

# 1 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL MODEL FOR PEDIATRICS PATIENTS WITH LEPROSY 2 INFECTION 3

## 4 **Abstract**

5 Leprosy Infection (LI) is a long-term chronic infectious disease caused by the bacterium  
6 *Mycobacterium leprae* or *Mycobacterium lepromatosis*. This infectious disease has caused  
7 the public issue in many countries around the globe. The disease is prevalent among the  
8 adults, although there are now cases of the minor contacting this disease through household  
9 contact which is the primary source of infection such as (babysitters, neighbors). The  
10 emerging and reemerging diseases have led to a revived interest in infectious diseases in  
11 which mathematical models have become important tools in analyzing the spread and control  
12 of infectious diseases. Mathematical models are used in comparing, planning, implementing,  
13 evaluating and optimizing various detection, prevention therapy, and control programs, the  
14 model provides conceptual results such as threshold and basic reproduction number. In this  
15 paper, the Passive Immunity Pediatrics (M) - susceptible- Exposed-infected-recovered-  
16 susceptible (MSEIRS) model was adopted to depict the spread of infections in our  
17 environment.

18 **Keywords: Mathematical Model, Basic Reproductive Number, Pediatrics Patients,**  
19 **Leprosy Infection.**

## 20 21 **1.0 Introduction**

22 The model uses the principles of epidemiological models, the idea is to investigate the  
23 particular details of an infection and express how individuals are progressing through a set of  
24 states at different rates. Leprosy is spread through a cough or contact with fluid from the  
25 nose of an infected person. [1] It occurs more commonly among those living in the rural area  
26 with extreme poverty, although, it is not highly contagious. Although, tuberculosis (TB) is not  
27 as prevalence as it was before now; the doctors do not take TB disease serious even when  
28 evaluating patients who have symptoms. [2] This resulted in the delay in diagnosis of TB disease  
29 in patients and the patient may sick and possibly infectious for a prolonged period [3] There are  
30 two main types of leprosy disease which are based on the number of bacteria present:  
31 paucibacillary and multibacillary.[4] The two are differentiated by the number of poorly  
32 pigmented, numb skin patches present, with paucibacillary having five or fewer and  
33 multibacillary having more than five. Also, acid-fast bacilli can be used in the diagnosis  
34 biopsy of the skin or the use of polymerase chain reaction for detecting the DNA.

35  
36 The greatest risk factor for been infected is been in contact with another case of leprosy, been  
37 in contacts with people living with leprosy are five to eight times more likely to develop  
38 leprosy than members of the general population. Other risk factors are conditions that reduce  
39 immune function, such malnutrition other illness, or host genetic differences which may  
40 increase the risk of developing leprosy (5). These led to the need to development an effective  
41 and efficient epidemiological model that can be used to reduce the factors that are responsible  
42 for the prevalence of the disease in other to reduce leprosy infection. The epidemiological  
43 model which involves the individuals transition from a Passive Immunity to Susceptible state  
44 to Latent period to an Infectious one to a Recovered state at a certain rate, and become  
45 Susceptible again at a different rate. This model is called the MSEIRS model, because  
46 individuals move between them M (Passive Immunity in paediatrics), E (Latent period) S  
47 (Susceptible) and I (Infectious states) R (Recovered).

48 The Passive Immunity for pediatrics - Susceptible – Latent - Infected – Recovered-  
49 Susceptible (MSEIRS) model was introduced by Kermack and McKendrick, in 1927 (6). In

50 the model, the population is divided into three distinct groups of: the Passive Immunity for  
 51 Infant (M), Latent period (E), Susceptible (S), Infected (I) and Recovered (R) where M, E, S,  
 52 I and R represent the number of children in each of the groups respectively and the total  
 53 population  $N = M + E + S + I + R$ . The Susceptibles are those who are not infected and  
 54 not immune, the Infecteds are those who are infected and can transmit the disease, and the  
 55 Recovered are those who are immune to re-infection. The characteristic feature of LI is that  
 56 immunity after infection is temporary, such that the recovered can become susceptible again  
 57 if all the risk factors are still present.

