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## Subtypes of HIV in Australia

There has been recent interest in both the scientific and popular media concerning subtypes of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Since the first published sequence of HIV-1 in 1985, it has been recognised that extensive genetic variability of HIV-1 exists, both between and within individuals. This variation is most obvious in the envelope (*env*) gene of HIV-1, and analysis of the sequences that make up the *env* gene allows HIV-1 to be classified into multiple genetic subtypes (or clades). There is usually 20% or more variation between different subtypes although there is often substantial variation within subtypes. This intra-subtype variation allows one to establish relatedness between strains, as in the analysis of HIV transmission from a Florida dentist and in a surgeon's office in Australia.

There are two subtype groups of HIV-1. Within the main group (M), which has been most extensively analysed, are subtypes A-H, while the outlier (O) group includes divergent sequences from Cameroon and France, which may differ among themselves as much

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## National meeting

The 8th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine will be held in Randwick, New South Wales, on 14 – 17 November 1996. Telephone: 02 382 1656, Facsimile: 02 382 3699

## International meetings

7th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm—From Science to Policy to Practice will be held in Hobart, Tasmania from 3–7 March 1996. Further information may be obtained from the Australian Drug Foundation (Telephone 03 690 6000)

Australasian Sexual Health Conference will be held in Auckland, New Zealand, from 12–14 June 1996. Further information may be obtained from the Conference Company, PO Box 90-040, Auckland, New Zealand (Facsimile: 64 9 360 1242).

**X1 International Conference on AIDS** will be held in Vancouver, Canada, from 7-12 July 1996.

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as they do from the M group (Myers et al 1994, Loussert-Ajaka et al 1995). Although subtyping is usually done by sequencing the env gene (including the principal neutralising domain, the V3 loop), other regions of the HIV-1 genome (for example gag, vpr, nef and the part of pol that codes for protease) can also be used. After the sequences making up a particular region have been identified, they are analysed and phylogenetic trees constructed. In general, there is reasonable concordance between the subtypes based on env sequences and those based on gag or other sequences (Louwagie et al 1993. Table 1.1). Newer techniques such as the heteroduplex mobility assay (HMA) can be used as an alternative to sequencing, and are particularly useful where large numbers of samples from different geographic regions need to be analysed (Delwart et al 1993). Both HMA and sequencing are being used by the World Health Organisation (WHO) Network for HIV Isolation and Characterisation to monitor genetic variation of HIV-1 in WHO-sponsored vaccine evaluation sites. Serological tests have been developed as a screening assay for subtypes, but they are less specific and sensitive than sequencing (Pau et al 1993). There are some HIV-1 sequences that are not readily subtyped (U strains), and which may reflect new subtypes or recombinants of existing subtypes.

Certain subtypes of HIV-1 appear to predominate in different geographical regions (Table 1.1, Myers *et al* 1994). For example, it is known that two subtypes predominate in Thailand; subtype E is the most common and has been isolated in people apparently infected by heterosexual contact, and subtype B occurs mainly among injecting drug users (Kunanusont *et al* 1995). Spread of Thai-like subtype B isolates has occurred in other South East Asian countries including Myanmar, southern China, Malaysia and Cambodia (Weniger *et al* 1994). Subtype C strains similar to southern and eastern African strains are predominant in the Indian sub-continent (Grez *et al* 1994). Subtype B predominates in North America, with only the occasional reporting of other subtypes (Brodine *et al* 1995). In Europe, B is the commonest subtype although other subtypes have been detected. These other subtypes vary from country to country and usually relate to the subtypes circulating in African countries with significant links to European countries. All known subtypes are present in Africa.

Subtype B isolates predominate in Australia unsurprisingly, given that the initial cases of HIV-1 in Australia were acquired in North America. Nine Sydney HIV-1 isolates have been identified as subtype B (Distler *et al* 1995); another study of 45 isolates showed that all appear to be of subtype B, except two cases of subtype E (acquired in South East Asia) and two of subtype C (acquired in Africa) (Dwyer *et al* 1995). South East Asian and African strains have been detected in Western Australia, based on sequencing of reverse transcriptase as part of a study of Aboriginal people infected with HIV-1 (Gaudieri *et al* 1995). There is unpublished evidence that subtype B isolates have

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HIV gene us	ed to classify	Region
env	gag	
А	A, G	Central Africa
В	В	North America, Europe, South America, Asia, Australia
С	С	Central and Southern Africa, Brazil, India
D	D, A	Central Africa
E	А	Thailand, Central Africa
F	F	South America, Central Africa, Europe
G	G, H	Central Africa, Taiwan, Russia
н	н	Central Africa
U	U	Central and Southern Africa
0	0	West Africa, France

Table 1.1 Known HIV-1 subtypes by geographic region of detection

been found in Papua New Guinea and two distinct subtypes (mostly B) have been in New Zealand. Recombination between different subtypes and probably within subtypes of HIV-1 occurs. For example, the subtype E seen in Thailand is probably a recombinant of subtypes A and E. The clinical significance of recombination is uncertain, but may indicate that reinfection with different strains of HIV-1 is possible, and that new subtypes may arise by recombination.

It is uncertain whether particular HIV-1 subtypes are associated with differences in pathogenesis. While the heterosexual spread of subtype E in Thailand has been more rapid than spread of subtype B in injecting drug users, it is uncertain whether this difference is a viral characteristic or reflects local behavioural networks or the presence of other co-factors (Kunanusont *et al* 1995). Within Australia and overseas, subtype B isolates of HIV-1 have been associated with both long term and short term survival, suggesting that subtype is not related to clinical outcome (Deacon *et al* 1995, Holland *et al* in press). It has been suggested that some subtypes differ in their ability to infect lymphocytes, macrophages and other HIV permissive cells. It is also uncertain whether different subtypes are characterised by viral load, response to antiviral agents or efficacy of vertical transmission. The performance of some viral load assays based on polymerase chain reaction (PCR) varies from subtype to subtype (Arnold *et al* 1995); this may have implications for their clinical use in communities where multiple HIV subtypes are circulating.

