Abstract: Background & Objectives: Leprosy or Hansen's disease is a chronic infection which appears with cutaneous and neurological symptoms but also contains a vast range of clinical symptoms. Although this disease exists endemically, but in the recent years, there is a decrease in its amount all around the world and in Iran. Nowadays, because of the no accurate investigation about this disease, the present study investigates directly that in Iran.

Methods: The present research is a descriptive and analytical study which is conducted through visiting the Bababaghi Sanatorium of Tabriz, the only national centre related to people suffering from leprosy in 2010.

Results: Totally, there were 211 people in Bababaghi Sanatorium of Tabriz who suffer from leprosy, consisting of 112 male (53%) and 99 female (47%). Since 2001, according to the laboratory methods approximately 2 people in average are recognized as positive cases, annually. But there is a decrease in total cases each year. The age average of patients was 55 and the most number of them were in a range of 50-65. Prevalence of the disease was heavier around the Ahar and Kaleybar regions. Two major forms of the disease were lepromatous leprosy (LL) and borderline lepromatous leprosy (BL).

Discussion & Conclusions: Although leprosy has been reported as an endemic disease in north western part of the country, in previous studies, but according to criteria of the World Health Organization, this disease is going to be vanished and it seems that even adding the probable cases of leprosy detection cannot change this result. It is necessary to investigate the reasons and factors of these findings.

Leprosy, Bababaghi Sanatorium, Hansen's disease, Endemic Disease

Presentation: Poster