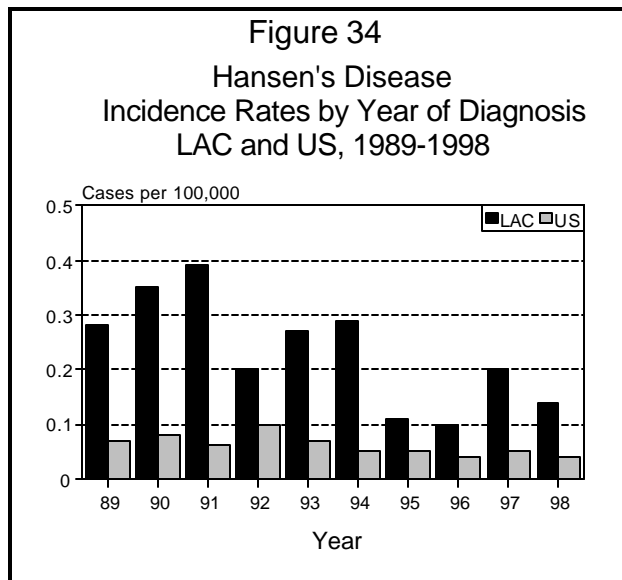


HANSEN'S DISEASE (LEPROSY)

CRUDE DATA	
Number of Cases	13
Annual Incidence ^a	
LA County	0.14
California	0.12
United States	0.04
Age at Diagnosis	
Mean	51
Median	45
Range	24-90 yrs
Case Fatality	
LA County	0.0%
United States	N/A

^aCases per 100,000 population.



ETIOLOGY

Mycobacterium leprae, an acid-fast gram-positive bacillus.

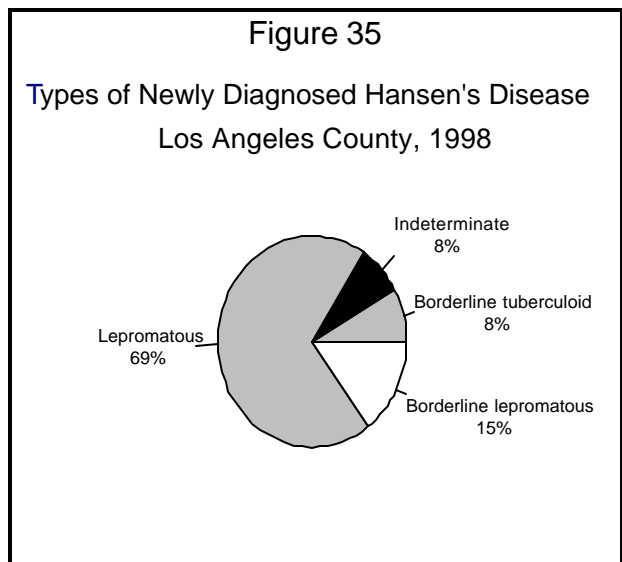
DISEASE ABSTRACT

The 1998 incidence rate of Hansen's disease decreased from last year. The majority of cases were Hispanic males (40%). In LAC, the lepromatous form of disease is the most common (Figure 35).

STRATIFIED DATA

Trends: The incidence of Hansen's disease declined 30% from 0.20 cases per 100,000 population in 1997 to 0.14 in 1998 (Figure 34).

Age: The average age at the time of diagnosis is 51 years. The highest incidence rate was observed in the 65+ age group (0.47 cases per 100,000 population). Due to insidious progression of disease, onset date of illness is imprecise and may be several years prior to first physician visit.



Sex: The male-to-female rate ratio was 2:1.

Race/Ethnicity: As in previous years, cases were mainly Asians (5 cases) and Hispanics (8 cases) who had emigrated from countries with endemic Hansen's disease. Of the Asian cases, two were from Southeast Asia and three from the Philippines. All Hispanic cases were from Mexico.

Location: All Hansen's disease cases acquired illness outside the US.

Comments: The Acute Communicable Disease Control Unit maintains a Hansen's disease registry of all patients in LAC who are currently receiving or should be receiving medical follow-up for this disease. In 1998, there were a total of 341 Hansen's disease cases under medical care in LAC. Patients are monitored until they (1) no longer require medical supervision, (2) move out of LAC, (3) are lost to follow-up, or (4) die.

Hansen's Disease
by
Grace Run

Final Draft
07/13/99