

SONIDO, A. (2011). Domiciliary Health Care Practices for Hansenites. Lorma Colleges, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Keywords: *Hansenite Care, Domiciliary Care, Hansen's Disease, Leprosy, Health Care Practices*

Abstract:

The study determined the domiciliary health care practices for hansenites in the City of San Fernando, La Union along prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation as well as the problems met along such dimensions, and the stage of affliction of hansenites. This study involved the primary caregivers of 73 hansenites in the city as recorded by the City Health Office from year 2000 to August, 2010.

Results revealed that along prevention, hygienic practices were emphasized; along treatment, regular medical checkup and sustained therapy were the focus; and in rehabilitation, several practices were implemented along physiological, psychological, socio- cultural and spiritual dimensions but the spiritual aspect prevailed.

The study also showed that most hansenites were in early stage of leprosy. Advanced cases with visible disabilities were also present.

Problems encountered by domiciliary care providers along the three dimensions are varied but lack of knowledge and stigmatization are common. MDT shortage was also identified.

Information- Education Campaign (IEC) materials for domiciliary health care providers of hansenites were proposed. The domiciliary health care providers, family members, and hansenites alike were informed of the recommended health care practices along prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation.

