

Australian HIV Surveillance Update

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

From 1 October to 31 December 1994:

- 235 people were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.
- 176 people were newly diagnosed with AIDS.
- 120 people died following AIDS.

To 31 December 1994 there have been:

- 18,782 diagnoses of HIV infection.
- 5,737 diagnoses of AIDS.
- 4,014 deaths following AIDS.

From 1 October to 31 December 1993:

- 262 people were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.
- 193 people were newly diagnosed with AIDS.
- 183 people died following AIDS.

To 31 December 1993 there were:

- 17,788 diagnoses of HIV infection.
- 4,950 diagnoses of AIDS.
- 3,363 deaths following AIDS.

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 December 1994 had an average age of 33 years, and 2.7% were in the age group 13 – 19 years. 93% were male, 5% were female, and sex was not recorded for 2% of cases.

Of adults and adolescents diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 December 1994 whose exposure to HIV was recorded, 78% were men who reported homosexual contact, 4% reported injecting drug use, and 15% reported heterosexual contact.

New HIV infections

During the fourth quarter of 1994, 39 males and 2 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 was attributed to heterosexual contact for both cases in females and for 2 cases in males.

HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Five sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Darwin, Melbourne, and Sydney tested 5537 people in the period 1 October to 31 December 1994 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- Of 2,438 people reported as having been tested for the first time, 7 (0.3%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 2,902 people reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 5 (0.2%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 1038 men and 685 women whose only reported risk for HIV infection was heterosexual contact, and who were retested following a previous negative test, none were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.

The HIV epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to December 1994

