

# Leprosy

COMMON NAME: Hansen's disease

## Clinical Description:

A chronic bacterial disease characterized by the involvement of primarily skin as well as peripheral nerves and the mucosa of the upper airway. The following characteristics are typical of the major forms of the disease, though these classifications are assigned after a case has been laboratory confirmed.

Tuberculoid: An illness characterized by one or a few well-demarcated, hypopigmented, and hypoesthetic or anesthetic skin lesions; frequently with active, spreading edges and a clearing center; peripheral nerve swelling or thickening also may occur.

Lepromatous: An illness characterized by a number of erythematous papules and nodules or an infiltration of the face, hands, and feet with lesions in a bilateral and symmetrical distribution that progress to thickening of the skin, possibly with reduced sensation.

Borderline (dimorphous): An illness characterized by skin lesions characteristic of both the tuberculoid and lepromatous forms.

Indeterminate: An illness characterized by early lesions, usually hypopigmented macules, without developed tuberculoid or lepromatous features, but with definite identification of acid-fast bacilli in Fite-stained sections.

## Required Comments to Document:

- Document the clinical form of the disease.
- Document the source of infection, if known.

