



## **About Terminology**

The National Hansen's Disease Museum would like to address terminology concerns and is suggesting that you use the new term Hansen's disease to describe the clinical condition of leprosy. Some people believe that using the term Hansen's disease is helpful in reducing the social stigma often associated with this disease.

The word "leper" is now considered in medical disrepute, and it is not used at all with those familiar with the problem. Similar terms such as "leper colony" are also no longer appropriate when discussing this disease and its management.