

Australian HIV Surveillance Update

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

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Diagnoses in the third quarter

1 July – 30 September 1997

- A total of 189 diagnoses of HIV infection, 58 diagnoses of AIDS and 46 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 31 December 1997, to have occurred in the *third quarter of 1997*.
- Following adjustment for reporting delay, the estimated numbers of AIDS diagnoses and deaths following AIDS occurring in the *third quarter of 1997* were 115 and 80, respectively.
- *In comparison*, 230 diagnoses of HIV infection, 154 diagnoses of AIDS and 121 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 31 December 1997, to have occurred in the *third quarter of 1996*.

Diagnoses in the year to 30 September 1997

- 780 diagnoses of HIV infection
 - 308 diagnoses of AIDS
 - 277 deaths following AIDS
- were reported by 31 December 1997.

Total diagnoses to 30 September 1997

- 20,902 diagnoses of HIV infection
 - 16,700 diagnoses of HIV infection following adjustment for multiple reporting
 - 7,571 diagnoses of AIDS
 - 5,490 deaths following AIDS
- were reported by 31 December 1997.

HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Six sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 6,565 people in the period 1 July to 30 September 1997 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- Of 2,604 people reported as having been tested for the first time, 7 (0.3%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 3,730 people reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 8 (0.2%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 244 people who reported a history of heterosexual contact and injecting drug use and who were retested for HIV antibody following a negative test, none were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 30 September 1997 had an average age of 36 years, and 0.9% were in the age group 13 – 19 years. 89% were male, 8% were female and sex was not reported for 3% of cases.

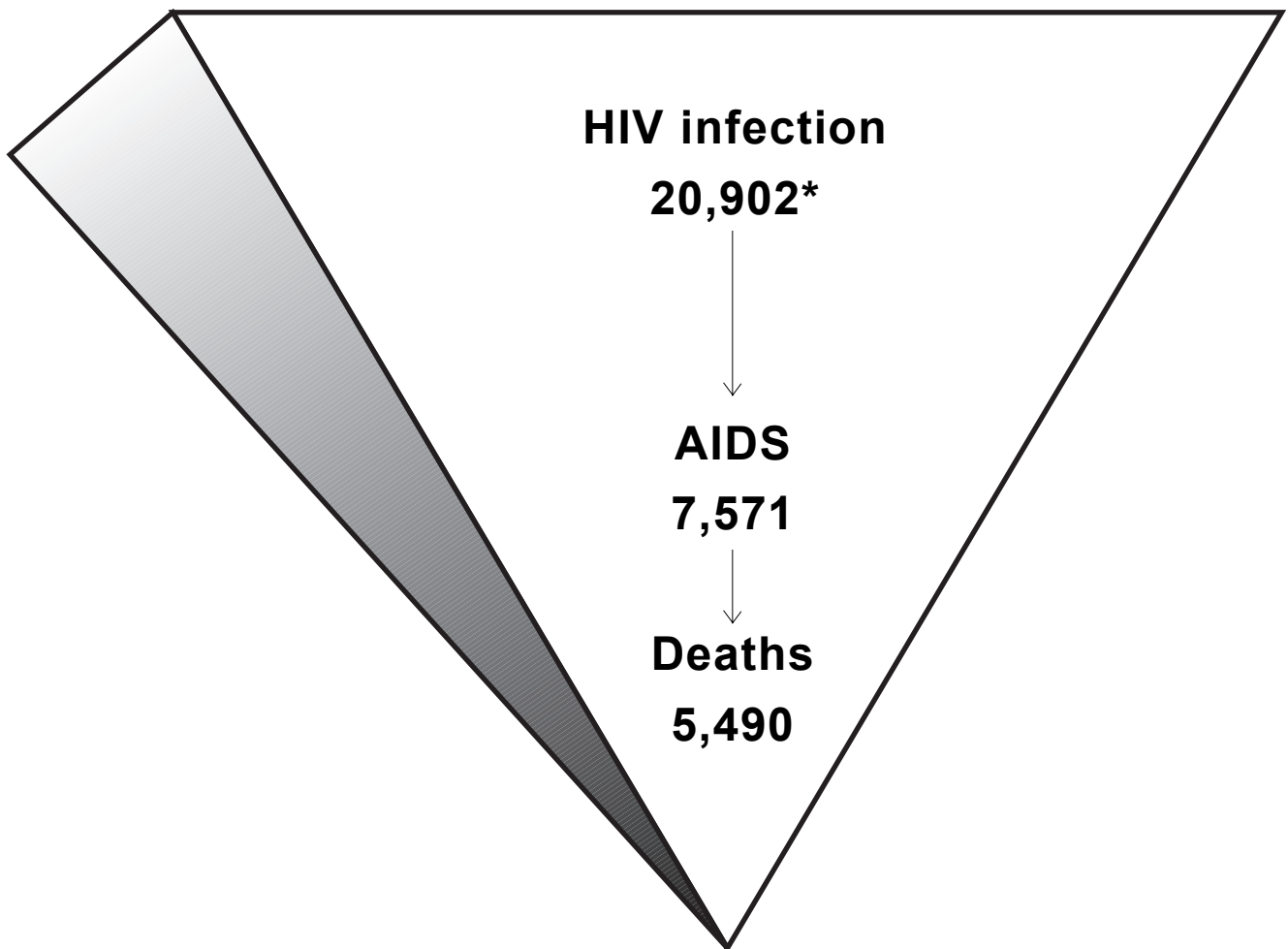
Of the 80% of cases of HIV infection newly diagnosed in the year to 30 September 1997 for which exposure to HIV was recorded, 3% reported a history of heterosexual contact and injecting drug use.

New HIV infections

During the third quarter of 1997, 18 cases 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. No cases of newly acquired HIV infection for which exposure to HIV was attributed to heterosexual contact and injecting drug use, were reported.

The HIV epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 30 September 1997



* Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 16,700 (range 15,800 to 17,600), cumulative to 30 September 1997.