

Australian HIV Surveillance Update

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

Volume 12, Number 3

July 1996

From 1 January to 31 March 1996:

- 214 people were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.
- 108 people were newly diagnosed with AIDS.
- 97 people died following AIDS.

To 31 March 1996 there have been:

- 19,661 diagnoses of HIV infection.
- 6,730 diagnoses of AIDS.
- 4,864 deaths following AIDS.

From 1 January to 31 March 1995:

- 241 people were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.
- 197 people were newly diagnosed with AIDS.
- 188 people died following AIDS.

To 31 March 1995 there were:

- 18,860 diagnoses of HIV infection.
- 6,130 diagnoses of AIDS.
- 4,350 deaths following AIDS.

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 March 1996 had an average age of 34 years, and 2.4% were in the age group 13–19 years. 90% were male, 9% were female, and sex was not recorded for 1% of cases.

Of the 88.5% of cases of HIV infection newly diagnosed in the year to 31 March 1996 for which exposure to HIV was recorded, a history of heterosexual contact was reported in 19.4%.

New HIV infections

During the first quarter of 1996, 39 males and 5 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 in 10% of cases in males and 60% of cases in females.

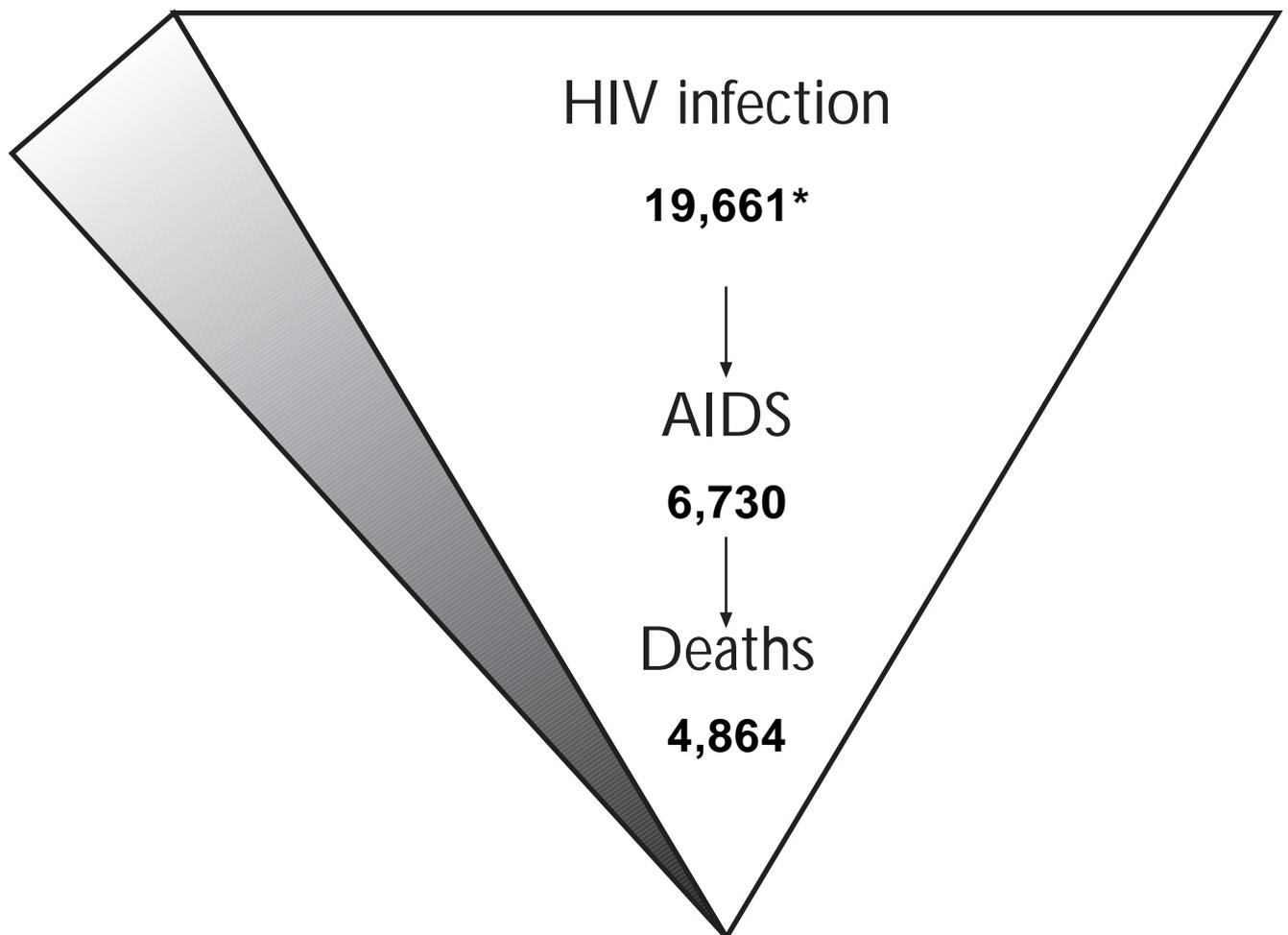
HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Five sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,739 people in the period 1 January to 31 March 1996 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- Of 2,376 people reported as having been tested for the first time, 9 (0.4%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 3,179 people reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 5 (0.2%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 1,782 people who reported a history of heterosexual contact only and who were tested for HIV antibody for the first time, 2 (0.1%) were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.

The HIV epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 31 March 1996



* Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 15,400 (range 14,500 to 16,300), cumulative to 31 March 1996.