HIV-2 has approximately 60% sequence homology with HIV-1 and a different regulatory

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gene arrangement to HIV-1. Published data on HIV-2 variants are limited, although divergent HIV-2 strains have been described and there is preliminary evidence that multiple subtypes of HIV-2 do exist (Gao *et al* 1994). Given that outbreaks of HIV-2 have now been described outside western Africa (including four cases in Australia), subtyping of HIV-2 is also important. In west India, an epidemic of HIV-2 with HIV-1 subtype C has been described (Grez *et al* 1994).

There are a number of reasons why subtyping of HIV is important. Knowledge of circulating subtypes allows one to follow the movement of HIV or indicate the origin of HIV strains in communities, assisting the targeting of appropriate interventions. Knowledge of subtype variation is also necessary in the design of HIV vaccines and may have relevance to therapy if different pathogenic features of individual subtypes are identified. In Australia, subtype B is the predominant local strain to date, although other subtypes are now present. Detection of other subtypes in Australia may allow prevention efforts to be better targeted towards people engaging in high risk sexual activity in South East Asia and elsewhere, Australians working overseas or travellers, immigrants or short term visitors to Australia. Australian strains of HIV may also be spread overseas, especially to South East Asia and the Pacific.

For these reasons, it is appropriate for surveillance of HIV subtypes to become more routine in Australia. This could be done most readily by sequence analysis of cases of newly acquired infection or in people whose infection was acquired by routes (such as heterosexual contact overseas) that may expose them to less common subtypes. Monitoring of subtypes or variation within subtypes will also allow molecular confirmation of transmission in epidemiologically linked cases of HIV, a number of which have been reported in Australia. Knowledge of local subtypes also contributes to global understanding of the circulation of HIV -1.

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# THE NATIONAL AIDS REGISTRY

### Table 2.1

Cases of AIDS and deaths following AIDS by sex and State/Territory in which diagnosis of AIDS was made, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals.

## Cases

STATE/ TERRITORY		– 30 Sep 94 Female	1 Oct 94 Male	I – 30 Sep 95 Female	C Male	umulative Female		ep 95 %
АСТ	6	1	9	1	69	4	73	1.2
NSW	477	13	330	14	3524	125	3659	58.2
NT	3	0	2	0	25	0	25	0.4
QLD	93	5	93	2	603	26	631	10.0
SA	39	2	26	4	254	17	271	4.3
TAS	4	0	2	0	32	2	34	0.5
VIC	166	11	137	11	1267	47	1321	21.0
WA	22	4	28	1	261	16	278	4.4
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	810	36	627	33	6035	237	6292	100.0

Deaths								
АСТ	8	0	5	0	49	2	51	1.1
NSW	377	15	313	15	2530	91	2627	57.9
NT	4	0	2	0	18	0	18	0.4
QLD	71	4	63	2	402	19	423	9.3
SA	35	5	27	3	170	13	183	4.0
TAS	2	1	1	0	21	2	23	0.5
VIC	172	5	129	12	982	28	1016	22.4
WA	25	4	20	1	186	9	196	4.3
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	694	34	560	33	4358	164	4537	100.0

t. Total columns of Tables 2.1 - 2.6 and 7.1 include 20 cases and 15 AIDS deaths in people whose sex was reported as transsexual.

STATE/	1 Oct 93 – 30 Sep 94		1 Oct 94	– 30 Sep 95	Cumulative to 30 Sep 95			
TERRITORY	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
ACT	39.7	6.7	58.7	6.6	450.4	26.5	240.1	
NSW	158.7	4.3	108.6	4.6	1159.7	40.6	598.4	
NT	33.9	0.0	22.4	0.0	279.6	0.0	143.8	
QLD	58.0	3.1	56.6	1.2	367.1	15.9	192.5	
SA	53.5	2.7	35.5	5.4	347.1	22.9	183.9	
TAS	17.1	0.0	8.5	0.0	136.5	8.4	71.9	
VIC	74.9	4.9	61.5	4.8	568.4	20.7	293.4	
WA	25.7	4.7	32.2	1.2	300.1	18.6	160.5	
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	91.2	4.0	70.7	3.6	671.3	26.1	348.5	

Table 2.2 Incidence of AIDS per million current population by sex and State/Territory of diagnosis, from 1 January 1981 to 30 September 1995, and for two yearly intervals prior to 30 September 1995<sup>1</sup>.

1. Population estimates by sex, State/Territory and calendar period from *Australian Demographic Statistics* (Australian Bureau of Statistics).

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Cases of AIDS and deaths following AIDS by sex and age group, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals.