58 **2.0 Mathematical Model Formulation**

Passive immunity is an immunity obtained from external source: immunity from disease acquired by the transfer of antibodies from one person to another, e.g. through injections or between a mother and a fetus through the placenta looking at the case of infection spread on the population, there is an arrival of new susceptible population. In this type of situation, births and deaths rate must be included in the model. The differential equations represent the model which indicates the rate of change of number of individuals in each compartment with respect to time. Below is the Schematic diagram for the single age class M - Passive Immunity Infant, S- Susceptible, E – Latent period, I – Infectious, R – Recovered (MSEIRS) model for LI transmission (4).

59 An additional feature of LI is employed. By this Newborn babies whose mothers are immune  
 60 are taken into consideration. As a result, these children are protected by the antibodies present  
 61 in their mothers. Thus, group M of children who are completely protected by these antibodies  
 62 are considered. The ratio of these newborn babies M is equal to the ratio of the general  
 63 population that is immunized after recovering from infection. Protection reduces and these  
 64 children M become susceptible at a rate  $\gamma$ . Under the above assumptions, the following are the  
 65 results.  
 66

67 
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \mu - (+\mu)M, \quad M(0) \text{ ----- } 2.1$$

68 
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = M - \beta SI - \mu S + \gamma R, \quad S(0) \text{ ---- } 2.2$$

69 
$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \beta SI - (\sigma + \mu)E, \quad E(0) \text{ ---- } 2.3$$

70 
$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - (v + \mu)I, \quad I(0) \text{ ---- } 2.4$$

71 
$$\frac{dR}{dt} = vI - (\mu + \gamma)R, \quad R(0) \text{ ---- } 2.5$$

72 **Table 1 the description of parameters used in the model**

Parameter	Description	Unit
S	Susceptible population	Number/unit time
M	Birth rate of the children i.e the mortality rate	Number / unit time
I	Infected population	Number/unit time

R	Infected population that Recovered	Number/unit time
M	Passively immune infants	Number/unit time
$\mu$	Birth rate of the children i.e the mortality rate	Number/unit time
$\gamma$	rate of loss of immunity	Number/unit time
$\nu$	Rate of loss of infections	Number/unit time
$\beta$	Transmission parameter (constant rate)	Number/unit time
$R_0$	Basic reproduction number	Number/unit time
$\Sigma$	Contact number	Number/unit time
E	Rate of loss of protection by maternal antibodies	Number/unit time

The unit time is (per year)

### 3.0 Model Analysis

#### 3.1 Two Classes of Epidemiology Models

Two different epidemiological models were formulated and analysed, they are Epidemic models and Endemic models. Epidemic model describe rapid outbreaks that occur in less than a year due to the availability of some risk factors, while endemic models are used for studying diseases of longer periods, during which there is a renewal of susceptible by births or recovery from temporary immunity.

### 3.0 The Virus – Free Equilibrium

At equilibrium point

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{dR}{dt} = 0$$

Thus we have,

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \mu - (+\mu)M = 0 \text{ ----- 3.1}$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = M - \beta SI - \mu S + \gamma R = 0 \text{ ----- 3.2}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \beta SI - (\sigma + \mu)E = 0 \text{ ----- 3.3}$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - (\nu + \mu)I = 0 \text{ ----- 3.4}$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \nu I - (\mu + \gamma)R = 0 \text{ ----- 3.5}$$

From equations 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 simultaneously, we obtained the Virus – free equilibrium

