outskirts of Chennai. After the elimination of leprosy, IEC activites are undertaken in RFOA. Cases requiring POD care are examined and self-care practices imparted. This RFOA is also being used for training activities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

CLTRI has developed a software - Computerised Simplified Information System (CSIS) for effective monitoring and evaluation of leprosy in collaboration with DGHS and WHO for implementing in all State Leprosy Office. The training programme has been completed and implemented in all State Leprosy Office since April 2007.

Research Activities:
(i) Leprosy:

- Study on surveillance of Rifampicin Resistance among Multibacillary cases of relapse using Mouse
- Footpad and Molecular biological techniques.
- Application of PCR for the diagnosis of leprosy
- Application of PCR for the detection of Sub-clinical infection

(ii) Tuberculosis:

- Comparison of Molecular biological techniques and conventional bacteriological techniques in the diagnosis of Extra Pulmonary Tuberculosis using different samples.
- Application of PCR - SSCP for the rapid detection of Rifampicin Resistance among M.tuberculosis using extra pulmonary samples.

Future Plan:

In view of the declining of leprosy and achievement of elimination of leprosy, the focus is shifting towards disability cases. CLTRI is proposed to conduct Reconstructive Surgery in 9 PMR Institutes in India.

Staff strength:

The Institute has 283 sanctioned posts and 193 are in position viz. (Gr.A-13, Gr.B-17, Gr.C-92 and Gr.D-71)

Budget:

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