Cases<sup>1</sup>

AGE GROUP (years)	1 Oct 93 Male	– 30 Sep 94 Female	1 Oct 94 – 30 Sep 95 Male Female		Cu Male	Cumulative to 30 Sep Male Female Total		
0 - 12	1	2	2	4	27	13	40	0.6
13 - 19	0	0	2	0	20	3	23	0.4
20 - 29	116	10	83	8	1056	62	1130	18.0
30 - 39	362	15	291	13	2537	74	2616	41.6
40 - 49	242	8	171	5	1716	38	1756	27.9
50 - 59	65	1	59	2	520	21	542	8.6
60 +	24	0	19	1	159	26	185	2.9
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	810	36	627	33	6035	237	6292	100.0

# Deaths<sup>2</sup>

Deatins								
0 - 12	2	2	1	2	21	8	29	0.6
13 - 19	0	0	1	1	13	3	16	0.4
20 - 29	52	4	52	11	547	33	589	13.0
30 - 39	289	12	236	10	1752	48	1804	39.8
40 - 49	245	10	182	5	1391	29	1422	31.3
50 - 59	78	1	68	3	483	19	502	11.1
60 +	28	5	20	1	151	24	175	3.8
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	694	34	560	33	4358	164	4537	100.0

1. Cases are classified by age at diagnosis.

2. Deaths are classified by age at death.

Cases of AIDS by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals of diagnosis.

EXPOSURE CATEGORY	1 Oc 30 Se	:t 93 –	1 Oc 30 Se	:t94 –	Cur	nulative	to 30 Se	р 95
EXPOSORE CATEGORY		Female		Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Male homosexual/bisexual								
contact	680	-	541	-	5199	-	5199	82.6
Male homosexual/bisexual								
contact and ID use	47	-	22	-	250	-	250	4.0
ID use (female and								
heterosexualmale)	14	8	17	7	100	56	156	2.5
Heterosexual contact:	28	23	25	18	160	103	263	4.2
Sex with ID user	0	1	2	2	3	6	9	
Sex with bisexual male	-	3	-	1	-	23	23	
Fromspecifiedcountry	2	3	6	3	19	15	34	
Sex with person from								
specified country	6	2	2	2	18	10	28	
Sex with person with								
medicallyacquiredHIV	2	2	0	0	3	6	9	
SexwithHIV-infected								
person, exposure								
notspecified	6	2	0	4	24	15	39	
Not further specified	12	10	15	6	93	28	121	
Haemophilia/coagulation								
disorder	8	0	5	0	81	1	82	1.3
Receipt of blood								
components/tissue	8	1	3	3	77	54	131	2.1
Health care setting	1	1	0	1	2	3	5	0.1
Other/undetermined <sup>†</sup>	23	1	12	0	139	7	166	2.6
Total Adults/Adolescents †	809	34	625	29	6008	224	6252	99.4

Adults/adolescents (13 years and older at diagnosis of AIDS)

# Children (under 13 years at diagnosis of AIDS)

Mother with/at risk for HIV infection Haemophilia/coagulation disorder Receipt of blood components/tissue	1 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	3 0 1	10 5 12	10 0 3	20 5 15	0.3 0.1 0.2
Total Children	1	2	2	4	27	13	40	0.6
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	810	36	627	33	6035	237	6292	100.0

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Deaths following AIDS by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals.

EXPOSURE CATEGORY	-	ct 93 – ep 94	-	ct 94 – ep 95	Cui	nulative	to 30 Se	р 95
EXPOSORE CATEGORT		Female		Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Male homosexual/bisexual								
contact	582	-	471	-	3789	-	3789	83.5
Male homosexual/bisexual								
contact and ID use	43	-	27	-	170	-	170	3.8
ID use (female and								
heterosexual male)	10	6	17	6	61	36	97	2.1
Heterosexual contact:	25	19	17	19	93	64	157	3.5
Sex with ID user	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	
Sex with bisexual male	-	9	-	0	-	17	17	
Fromspecifiedcountry	0	0	4	4	7	8	15	
Sex with person from								
specified country	2	0	1	2	9	6	15	
Sex with person with								
medically acquired HIV	1	1	0	1	2	4	6	
SexwithHIV-infected								
person, exposure								
notspecified	11	5	2	1	21	9	30	
Not further specified	11	4	10	10	54	17	71	
Haemophilia/coagulation								
disorder	10	1	9	0	63	1	64	1.4
Receipt of blood								
components/tissue	7	5	2	5	62	49	111	2.4
Health care setting	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.0
Other/undetermined <sup>†</sup>	15	0	16	0	97	4	116	2.6
Total Adults/Adolescents †	692	32	559	30	4335	155	4505	99.3

Adults/adolescents (13 years and older at diagnosis of AIDS)

# Children (under 13 years at diagnosis of AIDS)

Mother with/at risk for HIV infection Haemophilia/coagulation disorder Receipt of blood components/tissue	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 2	6 5 12	6 0 3	12 5 15	0.3 0.1 0.3
Total Children	2	2	1	3	23	9	32	0.7
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	694	34	560	33	4358	164	4537	100.0

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Cases of AIDS by AIDS–defining condition and sex, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals.

AIDS DEFINING		ct 93 – ep 94		ct 94 – ep 95	Cur	nulative	to 30 Se	p 95
CONDITION		Female		Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Pneumocystis carinii								
pneumonia (PCP)	187	10	132	11	1807	60	1873	29.8
Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) -								
skin	86	0	66	0	787	3	791	12.6
KS and PCP only	6	0	4	0	58	0	58	0.9
KS and other (not PCP)	13	0	10	0	109	0	109	1.7
PCP and other (not KS)	22	0	18	1	303	14	320	5.1
Candidiasis-oesophageal	112	5	109	1	554	22	577	9.2
Toxoplasmosis-cerebral	28	0	16	3	218	11	231	3.7
Cryptococcosis-meningeal	37	2	25	1	237	7	246	3.9
Lymphoma-non-Hodgkin	38	1	20	1	222	11	233	3.7
Mycobacterium-avium	47	6	36	6	289	23	313	5.0
Herpessimplexvirus	11	2	13	1	142	13	155	2.5
HIV encephalopathy	38	0	26	3	196	7	204	3.2
Cytomegalovirus	46	1	26	1	248	4	253	4.0
HIV wasting disease	45	2	50	1	255	24	280	4.4
Cryptosporidiosis-gut	23	1	23	0	143	4	147	2.3
Mycobacterium-								
tuberculosis (TB)	5	1	3	0	34	4	38	0.6
Other single diagnoses <sup>1</sup>	26	2	20	2	114	10	125	2.0
Othermultiplediagnoses	40	3	30	1	319	20	339	5.4
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	810	36	627	33	6035	237	6292	100.0

1. Following implementation of the Australian AIDS case definition in January 1993, AIDS was diagnosed on the basis of recurrent pneumonia for 23 cases, pulmonary tuberculosis in 6 cases and cervical cancer for 0 cases.