From equation 3.3

$$\sigma E - \mu I - \nu I = 0$$

97 Since the infection Free State is known to be diseases free, then,  
 98  $I = 0$ , Thus

99  
 100 This become

$$\sigma E = 0, \text{ i. e } E = 0$$

101 From equation 3.4

$$vI - \mu R - \gamma R = 0$$

102 Since,  $I=0$ , the equation becomes

$$-(\mu + \gamma)R = 0$$

103 Thus,  $R = 0$

104 Summary,  $I = 0$ ,  $E = 0$  and  $R = 0$

105 From equation 1.0

$$\begin{aligned} 106 \quad & \mu - \varepsilon M - \mu M = 0 \\ 107 \quad & \mu = \varepsilon M + \mu M = 0 \\ & \mu = (\varepsilon + \mu)M \end{aligned}$$

108

109 This gives

$$M = \frac{\mu}{\varepsilon + \mu}$$

110

111 From equation 3.1

$$\varepsilon M - \beta SI - \mu S + \gamma R = 0$$

112 Since  $I = 0$  and  $R = 0$ , this reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} & \varepsilon M - \mu S = 0 \\ & \varepsilon M = \mu S \\ & MS = \frac{\varepsilon}{\mu} \end{aligned}$$

113 But

$$M = \frac{\mu}{\varepsilon + \mu}$$

114 Thus,

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{\mu} * \frac{\mu}{\varepsilon + \mu} = \frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon + \mu}$$

115

116 Finally for, virus free equilibrium, the solution set is as follows:

$$\left[ M = \frac{\mu}{\varepsilon + \mu}, S = \frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon + \mu}, E = 0, I = 0, R = 0 \right]$$

117

118

### 119 3.2 Establishing Local stability for Virus- free equilibrium

120 We linearize the system of equations given, using the Jacobian matrix approach to obtain:

121 Evaluating the Jacobian matrix at the virus – free equilibrium E give

122

$$123 \quad J(M, S, E, I, R) \begin{bmatrix} -\varepsilon - \mu & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \varepsilon & -\beta I - \mu & 0 & -\beta S & \gamma \\ 0 & \beta I & -\mu - \sigma & \beta S & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\mu - \nu & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \nu & -\mu - \gamma \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

124 We defined the characteristic polynomial equation for the J(E) solve for the eigen valves, to get:

125 After a while, the eigenvalues  $\lambda_i, i=1,2,3,4,5$  are given as

126  $\lambda_1 = -\mu$

127  $\lambda_2 = -\mu - \gamma$

128  $\lambda_3 = -\xi - \mu$

129  $\lambda_4 = \frac{1}{2(\xi + \mu)} [-2\mu^2 \mu v - 2\mu \epsilon - \mu \sigma - v \epsilon - \sigma \epsilon + A]$

130  $\lambda_5 = \frac{-1}{2(\xi + \mu)} [2\mu^2 \mu v - 2\mu \epsilon - \mu \sigma - v \epsilon - \sigma \epsilon + A]$

131 where

$$A = \sqrt{\mu^2 v^2 - 2\mu^2 v \sigma + \mu^2 \sigma^2 + 2\mu v^2 \epsilon - 2\mu v^2 \epsilon - 4\mu v \epsilon \sigma + 4\mu \epsilon \beta \sigma + 2\mu \epsilon \sigma^2 + v^2 \epsilon^2 - 2v \epsilon^2 \sigma + 4\epsilon^2 \beta \sigma + \epsilon^2 \sigma^2}$$

132 From the results above,  $\lambda_1 < 0, \lambda_2 < 0, \lambda_3 < 0,$  and  $\lambda_5 < 0$  provided

133

134  $\mu^2 v^2 - 2\mu^2 v \sigma + \mu^2 \sigma^2 + 2\mu v^2 \epsilon - 4\mu v \epsilon \sigma + 4\mu \epsilon \beta \sigma + 2\mu \epsilon \sigma^2 + v^2 \epsilon^2 - 2v \epsilon^2 \sigma +$   
 135  $4\epsilon^2 \beta \sigma + \epsilon^2 \sigma^2 \geq 0$

