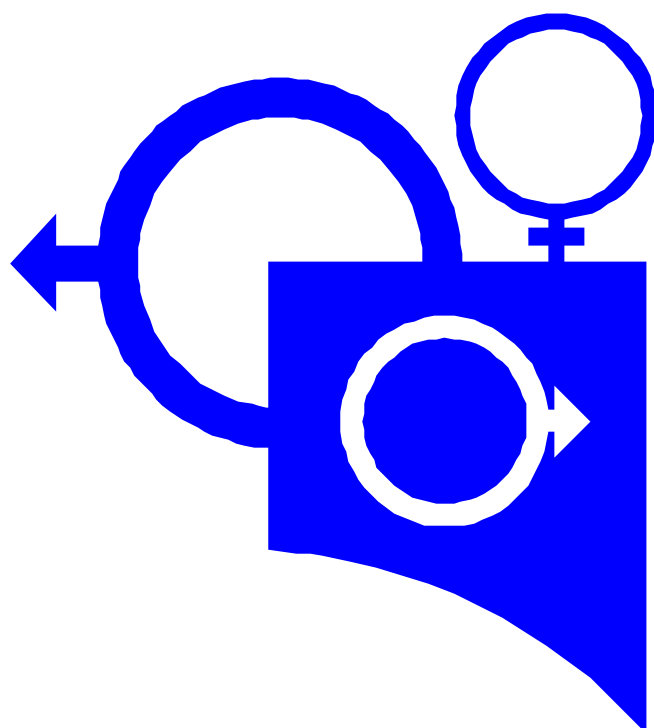


Sexually Transmitted Diseases Services Quarterly Surveillance Report

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HIV INFECTION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

HIV Infection 1985 - 31/03/02

In South Australia 821 individuals have been diagnosed with HIV infection, 743 (91%) males and 78 (9%) females. Of the males, 566 (76%) reported male-to-male sexual contact, 57 (8%) reported injecting drug use and 32 (4%) reported both risk factors. Injecting drug use was reported by 25 (32%) females diagnosed with HIV infection and 47 (60%) reported heterosexual transmission.

HIV Infection 01/01/02 - 31/03/02

Ten males were diagnosed with HIV infection in the first quarter of this year. One of the men acquired his infection in the preceding 12 months (Table 1.3).

Laboratory Screening For HIV Infection 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.

During the first quarter of 2002, 19562 screening tests were performed; 8191 (41%) on males, 11308 (58%) on females, and 63 tests on individuals whose sex was unknown (Table 1.4).

**Table 1.1 HIV infection detected in South Australia, 1985 - 31/03/02.
Exposure category by sex.**

Exposure category	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Homosexual contact	566	76	n.a.		566	69
Homosexual contact/IDU	32	4	n.a.		32	4
Heterosexual contact	48	6	47	60	95	11
IDU	57	8	25	32	82	10
Blood products	7	1	2	3	9	1
Other	4	1	3	4	7	1
Unknown	29	4	1	1	30	4
Total	743		78		821	

n.a. not applicable

**Table 1.2 HIV infection detected in South Australia, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Exposure category by sex.**

Exposure category	Male	Female
Homosexual contact	7	-
Homosexual/IDU	2	-
Heterosexual contact	1	3
Total	10	3

**Table 1.3 HIV infection detected in South Australia, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Testing history by age at diagnosis.**

Testing history	Male		Female	
	Age group (years)			
	25-39	≥ 40	<25	25-39
Negative < 12 months	1	-	-	-
No previous test	-	3	-	1
Negative > 12 months	1	3	1	1
Known positive overseas	1	1	-	-
Total	1	7	1	3

**Table 1.4 Summary of HIV antibody tests, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Laboratory by sex.**

Laboratory	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Private	3431	5143	4	8578
Public	4760	6165	59	10984
Total	8191	11308	63	19562

HEPATITIS C SURVEILLANCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Hepatitis C Medical Notification 01/01/02 - 31/03/02

In the first quarter of 2002, 209 medical notifications of hepatitis C infection were received for 152 (63%) males and 91 (37%) females. Data from medical notifications show 181 (87%) individuals were first diagnosed with hepatitis C infection during this period.

Among the 209 notifications, 77 individuals reported a first positive hepatitis C test in 2002 while 28 individuals had earlier, positive tests (pre 1995). Thirty five individuals reported a previous negative test; in 24 cases, more than 12 months earlier, and 11 within the last year. In a further 69 cases the testing history was unknown. In 118 (65%) instances, past or present injecting drug use was reported as a likely transmission route for hepatitis C virus (Table 2.1).

At the time of diagnosis, the majority of individuals were aged between 20 and 39 years, 72 (64%) males and 44 (64%) females (Table 2.2). Four females and four males were aged less than twenty years, of these, six had a history of injecting drug use.