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Calendar Period		Deaths to	Alive at	Lost to		% Su	rvival
of Diagnosis	Cases	30 Sep 95 <sup>1</sup>	1 Oct 94 <sup>2</sup>	Follow Up <sup>3</sup>	Other⁴	1 yr	2 yrs
1984	54	52	0	1	1	25.1	7.7
1985	126	123	0	2	1	44.0	21.6
1986	231	219	1	8	3	34.4	15.2
1987	381	368	3	1	9	57.1	29.1
1988	533	490	6	8	29	67.1	29.5
1989	612	557	12	4	39	61.2	30.6
1990	667	573	14	4	76	64.2	34.2
1991	796	671	17	6	102	59.9	31.9
1992	777	594	36	7	140	60.6	26.9
1993	804	502	106	0	196	-	-
1994	868	338	333	4	193	-	-
1995	443	50	393	0	0	-	-
TOTAL	6292	4537	921	45	789	-	-

Table 2.7 Survival following the diagnosis of AIDS by one-year period of diagnosis.

Deaths occurring prior to 1 October 1995.
 Last medical contact on or after 1 October 1994.
 Reported as having permanently left Australia with no subsequent report of status.
 Last medical contact prior to 1 October 1994.

 Table 2.8: Cases of AIDS by month of diagnosis, 1986 to 1995.

YEAR	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jul	Мау	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1986	14	15	14	14	19	20	17	24	24	32	25	13	231
1987	29	27	32	20	43	34	28	26	37	30	45	30	381
1988	42	43	24	35	34	45	56	50	44	52	59	49	533
1989	64	47	41	31	46	56	47	57	56	63	51	53	612
1990	63	45	56	51	45	52	59	59	67	71	49	50	667
1991	64	66	66	70	60	64	54	65	84	78	66	59	796
1992	55	66	66	61	75	65	73	73	59	64	61	59	777
1993	68	67	66	65	48	67	74	79	69	74	63	64	804
1994	75	64	77	75	58	73	57	78	93	90	60	68	868
1995	52	59	55	50	58	41	36	55	37	-	-	-	443

Table 2.9: Deaths following the diagnosis of AIDS by month of death, 1986 to 1995.

YEAR	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jul	Мау	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1986	11	7	8	6	13	10	17	8	15	17	16	16	144
1987	13	15	18	29	23	15	17	13	17	9	15	18	202
1988	12	18	15	21	18	20	19	19	14	20	24	23	223
1989	20	24	29	33	26	43	32	41	30	41	43	39	401
1990	55	32	49	35	43	44	48	47	46	40	32	41	512
1991	45	38	42	53	60	51	54	48	38	50	43	54	576
1992	49	47	59	52	56	49	42	51	44	38	46	46	579
1993	52	39	62	64	71	46	53	53	50	56	66	64	676
1994	58	56	59	68	60	68	69	55	53	50	55	59	710
1995	56	65	58	46	53	43	50	40	20	-	-	-	432

Table 2.10: Deaths following the diagnosis of AIDS by month of diagnosis, 1986 to 1995.

YEAR	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jul	Мау	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1986	14	15	13	12	18	18	17	22	21	31	25	13	219
1987	28	27	31	19	43	32	28	24	37	29	41	29	368
1988	39	40	23	33	34	43	46	43	41	50	51	47	490
1989	58	43	37	30	39	50	43	52	52	57	50	46	557
1990	54	41	53	48	38	41	49	48	58	60	42	41	573
1991	61	59	55	62	53	43	48	54	64	66	56	50	671
1992	45	49	55	52	57	50	60	57	44	46	42	37	594
1993	41	50	43	45	36	39	39	49	43	42	41	34	502
1994	34	30	32	35	25	27	27	38	29	31	20	10	338
1995	10	15	9	4	9	2	1	0	0	-	-	-	50

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# THE NATIONAL HIV DATABASE

## Table 3.1

Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex<sup>1</sup> and State/Territory, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals.

STATE/		– 30 Sep 94		– 30 Sep 95		umulative		•
TERRITORY	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	Rate <sup>2</sup>
АСТ	7	1	17	3	163	15	178	58.5
NSW <sup>3</sup>	416	30	400	36	9826	541	12423	203.2
NT	7	0	4	0	79	3	82	47.2
QLD	170	10	111	13	1529	95	1629	49.7
SA	31	2	35	4	553	44	597	40.5
TAS	0	1	3	0	70	4	74	15.6
VIC <sup>4</sup>	197	20	179	13	3287	163	3501	77.8
WA	51	11	50	17	736	70	808	46.7
TOTAL <sup>5</sup>	879	75	799	86	16243	935	19292	106.9

1. Twenty two people (7 NSW, 5 QLD, 8 VIC and 2 WA) whose sex was reported as transsexual are included in the total columns of Tables 3.1 – 3.6.

2. Rate per one hundred thousand current population. Population estimates by sex, State/Territory and calendar interval from *Australian Demographic Statistics*(Australian Bureau of Statistics).