136

137 That is,

138  $\mu^2 v^2 - \mu^2 \sigma^2 + 2\mu v^2 \epsilon + 4\mu \epsilon \beta \sigma + 2\mu \epsilon \sigma^2 + v^2 \epsilon^2 + 4\epsilon^2 \epsilon \sigma + \epsilon^2 \sigma^2 \geq 2\mu^2 v \sigma + 4\mu v \epsilon \sigma +$   
 139  $2v \epsilon^2 \sigma$

140 So also,  $\lambda_4$  must be less than zero, i.e,  $\lambda_4 < 0$

141

142 hence,

143  $\lambda_4 = \frac{1}{2(\epsilon + \mu)} (-2\mu^2 - \mu v - 2\mu \epsilon - \mu \sigma - v \epsilon - \sigma \epsilon + A) < 0,$

144 which implies that ,

145  $\frac{A}{2(\epsilon + \mu)} < \frac{1}{2(\epsilon + \mu)} (2\mu^2 - \mu v - 2\mu \epsilon - \mu \sigma - v \epsilon - \sigma \epsilon)$

146 That is

147  $A < 2\mu^2 - \mu v - 2\mu \epsilon - \mu \sigma - v \epsilon - \sigma \epsilon$

148 Finally, the result is

149  $R_0 = \frac{A}{2\mu^2 + \mu v + 2\mu \epsilon + \mu \sigma + v \epsilon + \sigma \epsilon} < 1$

150

151 A has been defined earlier above.

152 Where  $R_0$  is the basic reproduction number, which is an important threshold in modelling of  
 153 infectious diseases, since it tells us if a population is at risk from a disease or not. Thus,  
 154 whenever  $R_0 < 1$  the new cases (i.e. incidence) of the disease will be on the decrease and the  
 155 disease will eventually be eliminated.

156 Based on foregoing, the Basic Reproduction number ( $R_0$ ) for our model is less than unity i.e

$$R_0 = \frac{A}{2\mu^2 + \mu v + 2\mu \epsilon + \mu \sigma + v \epsilon + \sigma \epsilon} < 1$$

157 Then,  $I(t)$  decreases monotonically to zero as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore, the virus – free equilibrium is  
 158 locally stable.

159

160 Local Stability for Virus – Endemic State:

161

162  $\frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{dR}{dt} = 0$

163 This gives

164  $\frac{dM}{dt} = \mu - \epsilon M - \mu M = 0$  ----- -3.6

165  $\frac{dS}{dt} = \varepsilon M - \beta SI - \mu S + \gamma R = 0$  ----- 3.7

166  $\frac{dE}{dt} = \beta SI - \sigma E - \mu E = 0$  ----- 3.8

167  $\frac{dI}{dt} = \sigma E - \sigma I - \mu I - \nu I = 0$  ----- 3.9

168  $\frac{dR}{dt} = \nu I - \mu R - \gamma R = 0$  ----- 3.10

169 In this scenario, the state is assumed to be virus endemic,  $I > 0$

170 From equation 3.6

171  $\mu - \varepsilon M - \mu M = 0$

172  $\mu = (\varepsilon + \mu)M = 0$

$$M = \frac{\mu}{\varepsilon + \mu} \text{-----3.11}$$

173 From equation 3.9

$$\sigma E - \mu I - \nu I = 0$$

174 i.e ,

$$\sigma E = (\mu + \nu)I$$

175 Hence,

$$E = \frac{(\mu + \nu)}{\sigma} I \text{----- 3.12}$$

176 From equation 3.10

177  $\nu I - \mu R - \gamma R = 0$

178  $\nu I = (\mu + \gamma)R$

$$R = \left(\frac{\nu}{\mu + \gamma}\right) I \text{-----3.13}$$

179

180 From equation 3.8

181  $\beta SI - \sigma E - \mu E = 0$

182  $\beta SI = (\sigma + \mu)E$

183  $S = \left(\frac{\sigma + \mu}{\beta I}\right) E$

184 But  $E = \left(\frac{\mu + \nu}{\sigma}\right) I$

185 Thus,

186  $S = \left(\frac{\sigma + \mu}{\beta I}\right) E$

187

188  $S = \left(\frac{\sigma + \mu}{\beta I}\right) \left(\frac{\mu + \nu}{\sigma}\right) I$