Newly acquired infections - Incident Cases

Incident cases are identified by hepatitis C antibody seroconversion within 12 months, or a positive test accompanied by acute clinical hepatitis not ascribed to other causes. During the quarter, 11 incident cases were identified, all had negative serology in the last 12 months and two also had clinical hepatitis.

The incident cases comprised two females and nine males. The probable mode of transmission for hepatitis C virus was injecting drug use in nine (82%) cases (Table 2.3). One further case had several risks for acquisition of hepatitis C virus, including recent injecting drug use; in another case exposure to hepatitis C has not yet been ascertained. The most common age-group at diagnosis was 20 to 29 years. One female and one male were aged less than 20 years at the time of diagnosis (Table 2.4).

Collated laboratory data for hepatitis C antibody tests performed during the quarter are shown in Table 2.5.

Table 2.1 Hepatitis C infection, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Exposure category by sex.

Exposure category	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
IDU*	76	68	42	61	118	65
Blood transfusion/blood products	6	5	6	9	12	7
Tattoos	5	5	3	4	8	4
High prevalence country***	6	5	6	9	12	7
Other**	1	1	1	1	2	1
Unknown	18	16	11	16	29	16
Total	112		69		181	

* includes IDU in combination with other categories

** includes -body piercing, blood contact

*** residence/medical treatment in a high prevalence country

**Table 2.2 Hepatitis C infection, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Age group by sex.**

Age group (years)	Male		Female		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
10 - 19	4	4	4	6	8	4
20 - 29	31	28	22	32	53	29
30 - 39	41	37	22	32	63	35
40 - 49	24	21	16	23	40	22
≥ 50	12	10	5	7	17	10
Total	112		69		181	

**Table 2.3 Newly acquired infections (Incident cases*) of hepatitis C,
01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Exposure category by sex.**

Exposure category	Male	Female	Total
IDU	8	1	9
Sex partner hepatitis C positive	1	-	1
Not identified	-	1	1
Total	9	2	11

* Incident cases are newly acquired infections, see text

**Table 2.4 Newly acquired infections (Incident cases*) of hepatitis C,
01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Age group by sex.**

Age group (years)	Male	Female	Total
10 - 19	1	1	2
20 - 29	5	-	5
30 - 39	3	1	4
Total	9	2	11

* Incident cases are newly acquired infections, see text

**Table 2.5 Summary of hepatitis C antibody tests, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Laboratory by sex.**

Laboratory	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Private	3416	3826	-	7242
Public	5188	6501	11	11700
Total	8604	10327	11	18942

HEPATITIS B SURVEILLANCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Hepatitis B Medical Notification 01/01/02 - 31/03/02

During the first quarter of 2002, 58 hepatitis B medical notifications were received. Of these, 3 were acute clinical cases of hepatitis B infection (Tables 3.1, 3.2). A further 14 were reports of chronic carriers of greater than twelve months duration, who had been previously diagnosed but not notified. Reports of antigen positivity of uncertain duration accounted for 41 cases (Table 3.3).

Of the 41 reports of antigen positivity of uncertain duration, 30 tested surface antigen positive for the first time this quarter and the testing history was unknown for the remaining 11 cases. Among the 30 individuals who tested surface antigen positive for the first time, but were not acute cases, the racial origin of 16 (53%) was reported as Asian (Table 3.4).

The number of hepatitis B surface antigen tests performed by laboratories for this quarter is shown in Table 3.5.

**Table 3.1 Acute hepatitis B infection, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Exposure category by sex.**

Exposure category	Male	Total
Country of Birth	1	1
Homosexual Contact	1	1
None Identified	1	1
Total	3	3

**Table 3.2 Acute hepatitis B infection, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Age group by sex.**

Age group (years)	Male	Total
<10	1	1
20 - 29	1	1
≥50	1	1
Total	3	3

**Table 3.3 Hepatitis B infection, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Case category by sex.**

Case category	Male	Female	Total
Acute Infection	3	-	3
Antigen positivity - uncertain duration	22	19	41
Chronic carriers - >12 months duration	7	7	14
Total	32	26	58

Table 3.4 Individuals who tested hepatitis B surface antigen positive for the first time, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Race by sex.

Racial origin	Male	Female	Total
Aboriginal	3	-	3
Asian	5	11	16
Caucasian	6	3	9
Other	1	1	2
Total	15	15	30

**Table 3.5 Summary of hepatitis B surface antigen tests, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02.
Laboratory by sex.**

Laboratory	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Private	2885	3760	-	6645
Public	4773	6980	33	11786
Total	7658	10740	33	18431

GENITAL CHLAMYDIAL INFECTION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Genital Chlamydial Infection 01/01/02 - 31/03/02

Between 1 January and 31 March 2002, 418 cases of chlamydial infection were notified by medical practitioners to STD Services. One hundred and fifty (36%) occurred in males and 267 (64%) in females (Table 4.1).