3. Cumulative total for NSW includes 2049 people whose sex was not reported.

4. Cumulative total for VIC includes 43 people whose sex was not reported.

5. Cumulative total for Australia includes 2092 people whose sex was not reported.

## Table 3.2

Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection for which exposure category was reported, by sexand exposure category, cumulative to 30 September 1995 and for two previous yearly intervals.

EXPOSURE CATEGORY		ct 93 – jep 94		oct 94 – Sep 95	Cur	nulative	to 30 Se	р 95
EXPOSORE CATEGORY		Female		Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Male homosexual/bisexual								
contact	656	-	580	-	10159	-	10159	80.5
Male homosexual/bisexual								
contact and ID use	38	-	39	-	385	-	385	3.0
ID use	27	11	26	6	461	147	630	5.0
Heterosexual	14	9	12	3	119	54	176	
Not further specified	13	2	14	3	342	93	454	
Heterosexual contact:	80	51	84	64	574	386	963	7.6
Sex with ID user	3	6	3	6	16	28	44	
Sex with bisexual male	-	4	-	7	-	27	27	
Fromspecifiedcountry	10	7	16	12	45	30	75	
Sex with person from								
specified country	15	8	9	13	51	35	86	
Sex with person with								
medically acquired HIV	1	2	0	0	4	6	10	
SexwithHIV-infected								
person, exposure								
notspecified	4	3	9	6	29	26	55	
Not further specified	47	21	47	20	429	234	666	
Haemophilia/coagulation								
disorder	0	0	1	0	190	2	192	1.5
Receipt of blood/tissue	9	0	1	3	106	65	171	1.4
Health care setting <sup>1</sup>	1	3	0	0	3	7	10	0.1
Total Adults/ Adolescents <sup>2</sup>	811	65	731	73	11878	607	12510	99.1

Children (under 13 years at diagnosis of HIV infection)

Mother with/at risk for HIV infection Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	4	5	3	6 0	23 54	20 0	43 54	0.3 0.4
Receipt of blood/tissue	0 4	0 5	0	0 6	13 90	5 <b>25</b>	19 <b>116</b>	0.2
		3		U	30	23	110	0.5
Sub-total	815	70	734	79	11968	632	12626	100.0
Other/undetermined <sup>3</sup>	64	5	65	7	4275	303	6666	
TOTAL	879	75	799	86	16243	935	19292	

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- 1. The category 'Health care setting' includes 5 cases of occupationally acquired HIV infection and 4 cases of transmission in surgical rooms.
- 2. Total column includes cases for which sex was not reported.
- The 'Other/undetermined' category includes 6648 adults/adolescents and 18 children. Twenty two
  people whose sex was reported as transsexual are included in the 'Other/undetermined' category.
  The 'Other/undetermined' category was excluded from the calculation of the percentage of cases
  attributed to each exposure category.

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AGE GROUP	1 Oct 93	– 30 Sep 94	1 Oct 94	– 30 Sep 95	Cu	mulative t	o 30 Sej	o 95
(YEARS)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
0 - 2	3	3	2	2	29	13	43	0.2
3 - 12	1	2	1	5	75	15	91	0.5
0 - 12	4	5	3	7	104	28	134	0.7
13 - 19	14	4	10	11	351	53	411	2.1
20 - 29	288	35	252	28	5285	364	5762	29.9
30 - 39	333	19	311	28	5278	217	5607	29.1
40 - 49	140	6	149	8	2352	72	2466	12.8
50 - 59	65	4	43	3	701	32	741	3.8
60 +	28	2	25	1	225	38	264	1.4
Unknown	7	0	6	0	1947	131	3907	20.2
TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	879	75	799	86	16243	935	19292	100.0

Table 3.3Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex and age group, cumulative to30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals.

1. See footnotes Table 3.1.

## Table 3.4

Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection for which HIV seroconversion illness was diagnosed or the date of a prior negative HIV antibody test was within one year of diagnosis of infection, by sex and State/Territory, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous calendar intervals.

STATE/ TERRITORY		– 31 Mar 95 Female	1 Apr 9 Male	5 – 30 Sep 95 Female	1 Oc Male	t 94 – 30 Se Female	ep 95 Total
ACT	0	0	4	0	4	0	4
NSW <sup>1</sup>	68	5	60	2	128	7	139
NT	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
QLD	13	0	14	1	27	1	28
SA	4	0	5	0	9	0	9
TAS	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
VIC	28	0	16	3	44	3	47
WA	4	0	3	1	7	1	8
TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	119	5	102	7	221	12	237

1. Total column for Tables 3.4 – 3.6 includes 1 person whose sex was reported as transsexual and 3 people whose sex was not reported.

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## Table 3.5

Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection for which HIV seroconversion illness was diagnosed or the date of a prior negative HIV antibody test was within one year of diagnosis of infection, by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous calendar intervals.

EXPOSURE CATEGORY	-	)ct 94 – Mar 95		.pr 95 – Sep 95	1 Oct 94 – 30 Sep 95			
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Malehomosexual/bisexual								
contact	105	-	79	-	184	-	184	
Malehomosexual/bisexual								
contact and ID use	6	-	7	-	13	-	13	
ID use (female and								
heterosexualmale)	1	1	4	1	5	2	7	
Heterosexual contact	5	4	6	6	11	10	21	
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other/undetermined <sup>1</sup>	2	0	6	0	8	0	12	
TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	119	5	102	7	221	12	237	

1. See footnote Table 3.4.

## Table 3.6

Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection for which HIV seroconversion illness was diagnosed or the date of a prior negative HIV antibody test was within one year of diagnosis of infection, by sex and age group, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous calendar intervals.