189  $= \frac{(\sigma + \mu)(\mu + \nu)}{\beta \sigma} \text{-----3.14}$

190 Substitute for M,E,R and S in Equation 3.7

191  $\varepsilon M - \beta SI - \mu S + \gamma R = 0$

192 That is:

$$\varepsilon * \frac{\mu}{\varepsilon + \mu} - \beta * \frac{(\delta + \mu)(\mu + \nu)}{\beta \sigma} * I - \mu * \frac{(\delta + \mu)(\mu + \nu)}{\beta \sigma} + \gamma * \left(\frac{\nu}{\mu + \gamma}\right) I = 0$$

193 Solving for I yields:

$$I = \frac{-(\mu + \gamma)(\mu^3 + \mu^2 \nu + \mu^2 \varepsilon + \mu^2 \sigma + \mu \nu \varepsilon + \mu \nu \sigma + \mu \varepsilon \sigma + \nu \varepsilon \sigma - \varepsilon \beta \sigma)}{\beta(\mu^3 + \mu^2 \nu + \mu^2 \varepsilon + \mu^2 \gamma + \mu^2 \sigma + \mu \nu \varepsilon + \mu \nu \gamma + \mu \nu \sigma + \mu \varepsilon \gamma + \mu \varepsilon \sigma + \mu \gamma \sigma + \nu \varepsilon \sigma + \varepsilon \gamma \sigma)}$$

194 Consequently,

195  $R = \left(\frac{\nu}{\mu + \gamma}\right) I$

196 The above yields,

$$\frac{-v(\mu + \gamma)(\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + v\varepsilon\sigma - \varepsilon\beta\sigma)}{\beta(\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\gamma + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\varepsilon + \mu\nu\gamma + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + \mu\gamma\sigma + v\varepsilon\gamma + v\varepsilon\sigma + \varepsilon\gamma\sigma)}$$

197

198

199 Also,

$$200 \quad E = \left(\frac{\mu + \nu}{\sigma}\right) I$$

$$\frac{-v(\mu + \gamma)(\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + v\varepsilon\sigma - \varepsilon\beta\sigma)}{\beta\sigma(\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\gamma + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\varepsilon + \mu\nu\gamma + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + \mu\gamma\sigma + v\varepsilon\gamma + v\varepsilon\sigma + \varepsilon\gamma\sigma)}$$

201

202 For mathematical acceptability,  $(M_E, S_E, E_E, I_E, R_E) > 0$

203 Thus,

$$I_E = \frac{-v(\mu + \gamma)(\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + v\varepsilon\sigma - \varepsilon\beta\sigma)}{\beta(\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\gamma + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\varepsilon + \mu\nu\gamma + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + \mu\gamma\sigma + v\varepsilon\gamma + v\varepsilon\sigma + \varepsilon\gamma\sigma)} > 0$$

204

205 Let,

$$A = -(\mu + v)(\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\varepsilon + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + v\varepsilon\sigma)$$

206  $B = \varepsilon\beta\sigma$  and,

207  $C = (\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\gamma + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\varepsilon + \mu\nu\gamma + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + \mu\gamma\sigma + v\varepsilon\gamma + v\varepsilon\sigma + \varepsilon\gamma\sigma)$