Males and females aged less than 30 years accounted for 78% and 90% of cases of genital chlamydial infection, respectively (Table 4.1). The racial origin of 371 cases (89%) was reported as Caucasian (Table 4.2). The infection was reported as being acquired in South Australia for 378 cases (90%).

The number of laboratory tests for genital chlamydia performed during this quarter is shown in Table 4.3.

Table 4.1 Genital chlamydial infection in South Australia, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Age group by sex.

Age group (years)	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
10 - 14	-		3	1	3	1
15 - 19	19	13	105	40	124	30
20 - 24	56	37	81	30	137	33
25 - 29	42	28	52	19	94	22
30 - 34	19	12	10	4	29	7
35 - 39	8	5	8	3	16	4
≥40	7	5	8	3	15	3
Total	151		267		418	

Table 4.2 Genital chlamydial infection, 01/01/02 – 31/03/02. Race by sex.

Racial origin	Male	Female	Total
Aboriginal	5	17	22
Asian	2	14	16
Caucasian	137	243	371
Other/unknown	7	2	9
Total	151	276	418

Table 4.3 Summary of laboratory tests for genital chlamydia, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Laboratory by sex.

Laboratory	Male	Female	Total
Private	810	2334	3144
Public	1584	3635	5219
Total	2394	5969	8363

GONOCOCCAL INFECTION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Gonococcal Infection 01/01/02 - 31/03/02

Between 1 January and 31 March 2002, 45 cases of gonococcal infection were notified to STD Services by laboratories, compared with a range of 40 to 87 infections per quarter notified during 2001. Twenty one (47%) cases occurred in males, and 24 (53%) in females. The male to female ratio of 0.88:1 compares to a ratio of 2.4:1 for all cases during 2001.

Medical notifications were received for 34 (76 %) cases reported by laboratories, thus demographic data are not yet known for 11 cases, six males and five females .

In males, gonococcal infection was distributed across all age strata, peaking in the 25-29 year age-group. Among females, 74% of cases occurred in those aged less than 30 years, with seven cases occurring in the age group 15-19 years (Table 5.1).

Of the 34 cases reported by medical practitioners to date, the majority of infections (79%) were acquired in South Australia. Nine of the fifteen male cases reported male-to-male sexual contact.

Table 5.1 Gonococcal infection detected in South Australia, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Age group by sex.

Age group (years)	Male	Female	Total
15 - 19	1	7	8
20 - 24	2	5	7
25 - 29	7	2	9
30 - 34	1	3	4
35 - 39	1	1	2
≥40	3	1	4
Total	15	19	34

Table 6.2 Males diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhoea or syphilis at C275, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Exposure category by infection.

Exposure category	No.	Chlamydia	Gonorrhoea
Homosexual, IDU	14	-	3
Homosexual	150	8	2
Heterosexual, IDU	82	4	-
Heterosexual, O/S [#]	85	7	2
Heterosexual	634	43	1
Total		62	8

Overseas contact in the previous 12 months

* No cases of Syphilis during the quarter

Table 6.3 Males diagnosed with hepatitis C, hepatitis B* or HIV infection at C275, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Exposure category by infection.

Exposure category	No.	Hepatitis C		Hepatitis B		HIV
		Known	New diagnosis	Previous exposure**	Carrier	
Homosexual	150	-	-	9	-	1
Bisexual	36	-	-	2	-	-
Bisexual, IDU	10	-	-	1	-	-
Heterosexual, IDU	82	11	-	2	-	-
Heterosexual, O/S [#]	85	-	1	6	1	-
Heterosexual	635	1	-	14	3	-
Other	20	2	-	-	1	-
Total		14	1	34	5	1

* No case of acute hepatitis B diagnosed during the quarter

** Refers to previous infection, now surface antibody positive

Overseas contact in the previous 12 months

Table 6.4 Females diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhoea* or syphilis* at C275, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Exposure category by infection.

Exposure category	No.	Chlamydia
Heterosexual O/S [#]	83	4
Heterosexual	491	33
Other	52	4
Total		41

* No case of syphilis or gonorrhoea diagnosed during the quarter

Overseas contact in the previous 12 months

Table 6.5 Females diagnosed with hepatitis C, hepatitis B* or HIV* infection at C275, 01/01/02 - 31/03/02. Exposure category by infection.

Exposure category	No.	Hepatitis C		Hepatitis B**
		Incident	Known	Previous exposure
Heterosexual, IDU	44	1	6	3
Heterosexual, O/S#	83	-	-	1
Heterosexual	491	-	1	4
Other	52	-	1	2
Total		1	8	10

* No cases of HIV or acute hepatitis B during reporting period

** Refers to previous infection, now surface antibody positive

Overseas contact in the previous 12 months

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