

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 1998

- A total of 174 diagnoses of HIV infection, 46 diagnoses of AIDS and 26 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 September 1998, to have occurred in the *second quarter of 1998*.
- Following adjustment for reporting delay, the estimated numbers of AIDS diagnoses and deaths following AIDS occurring in the *first quarter of 1998* were 80 and 60, respectively.
- *In comparison*, 190 diagnoses of HIV infection, 84 diagnoses of AIDS and 54 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 September 1998, to have occurred in the *second quarter of 1997*.

Diagnoses in the year to 30 June 1998

- 758 diagnoses of HIV infection
- 246 diagnoses of AIDS
- 137 deaths following AIDS
were reported by 30 September 1998.

Total diagnoses to 30 June 1998

- 19,109 diagnoses of HIV infection
- 16,240 diagnoses of HIV infection following adjustment for multiple reporting
- 7,850 diagnoses of AIDS
- 5,605 deaths following AIDS
were reported by 30 September 1998.

HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Six sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,472 people in the period 1 April to 30 June 1998 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- Of 2,240 people reported as having been tested for the first time, 4 (0.2%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 3,232 people reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 3 (0.1%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 347 people who reported a history of heterosexual contact and injecting drug use were retested for HIV antibody in the quarter, none were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 30 June 1998 had an average age of 36 years, and 1.3% were in the age group 13 – 19 years. 89% were male, 10% were female and sex was not reported for 1% of cases.

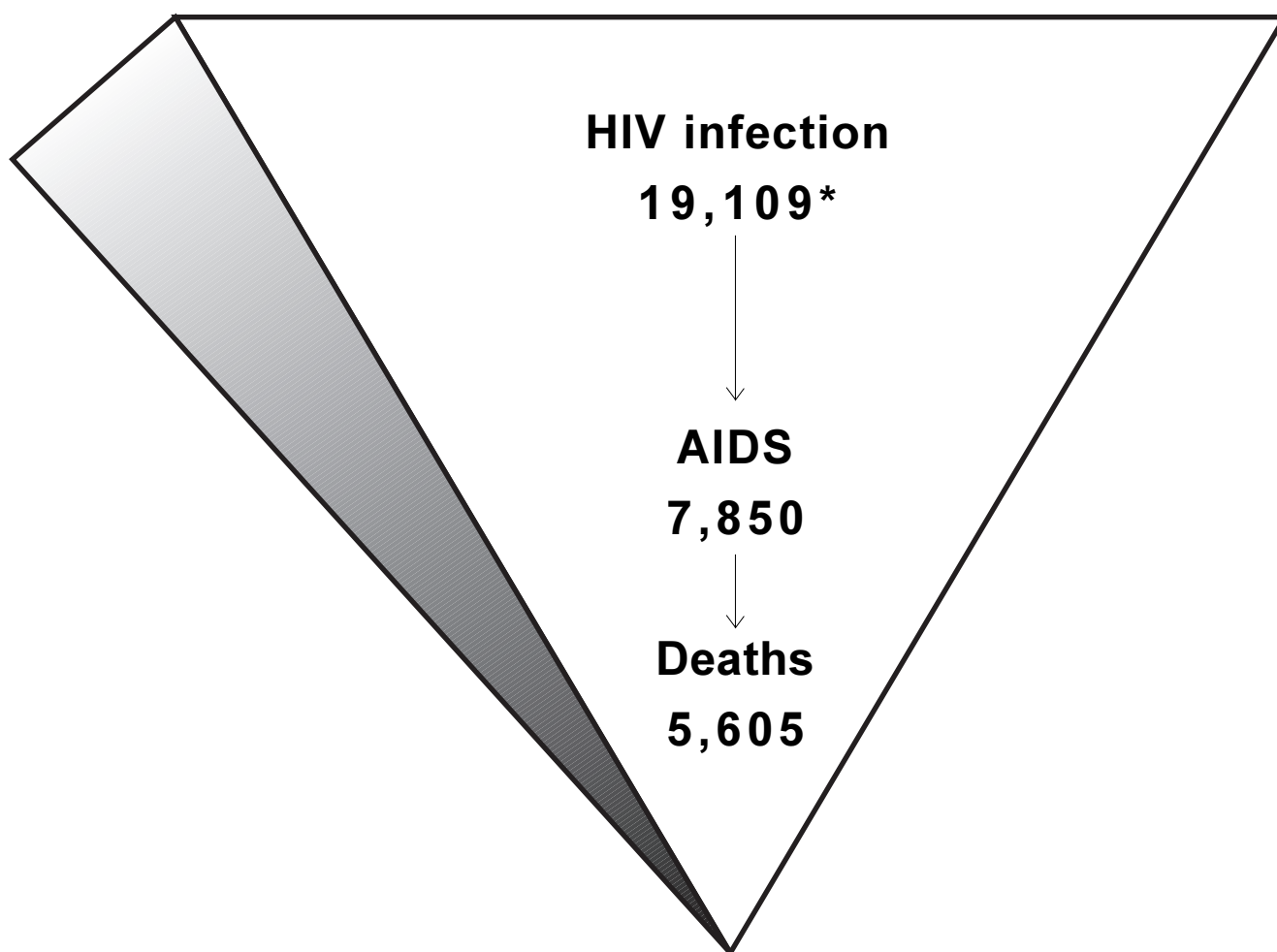
Of the 85% of cases of HIV infection newly diagnosed in the year to 30 June 1998 for which exposure to HIV was recorded, a history of injecting drug use among people other than homosexually active men was reported in 31% of cases.

New HIV infections

During the second quarter of 1998, 25 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. No cases were reported of newly acquired HIV infection attributed to a history of injecting drug use.

The HIV epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 30 June 1998



* Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 16,240 (range 15,850 to 16,640), cumulative to 30 June 1998.