208

209

210 Hence,

$$I_E = \frac{(\mu + \gamma)(A - B)}{B * C} > 0$$

$$211 \quad = -(\mu + \gamma)(A - B) > 0$$

212

$$213 \quad = -(\mu + \gamma)A + B(\mu + \gamma) > 0$$

$$214 \quad = B(\mu + \gamma) > (\mu + \gamma)A$$

215

216 Dividing through by A, we then have,

$$217 \quad R_0 = \frac{B}{A} > 1$$

218 More elaborately, we have:

$$R_0 = \frac{\varepsilon\beta\sigma}{\mu^3 + \mu^2v + \mu^2\varepsilon + \mu^2\sigma + \mu\nu\varepsilon + \mu\nu\sigma + \mu\varepsilon\sigma + v\varepsilon\sigma} > 1$$

219 If  $\beta = 64.5$ ,  $v = 36$ ,  $\varepsilon = 13$ ,  $\delta = 91$ ,  $\mu = 0.041$  are all parameter for a period of one year, then we

220 have the following expression:

221

$$R_0 = \frac{13 * 64.5 * 91}{(0.041)^3 + (0.041)^2 * 36 + (0.041)^2 * 13 + (0.041)^2 * 91 + (0.041)(36)(13) + (0.041)(36)(91) + (0.041)(91)(13) + (36)(13)(91)} > 1$$

$$R_0 = 2.944076535 > 1$$

222

223 If  $R_0 > 1$  then  $I(t)$  increases and reaches its maximum and reduces as  $R_0 \rightarrow \infty$ . When the

224 number of children infected increases in this state, it is called the epidemic state. In the long

225 run, the whole population become susceptible if  $R_0 > 1$

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#### 4.0 Numerical Solution and Simulation

The MSEIRS model was solved numerically using Runge – Kutta method, Matlab ode45 program was adopted, which is based on an explicit Runge Kutta (4, 5) formula. Runge kutta of order four is also used in plotting the graphs; it’s a powerful and popular method because of its accuracy and stability. Also, its simplicity and stability make it one of the most widely used numerical algorithms for stiff and non-stiff equations, it converges faster than that of order two or three.

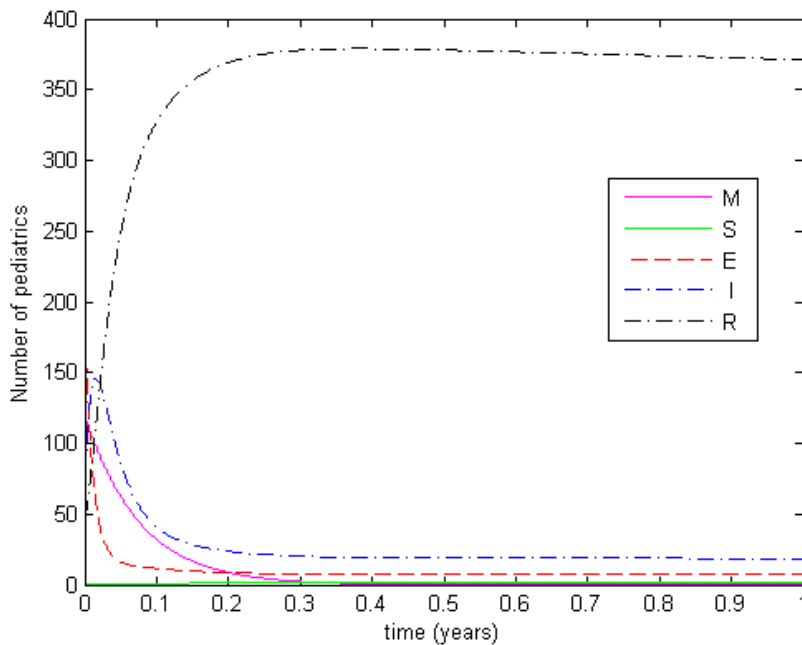
**Table 2 simulating the MSEIRS model using the following parameter values**

Parameters	V	b <sub>0</sub>	b <sub>1</sub>	δ	Φ	μ	γ	ζ	β	R <sub>0</sub>
MSEIRS(Virus free State)	36	50	0.14	91	0.15	0.041	1.8	13	64.5	0.9515728172
MSEIRS(Epidemic State)	36	20	0.20	91	0.15	0.041	1.8	13	27	2.944076535

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These are the parameters used in plotting the graphs: although some of it changes, since they are the major factors that determining the situations of the environment, whether it is of the virus –free and endemic state.