AGE GROUP	1 Oct 9	4 – 31 Mar 95	1 Apr 9	5 – 30 Sep 95	1 Oc	t 94 – 30 Se	ep 95
(YEARS)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
13 – 19	1	0	2	2	3	2	5
20 – 29	55	1	39	2	94	3	98
30 – 39	39	1	40	2	79	3	84
40 – 49	20	2	13	1	33	3	36
50 – 59	2	1	4	0	6	1	8
60 +	2	0	3	0	5	0	5
Not known	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	119	5	102	7	221	12	237

1. See footnote Table 3.4.

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# NATIONAL ZIDOVUDINE REGISTRY

## Table 4.1

Number of new zidovudine prescriptions cumulative to 30 September 1995 and for two previous yearly intervals, by sex and State/Territory.

STATE/ TERRITORY	1 Oct 93 - Male	- 30 Sep 94 Female	1 Oct 94 Male	– 30 Sep 95 Female	Cumula Male	tive to 30 S Female	•
АСТ	13	0	4	0	82	5	87
NSW	240	10	78	0	4099	211	4320
NT	7	0	3	0	29	1	30
QLD	8	1	1	0	186	7	193
SA	46	1	20	0	362	25	390
TAS	0	0	0	0	16	3	21
VIC	7	1	3	0	1410	63	1481
WA	39	5	43	6	451	61	513
TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	360	18	152	6	6635	376	7035

1. Totals include people whose sex was not reported.

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# SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE OF HIV INFECTION IN SEXUALLY TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASE CLINICS

Table 5.1

Number of people seen, number of people tested for HIV antibody and number of people newly diagnosed with HIV infection by sex and STD clinic<sup>1</sup>, during the quarter 1 July 1995 to 30 September 1995.

STD CLINIC	Seen Male	at Clinic Female		ted for ntibody Female	1	ly diagnos HIV infect Female	tion
Sydney Sexual Health Centre, NSW	1676	1067	681	418	3	0	3
Clinic 34, Darwin, NT	195	108	79	61	0	0	0
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1078	681	374	229	3	0	3
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1382	898	1057	656	4	0	4
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	1875	1395	1431	1142	9	0	9
TOTAL	6206	4149	3622	2506	19	0	19

1. Data not available for Parramatta Sexual Health Clinic, NSW.

## Table 5.2

Number of people seen<sup>1</sup> who had a*previous negative HIV antibody test*, percent retested for HIV antibody, and number (percent) newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, during the quarter 1 July 1995 to 30 September 1995.

EXPOSURE	Previous negative HIV antibody test		%Retested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection			n
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	e Total	%
Homosexual/bisexual								
contact	738	-	69.4	-	8	-	8	1.6
Homosexual/bisexual								
contact and ID use	83	-	68.7	-	1	-	1	1.8
ID use (female and								
heterosexualmale)	252	142	63.1	67.6	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	2281	1654	56.1	54.5	0	0	0	0.0
outside Australia <sup>2</sup>	287	150	49.8	47.3	0	0	0	0.0
within Australia only	1994	1504	57.0	55.3	0	0	0	0.0
Sex worker	-	363	-	77.1	-	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and ID use	-	40	-	67.5	-	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	82	109	90.2	73.4	0	0	0	0.0
TOTAL	3436	2308	60.6	60.0	9	0	9	0.3

1. At clinics other than Clinic 34, Darwin, NT.

2. Within 3 months for Clinic 275 and one year for other clinics.

### Table 5.3

Number of people seen<sup>1</sup> with *no previous HIV antibody test*, percent tested for HIV antibody for the first time, and number (percent) newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, during the quarter 1 July 1995 to 30 September 1995.

EXPOSURE CATEGORY		orevious tibody test Female		ested for Intibody Female	witl	wly diag h HIV ir Female	fectio	n
Homosexual/bisexual								
contact	306	-	62.4	-	8	-	8	4.2
Homosexual/bisexual								
contact and ID use	14	-	71.4	-	0	-	0	0.0
ID use (female and								
heterosexualmale)	94	41	84.0	80.5	1	0	1	0.9
Heterosexual contact	1810	1375	59.9	62.8	0	0	0	0.0
outside Australia <sup>2</sup>	118	72	55.9	58.3	0	0	0	0.0
within Australia only	1692	1303	60.2	63.1	0	0	0	0.0
Sex worker	-	70	-	77.1	-	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and ID use	-	9	-	33.3	-	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	226	229	43.4	46.3	1	0	1	0.5
TOTAL	2450	1724	59.7	61.5	10	0	10	0.4

1. At clinics other than Clinic 34, Darwin, NT.

2. Within 3 months for Clinic 275 and one year for other clinics.

# Table 5.4

Number of people seen<sup>1</sup>, number of people tested for HIV antibody and number of people newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and age group, during the quarter 1 July 1995 to 30 September 1995.

AGE GROUP	Seen at Clinic			Tested for HIV antibody		Newlydiagnosed with HIV infection		
(YEARS)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
13 – 19	247	583	164	331	0	0	0	
20 - 29	2793	2189	1709	1340	9	0	9	
30 - 39	1772	847	982	523	5	0	5	
40 - 49	762	302	438	190	3	0	3	
50 - 59	297	91	174	52	2	0	2	
60 +	139	28	75	9	0	0	0	
Unknown	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	6011	4041	3543	2445	19	0	19	

1. At clinics other than Clinic 34, Darwin, NT.

### Table 5.5

Number of people diagnosed with specific STD<sup>1</sup>, other than HIV, by sex, exposure category and whether or not they were tested for HIV antibody<sup>2</sup> during the quarter 1 July 1995 to 30 September 1995.

