

Australian HIV Surveillance Update

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

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Diagnoses in the second quarter

1 April – 30 June 1996

- A total of 203 diagnoses of HIV infection, 96 diagnoses of AIDS and 78 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 September 1996, to have occurred in the *second quarter of 1996*.
- Following adjustment for reporting delay, the estimated numbers of AIDS diagnoses and deaths following AIDS occurring in the *second quarter of 1996* were 210 and 155, respectively.
- *In comparison*, 214 cases of HIV infection, 191 diagnoses of AIDS and 151 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 September 1996, to have occurred in the *second quarter of 1995*.

Diagnoses in the year to 30 June 1996

- 799 diagnoses of HIV infection
 - 547 diagnoses of AIDS
 - 458 deaths following AIDS
- were reported by 30 September 1996.

Total diagnoses to 30 June 1996

- 19,873 diagnoses of HIV infection
 - 15,600 diagnoses of HIV infection following adjustment for multiple reporting
 - 6,877 diagnoses of AIDS
 - 4,962 deaths following AIDS
- were reported by 30 September 1996.

HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Five sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,275 people in the period 1 April to 30 June 1996 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- Of 1,967 people reported as having been tested for the first time, 8 (0.4%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 3,102 people reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 3 (0.1%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 114 males who reported a history of homosexual contact only and who were tested for HIV antibody for the first time, 3 (2.6%) were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 30 June 1996 had an average age of 35 years, and 1.8% were in the age group 13–19 years. 92% were male, 7% were female, and sex was not recorded for 1% of cases.

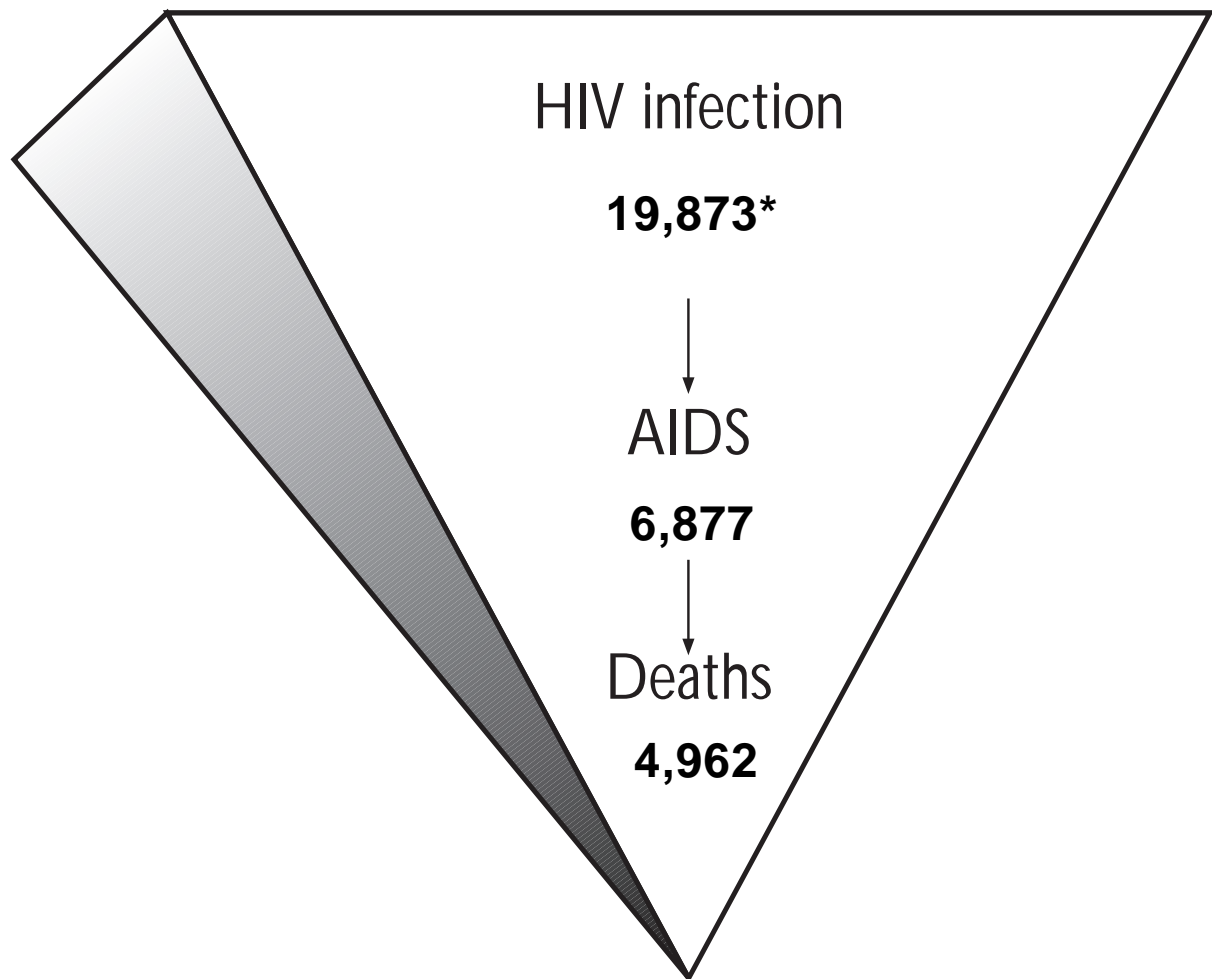
Of the 88% of cases of HIV infection newly diagnosed in the year to 30 June 1996 for which exposure to HIV was recorded, 80% reported a history of male homosexual/bisexual contact with or without a history of injecting drug use.

New HIV infections

During the second quarter of 1996, 22 males were reported as having newly acquired HIV infection, identified by a negative test within the 12 months prior to diagnosis or the diagnosis of HIV seroconversion illness. Exposure to HIV was attributed to male homosexual/bisexual contact in 86% of these cases.

The HIV epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 30 June 1996



* Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 15,600 (range 14,700 to 16,500), cumulative to 30 June 1996.