

BOOK REVIEWS

Questions and Answers on the Implementation of Multiple Drug Therapy (MDT) for Leprosy. 3rd ed. Oxfam's Practical Guide No. 3. Oxford: Oxfam Health Unit, 1987. £1.75 plus postage and packing, quantity discounts available.

The third edition of *Questions and Answers on the Implementation of Multiple Drug Therapy (MDT) for Leprosy* is now available, in English, and can be bought separately from the Oxfam Mini-Pack of teaching-learning materials for leprosy. (The second edition is available in Portuguese.)

The book considers 18 key questions covering all of the important issues which may arise in the implementation of MDT. There are also eight appendices dealing with various aspects of program planning, examination of slit-skin smears, and the recording of the site of lesions on a grid diagram of the human body.

The Oxfam Health Unit, in association with the British Leprosy Relief Association (LEPRA), has produced a Mini-Pack of materials for leprosy which includes eight books, all of which are considered to be of direct importance to the safe and effective implementation of MDT as recommended by WHO for patients with all types of leprosy.

To order the 3rd edition of *Questions and Answers on the Implementation of MDT* or the Mini-Pack, contact: Oxfam Publications Department, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ, U.K.

Tropical Disease Research: A Global Partnership. Eighth Programme Report: the First Ten Years, with Highlights of the 1985–86 Biennium. Geneva: World Health Organization, 1987. Available in English, 192+ pages, US\$27.00.

This volume describes and evaluates the activities of the UNDP/World Bank/WHO

Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) during its first decade, with highlights of research conducted during the 1985–1986 biennium.

The book opens with detailed profiles of progress in controlling each of the six groups of major tropical diseases within the program's mandate: malaria, schistosomiasis, river blindness and lymphatic filariasis, sleeping sickness and Chagas' disease, the leishmaniases, and leprosy. For each, information on frequency, causes, and major impediments to control is followed by an overview of advances in research that have contributed to the development of vaccines, drugs, diagnostic tests, and other disease control tools. Each chapter also provides a fascinating account of the diversity of approaches, whether reflected in the design of simple insect traps or in the use of new tools from molecular biology, that have been exploited by researchers working within the TDR global network.

Other chapters interpret the relevance of evolving concepts and techniques in the biological sciences, highlight research on the biological control of vectors, and discuss the contribution of epidemiological research to the understanding of tropical diseases. The book concludes with chapters summarizing social and economic research, research capability strengthening in developing endemic countries, and the management and financing of the program.

Richly illustrated in color, with tables, charts, and figures, the book will be useful to all students, researchers, and health administrators interested in seeing how this unique venture in technical cooperation has worked to catalyze and coordinate worldwide research on the control of major tropical diseases.—(WHO Publication Notice)