EXPOSURE CATEGORY		sted for antibody Female		ested for antibody Female
Homosexual/bisexual contact	20	-	8	-
Homosexual/bisexual contact and ID use ID use (female and	0	-	0	-
heterosexual male) Heterosexual contact	10 47	5 18	2 43	1 24
outside Australia <sup>2</sup> within Australia only	6 41	0	9 34	2 22
Sex worker Sex worker and ID use	-	3	-	3
Other/undetermined	1	4	2	0
TOTAL	78	30	55	28

1. Specific STD are gonorrhoea, syphilis and chlamydia.

2. Includes people who may have been previously tested for HIV antibody and excludes people previously known to have HIV infection.

## SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE FOR SEXUALLY TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES

#### Table 6.1

Number of diagnoses of gonorrhoea in sentinel sexual health centres<sup>1</sup> during the quarter 1 July 1995 to 30 September 1995, by sex , exposure category and HIV antibody status.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES	1 . Male	Jul 95 – 30 Se Female	p 95 Total
EXPOSURE CATEGORY <sup>2</sup>			
Homosexual/bisexual contact	13	0	13
Homosexual/bisexual contact			
and ID use	0	0	0
ID use (female and			
heterosexualmale)	0	0	0
Heterosexual contact <sup>3</sup>	8	1	9
outside Australia	2	0	2
within Australia only	6	1	7
Sex worker	0	0	0
Sex worker and ID use	0	0	0
HIV ANTIBODY STATUS			
Positive	1	0	1
Negative	14	0	14
Unknown	6	1	7
Total⁴	21	1	22

1. Participating clinics provided data on 6,831 male attendances with 4,081 male patients seen and 4,907 female attendances with 3,016 female patients seen. Participating clinics this quarter: Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA; Clinic 34, Darwin, NT; Gold Coast Sexual Clinic, Gold Coast, QLD; Melbourne Sexual Health Clinic, Melbourne, VIC; Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney, NSW.

2. For most clinics, the exposure categories represent those for the preceding 12 month period.

3. No other category specified.

<sup>4.</sup> Total number of males and females diagnosed with specific STD by exposure category and separately for HIV antibody status.

### Table 6.2

Number of diagnoses of early syphilis<sup>1</sup> in sentinel sexual health centres during the quarter 1 July 1995 to 30 September 1995, by sex, exposure category and HIV antibody status.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CASES	1 . Male	Jul 95 – 30 Se Female	•
EXPOSURE CATEGORY <sup>2</sup>			
Homosexual/bisexual contact	1	-	1
Homosexual/bisexual contact			
and ID use	0	-	0
ID use (female and			
heterosexualmale)	0	0	0
Heterosexual contact	0	3	3
outside Australia	0	0	0
within Australia only	0	3	3
Sex worker	0	0	0
Sex worker and ID use	0	0	0
HIV ANTIBODY STATUS			
Positive	0	0	0
Negative	0	3	3
Unknown	1	0	1
Total	1	3	4

 $\label{eq:cases} \text{ as primary, secondary or early latent infection only.}$ 

2. See footnotes Table 6.1.

# HIV ANTIBODY TESTING IN BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES.

Table 7.1

Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in blood donors by State/Territory, cumulative to 30 September 1995, and for two previous yearly intervals.

STATE/ TERRITORY	1 Oct 93 – 30 Sep 94	1 Oct 94 – 30 Sep 95	1 May 85 – 30 Sep 95
ACT	0	0	1
NSW	1	2	34
NT	0	1	1
QLD	3	2	19
SA	0	0	3
TAS	0	0	0
VIC	1	0	12
WA	0	0	6
TOTAL	5	5	76

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STATE/ TERRITORY	1 Oct 93 – 30 Jun 94	1 Jul 94 <i>–</i> 30 Sep 94	1 Oct 93 to 30 Sep 94
ACT	10928	4088	15016
NSW	217235	70485	287720
NT	6868	2375	9243
QLD	134918	45091	180009
SA	71104	24592	95696
TAS	18287	6143	24430
VIC	181267	55126	236393
W A	58195	18667	76862
TOTAL	698802	<b>226567</b>	925369

Table 7.2Number of HIV antibody tests conducted in Blood Transfusion Services by State/Territory and calendar interval.

STATE/ TERRITORY	1 Oct 94 – 30 Jun 95	1 Jul 95 – 30 Sep 95	1 Oct 94 to 30 Sep 95
ACT	11692	4291	15983
NSW	212400	74056	286456
NT	5648	2499	8147
QLD	132526	42953	175479
SA	66431	21967	88398
TAS	18896	6992	25888
VIC	173813	58519	232332
WA	58145	22163	80308
TOTAL	679551	233440	912991

Blood Transfusion Services for which counts were partially unavailable:

STATE/ TERRITORY	WEEKS	YEAR	<b>Blood Transfusion Service</b>	
NSW	39-40	1995	Young District Hospital	
VIC	25-40	1995	Ballarat Base Hospital	

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STATE/ TERRITORY	1 Oct 93 – 30 Jun 94	1 Jul 94 – 30 Sep 94	1 Oct 93 to 30 Sep 94
ACT	7217	2475	9692
NSW	247637	88648	336285
NT	7846	2752	10598
QLD	91856	40499	132355
SA	65844	11376	77220
TAS	10394	3468	13862
VIC	116955	31365	148320
WA	54992	19585	74577
TOTAL	602741	200168	802909

Table 7.3 Number of HIV antibody tests conducted in Public Health Laboratories by State/ Territory and calendar interval.

