AUSTRALIAN HIV SURVEILLANCE UPDATE

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

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From 1 January to 31 March 1994:

- w 268 people were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.
- w 126 people were newly diagnosed with AIDS.
- w 126 people died following AIDS.

To 31 March 1994 there have been:

- w 18,037 diagnoses of HIV infection.
- w 4,930 diagnoses of AIDS.
- w 3,384 deaths following AIDS.

From 1 January to 31 March 1993:

- w 281 people were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.
- w 184 people were newly diagnosed with AIDS.
- w 129 people died following AIDS.

To 31 March 1993 there were:

- w 17,024 diagnoses of HIV infection.
- w 4,296 diagnoses of AIDS.
- w 2,820 deaths following AIDS.

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 March 1994 had an average age of 34 years, and 2.4% were in the age group 13–19 years. 91% were male, 7% were female, and 2 people were reported as transsexual.

Of the people diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 March 1994 whose exposure to HIV was recorded, 77% were men who reported homosexual contact, 5% reported injecting drug use, and 15% reported heterosexual contact.

New HIV infections

During the first quarter of 1994, 60 males and 4 females 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 for 4 cases of newly acquired HIV infection in males and 1 case in a female was attributed to heterosexual contact within Australia.

HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Four sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney tested 4693 people in the period 1 January to 31 March 1994 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- w 2036 were tested for the first time, and 12 (0.6%) were found to be HIV antibody positive.
- w 2657 were retested following a previous negative test, and 2 (0.1%) were found to be HIV antibody positive.
- w Of 1510 men and 1099 women reporting heterosexual contact within Australia only, 2 men (0.13%) and 1 woman (0.09%) was found to have HIV infection.

For further information, contact the Epidemiology Unit of the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research on (02) 332 4648 All data in this update are provisional and subject to future revision