The graph of MSEIRS model is used to monitor our environment in case of an outbreak of leprosy based dynamics of the number of on changes on a particular model parameter



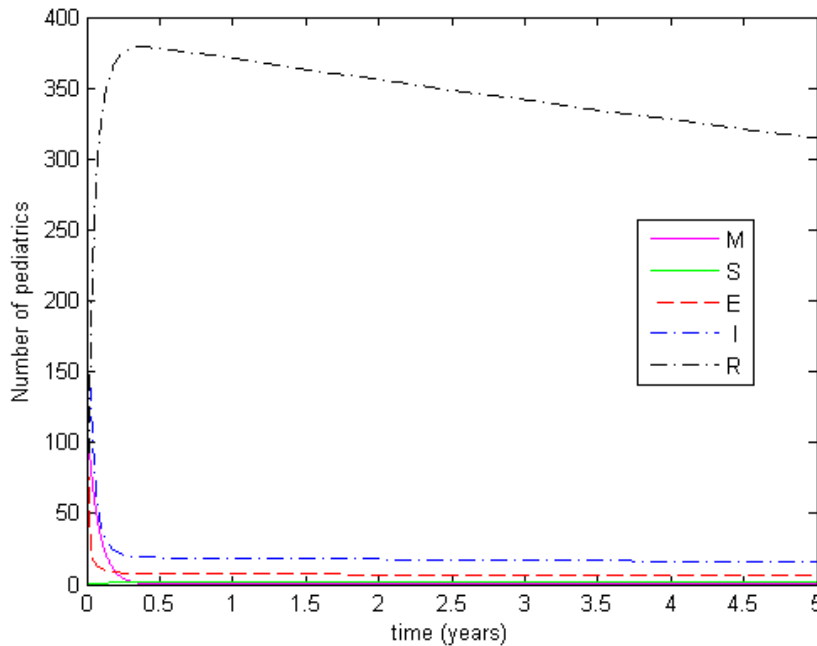
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Figure 2 Graphical representation of MSEIRS model between the space of one year with  $M_0 = 120$ ,  $S_0 = 100$ ,  $E_0 = 82$ ,  $I_0 = 67$ ,  $R_0 = 46$

Figure 2 shows the graphical representation of MSEIRS model between the space of one year. In these model, newborn infants of immune mothers that are protected by maternal antibodies, but later got infected through babysitter or through the infected neighbours. They



251 recovered after been treated but since, they domicile in the same infected area, the protected  
252 infants become susceptible again.



253  
254 Figure 3 Graphical representation of MSEIRS model between the space of five years  
255

256 Figure 3 shows the graphical representation of MSEIRS model between the space of five  
257 years. In these model, These set of children were assumed to be of primary school age, they  
258 have the oppourtunity of playing around with their school mates. Some are born are born  
259 completely protected while some are from the infected parents. The protected onces are  
260 infected but recovered through vaccination but since they were in the same enviroment they  
261 become susceptible again.

### 262 Conclusion

263 The MSEIRS model is used as a benchmark for modeling infectious disease, since the  
264 existence of a threshold for infection is far from obvious. The model mathematical analysis  
265 was calculated to know if the model is mathematically feasible, also, the local stability was  
266 calculated to know if our enviroment is of virus – free or of an endemic equilibrium. The  
267 threshold value was set through the calculation of the basic reproductive number  $R_0$  which is  
268 an important part of modelling disease to tell us if the population is at risk or not.

269 .

270

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