

Clinical aspects of the Ridley-Jopling classification of Leprosy according to immunity

Observation or test	Type of leprosy				
	TT	BT	BB	BL	LL
Number of lesions	Single usually	Single or few	Several	Many	Very many
Size of lesions	Variable	Variable	Variable	Variable	Small
Surface of lesions	Very dry, sometimes scaly	Dry	Slightly shiny	Shiny	Shiny
Sensation in lesions (not face)	Absent	Moderately or markedly diminished	Slightly or moderately diminished	Slightly diminished	Not affected or minimally affected
Hair growth in lesions	Absent	Markedly diminished	Moderately diminished	Slightly diminished	Not affected
AFB in lesions	Nil	Nil or scanty	Moderate numbers	Many	Very many (plus globi)
AFB in nasal scraping or in nose blows	Nil	Nil	Nil	Usually nil	Very many (plus globi)
Lepromin test	Strongly positive (+++)	Weakly positive (+ or ++)	Negative	Negative	Negative

AFB= Acid-fast bacilli; TT=Tuberculoid; BT= Borderline tuberculoid; BB= Mid-borderline; BL= Borderline lepromatous; LL=Lepromatous;

Note: 1) **PB**= Paucibacillary (1-5 skin lesions/ single nerve trunk); **MB** (6 or more skin lesions/ 2 or more nerve trunks)

- 2) **Indeterminate Leprosy:** single or few asymmetrically located macules with vague/doubtful sensory impairment considered and treated as PB leprosy. The immunological status of these patients are in evolution and not stable/settled
- 3) **Pure Neural Leprosy:** Some patients have a clinical form of disease limited to nerve involvement alone. They may be of PB type – if only one nerve trunk is affected or of MB type when more than one nerve trunk is affected. These patients can be classified in the Ridley-Jopling scale on analysis of AFB, Lepromin, Granuloma type etc. in the nerve biopsies.