

# Australian HIV Surveillance Update

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

Volume 13, Number 4

October 1997

## Diagnoses in the second quarter

### 1 April – 30 June 1997

- A total of 162 diagnoses of HIV infection, 51 diagnoses of AIDS and 34 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 September 1997, to have occurred in the *second quarter of 1997*.
- Following adjustment for reporting delay, the estimated numbers of AIDS diagnoses and deaths following AIDS occurring in the *second quarter of 1997* were 114 and 86, respectively.
- *In comparison*, 214 diagnoses of HIV infection, 149 diagnoses of AIDS and 113 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 September 1997, to have occurred in the *second quarter of 1996*.

## HIV Testing in Sexual Health Clinics

Five sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,750 people in the period 1 April to 30 June 1997 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- Of 2,343 people reported as having been tested for the first time, 12 (0.5%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 3,241 people reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 4 (0.1%) were found to have HIV infection.
- Of 1,621 people who reported a history of heterosexual contact only in Australia and who were tested for HIV antibody for the first time, 3 (0.2%) were newly diagnosed with HIV infection.

## Diagnoses in the year to 30 June 1997

- 814 diagnoses of HIV infection
  - 360 diagnoses of AIDS
  - 285 deaths following AIDS
- were reported by 30 September 1997.

## Total diagnoses to 30 June 1997

- 20,706 diagnoses of HIV infection
  - 16,500 diagnoses of HIV infection following adjustment for multiple reporting
  - 7,460 diagnoses of AIDS
  - 5,370 deaths following AIDS
- were reported by 30 September 1997.

## HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 30 June 1997 had an average age of 36 years, and 1.0% were in the age group 13 – 19 years. 91% were male, 7% were female and sex was not reported for 2% of cases.

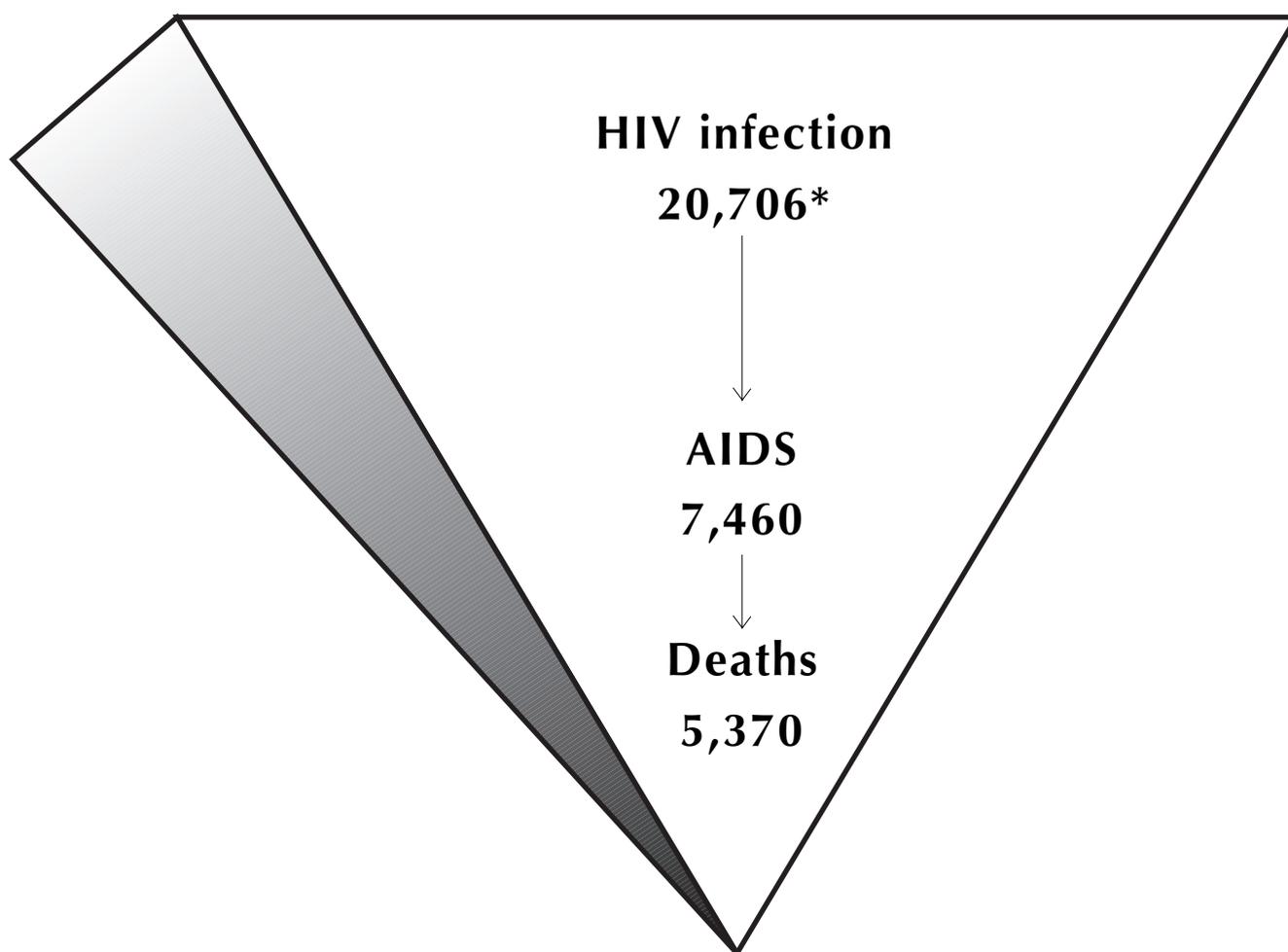
Of the 82% of cases of HIV infection newly diagnosed in the year to 30 June 1997 for which exposure to HIV was recorded, 17% reported a history of heterosexual contact only.

## New HIV infections

During the second quarter of 1997, 35 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. Exposure to HIV was attributed to heterosexual contact only in 9% of cases.

# The HIV epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 30 June 1997



\* Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 16,500 (range 15,600 to 17,500), cumulative to 30 June 1997.