

# Australian HIV Surveillance Update

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

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## Diagnoses in the first quarter

### 1 January – 31 March 1999

- A total of 158 diagnoses of HIV infection, 22 diagnoses of AIDS and 26 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 June 1999, to have occurred in the *first quarter of 1999*.
- Following adjustment for reporting delay, the estimated numbers of AIDS diagnoses and deaths following AIDS occurring in the *first quarter of 1999* were 45 and 40, respectively.
- *In comparison*, 206 diagnoses of HIV infection, 75 diagnoses of AIDS and 37 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 June 1999, to have occurred in the *first quarter of 1998*.

## Diagnoses in the year to 31 March 1999

- 673 diagnoses of HIV infection
- 215 diagnoses of AIDS
- 139 deaths following AIDS  
were reported by 30 June 1999.

### Total diagnoses to 31 March 1999

- 19,581 diagnoses of HIV infection
- 16,870 diagnoses of HIV infection following adjustment for multiple reporting
- 8,103 diagnoses of AIDS
- 5,753 deaths following AIDS  
were reported by 30 June 1999.

## HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Six sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,437 people in the period 1 January to 31 March 1999 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- Of 2,356 people reported as having been tested for the first time, 9 (0.4%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 3,081 people reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 2 (0.1%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 485 males who reported a history of homosexual contact only and who were retested following a negative test, 2 (0.4%) were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.

## HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 March 1999 had an average age of 36 years, and 2.8% were in the age group 13 – 19 years. 85.7% were male, 13.3% were female and sex was not reported for 1% of cases.

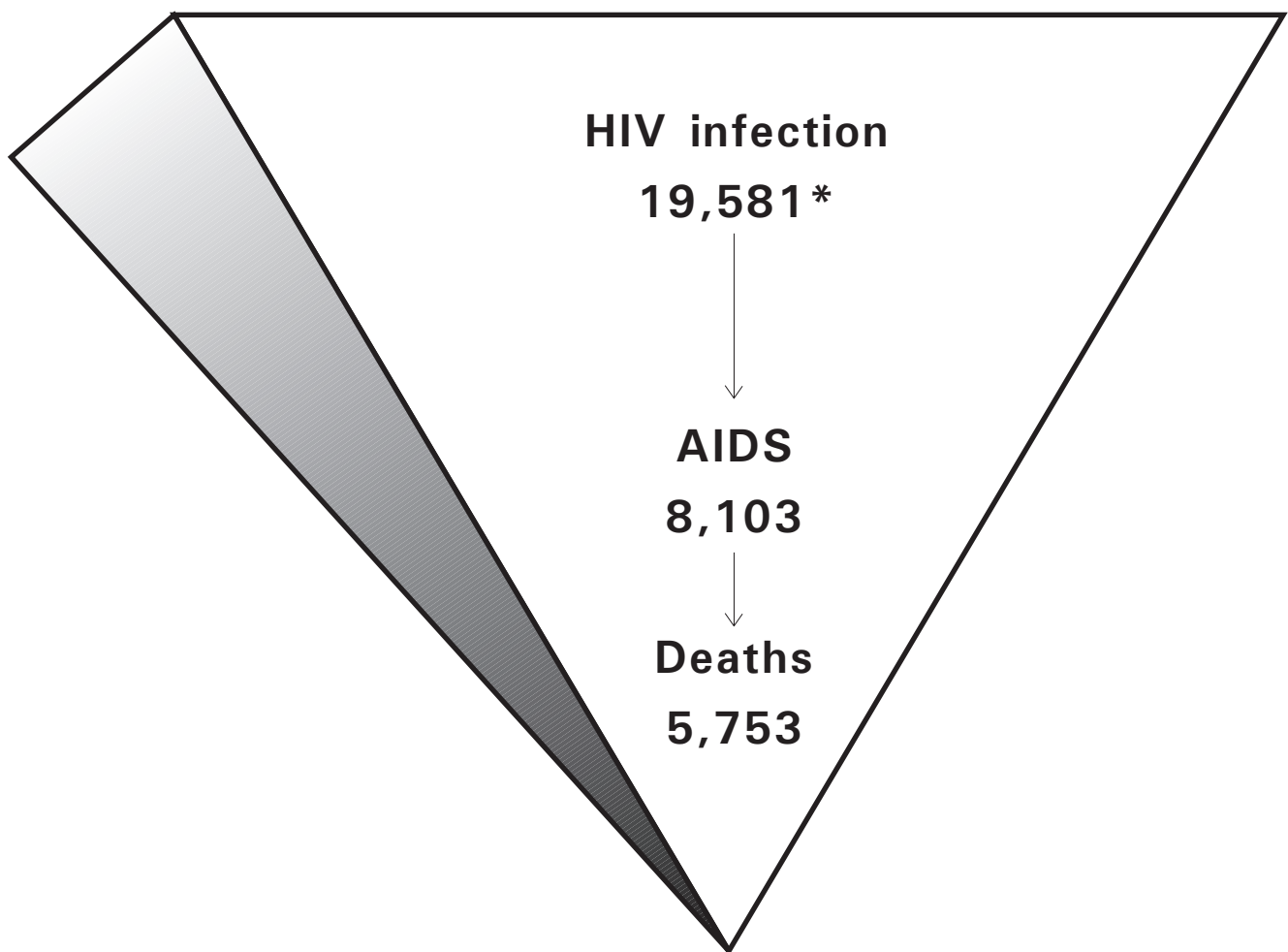
Of 81.5% of cases of HIV infection newly diagnosed in the year to 31 March 1999 for which exposure to HIV was recorded, a history of male homosexual contact only was reported in 63% of cases.

## New HIV infections

During the first quarter of 1999, 22 cases (95% in 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. A history of homosexual contact only was reported in 81% of cases among males.

# The HIV epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 31 March 1999



\* Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 16,870 (range 16,470 to 17,270), cumulative to 31 March 1999.