STATE/ TERRITORY	1 Oct 94 – 30 Jun 95	1 Jul 95 – 30 Sep 95	1 Oct 94 to 30 Sep 95
ACT	7505	2536	10041
NSW	254543	71807	326350
ΝΤ	9945	2850	12795
QLD	123287	40436	163723
SA	60196	16334	76530
TAS	10055	3290	13345
VIC	83840	29678	113518
W A	59587	18924	78511
TOTAL	608958	185855	794813

STATE/ TERRITORY	WEEKS	YEAR	Public Health Laboratory
NSW	41-52	1994	Hanly Moir Pathology
	25-40	1995	Sydney Diagnostic Service
	29-40	1995	Sugermans' Pathology
	37-40	1995	Hampsons Pathology
	37-40	1995	Repatriation General Hospital
	38-40	1995	St Vincent's Hospital
QLD	52, 1-12	1993,1994	Queensland State Health Laboratory
	33-40	1995	Prince Charles Hospital
	33-40	1995	Queensland Medical Laboratory
SA	33-52,1-40	1994,1995	Clinpath Laboratories
VIC	33-40	1995	Gribbles Pathology
	37-40	1995	Fairfield Hospital
WA	33-40	1995	Western Diagnostic Pathology
	37-40	1995	Russell Pathology

Public Health Laboratories for which counts were partially unavailable:

# REPORT FROM WHO WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

Dr G Poumerol, Acting Regional Advisor, WHO Regional Office, Manila.

## Table 8.1

AIDS and HIV in the WHO	Western	Pacific	Region	by	country; based on reports
available at 30 September	1995.				

	CUMULATIVE AIDS CASES					
COUNTRY/			Children		AIDS	Diagnoses
AREA	Male	Female	<13 Years	Total	Rate <sup>1</sup>	HIV
American Samoa	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
Australia	6035	237	40	6292	34.9	19292
Brunei	6	0	0	6	2.1	252
Cambodia	56	23	0	86	0.9	2536
China <sup>2</sup>	70	7	0	77	0.0	2428
CookIslands	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
Fed. S. Micronesia	2	0	0	2	1.8	2
Fiji	4	3	1	7	0.9	28
French Polynesia	25	5	1	45	20.8	144
Guam	30	1	0	31	21.9	77
Hong Kong	136	12	3	148	2.5	573
Japan	962	64	0	1026	0.8	3919
Kiribati	0	0	0	0	0.0	2
Laos	9	3	0	13	0.3	80
Масао	7	1	0	8	1.9	105
Malaysia	239	20	4	259	1.3	13250
Marshall Islands	2	0	0	2	10.4	10
Nauru	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
New Caledonia	37	6	1	43	23.2	123
New Zealand	490	21	4	511	14.4	1052
Niue	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
N. Mariana Islands	2	0	0	6	10.4	10
Palau	1	0	0	1	5.8	1
Papua New Guinea	71	70	3	141	3.5	335
Philippines	141	79	5	220	0.3	668
Rep. of Korea	27	5	0	32	0.1	456
Samoa	1	1	0	2	1.2	2
Singapore	135	10	1	145	5.0	348
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0.0	1
Tokelau	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
Tonga	5	0	0	5	5.1	6
Tuvalu	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
Vanuatu	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
Vietnam	250	34	0	292	0.4	2963
Wallis and Futuna	1	0	0	1	7.1	2
TOTAL <sup>†</sup>	8744	602	63	9401	0.5	48665

1. AIDS cases per 100,000 total current population.

2. For Taiwan 45 AIDS cases in males, 3 in females and 300 diagnosis of HIV infection were reported to 30 September 1995.

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National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

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#### NOTES

The National AIDS Registry is maintained by NCHECR on behalf of the National HIV Surveillance Committee, which consists of representatives from NCHECR, and the Health Departments of each State and Territory and the Commonwealth of Australia. The Registry is based on reports from doctors who diagnose AIDS, made to the Health Department in the State/Territory of diagnosis. Date of birth and a name code (first two letters of first and last name) are used to minimise duplicate registration, while maintaining confidentiality.

**The National HIV Database** is maintained by NCHECR on behalf of the National HIV Surveillance Committee. It is based on reports of new diagnoses of HIV infection from HIV Reference Laboratories (ACT, NSW, TAS, VIC), or from a combination of Reference Laboratory and diagnosing doctors (NT, QLD, SA, WA). In order to avoid counting the same case more than once, only diagnoses which are determined to be new by the diagnosing laboratory or doctor are reported for the purposes of national surveillance.

Sentinel surveillance is carried out by six STD Clinics in five Australian cities, which send quarterly reports on HIV antibody testing to NCHECR.

Tabulations from the National AIDS Registry, the National HIV Database and Sentinel HIV Surveillance in STD clinics are based on data available three months after the end of the reporting interval indicated, to allow for reporting delay and to incorporate newly available information.

**HIV antibody testing** is carried out at Public Health Laboratories and Blood Transfusion Services, and summary information on testing is sent on a four–weekly basis to the National HIV Reference Laboratory, which produces quarterly tabulations for publication in the Australian HIV Surveillance Report.

Abbreviations: HIV is the human immunodeficiency virus, and unless otherwise specified, refers to HIV–1 only. AIDS is the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, ID stands for injecting drug, and STD for sexually transmissible disease. Specified countries are those of sub–Saharan Africa and the Caribbean, where transmission of HIV is believed to be predominantly heterosexual. The Australian States and Territories are: Australian Capital Territory (ACT), New South Wales (NSW), Northern Territory (NT), Queensland (QLD), South Australia (SA), Tasmania (TAS), Victoria (VIC) and Western Australia (WA). NCHECR is the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research.

#### All data in this report are provisional and subject to future revision.

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