

Update AIDS surveillance in Canada

As of 31 March, 1994, Health Canada has received reports of 9,511 cases meeting the surveillance case definition for AIDS (revised 1 July, 1993⁽¹⁾). These include 9,415 adults (8,912 males, 503 females) and 96 pediatric cases (< 15 years of age; 51 males, 45 females). A total of 6,534 deaths (68.7%) have been reported.

Distribution of the adult cases by sex and risk factor and the total number of deaths are shown in Table 1. Four thousand one hundred and fifty-nine (44%) of these cases are in the 30-39-year

age group (Table 2). Table 3 shows the distribution of the adult cases by sex and disease grouping.

Seventy-three (33 males, 40 females) of the 96 pediatric cases acquired their infection through perinatal transmission. Distribution of the pediatric cases by risk factor, age group, sex, and disease grouping is shown in Table 4.

Geographical distribution of the total number of cases is shown in Table 5.

Table 1
Distribution of adult cases of AIDS reported in Canada
by sex and risk factor
(as of 31 March 1994)

Risk Factor	Number of cases		Total (%)	Known Deaths (% of cases)	
	Male	Female			
Homosexual/bisexual activity	7270	0	7270 (77)	5086	(70)
Injection drug use	195	59	254 (3)	148	(58)
Both of the above	344	0	344 (4)	220	(64)
Recipient of blood	102	64	166 (2)	138	(83)
Recipient of clotting factor	168	13	181 (2)	137	(76)
Heterosexual activity*					
a) origin in pattern-II country	214	129	343 (4)	202	(59)
b) sexual contact with person at risk	263	191	454 (5)	272	(60)
Occupational exposure**	0	1	1 (<1)	1	(100)
No identified risk factor	356	46	402 (4)	266	(66)
Total	8912	503	9415 (100)	6470	(69)

* **Heterosexual activity:**

a) pattern-II countries are defined by the WHO as countries in which the predominant means of transmission is heterosexual contact.

b) persons reporting heterosexual activity with person(s) at risk of HIV infection or who are infected with HIV.

** Full information regarding this occupational exposure case can be found in the CCDC 1992; 18:102-3.

Table 2
Distribution of adult cases of AIDS reported in Canada
by age group and sex
(as of 31 March 1994)

Age Group (In years)	Number of cases		Total (%)	Known Deaths (% of cases)	
	Male	Female			
15 - 19	29	3	32 (<1)	22	(69)
20 - 29	1610	151	1761 (19)	1160	(66)
30 - 39	3971	188	4159 (44)	2780	(67)
40 - 49	2407	70	2477 (26)	1753	(71)
50 and over	894	91	985 (10)	754	(77)
Unknown	1	0	1 (<1)	1	(100)
Total	8912	503	9415 (100)	6470	(69)

Reference

1. Revision of the surveillance case definition for AIDS in Canada. CCDC 1993; 19:116-17.

Source:

Based on the quarterly surveillance update: AIDS in Canada, April 1994, prepared by the Division of HIV/AIDS Epidemiology, Bureau of Communicable Disease Epidemiology, LCDC, Ottawa.

Table 3
Distribution of the adult cases of AIDS reported in Canada
by sex and disease grouping
(as of 31 March 1994)

Disease Grouping*	Diseases Reported in		Total (% of cases)	Known Deaths (% of cases)
	Male	Female		
PCP**	4838	241	5079 (54)	3618 (71)
KS***	1976	16	1992 (21)	1432 (72)
Candidiasis	1580	160	1740 (19)	1141 (66)
HIV wasting syndrome	906	59	965 (10)	765 (79)
HIV encephalopathy	516	31	547 (6)	470 (86)
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	435	17	452 (5)	372 (82)
Other opportunistic infections	3655	233	3888 (41)	3072 (79)
Pulmonary tuberculosis	2	1	3 (<1)	1 (33)
Invasive cervical cancer	0	1	1 (<1)	0 (0)
Total	13908	759	14667	

* Case % refers to the percentage of cases that had the particular disease and is determined by dividing the number of occurrences of a disease by the total number of AIDS cases reported. Note that since some cases report more than one disease, the total number of diseases is greater than the total number of cases.

** PCP - *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia

*** KS - Kaposi's sarcoma

Table 5
Geographical distribution of AIDS cases reported
in Canada (as of 31 March 1994)

Province*	Male	Female	Total	(%)	Known Deaths
British Columbia	1663	42	1705	18	1204
Alberta	567	28	595	6	219
Saskatchewan	67	7	74	1	51
Manitoba	111	3	114	1	83
Ontario	3787	159	3946	41	3183
Quebec	2524	282	2806	30	1617
New Brunswick	67	8	75	1	35
Nova Scotia	129	12	141	1	100
Prince Edward Island	7	1	8	<1	7
Newfoundland	33	5	38	<1	31
Northwest Territories	6	1	7	<1	3
Yukon	2	0	2	<1	1
Total	8963	548	9511	(100)	6534

* Cases are attributed to the province where the onset of illness occurred.

Table 4
Distribution of pediatric cases of AIDS reported in Canada
by risk factor, age group, sex and disease grouping
(as of 31 March 1994)

Risk Factor	Number of cases		Total (%)
	Male	Female	
Perinatal transmission	33	40	73 (76)
Recipient of blood	9	4	13 (14)
Recipient of clotting factor	9	0	9 (9)
No identified risk factor	0	1	1 (1)
Total	51	45	96 (100)

Age Group	Number of cases		Total (%)
	Male	Female	
<1	17	29	46 (48)
1 - 4	14	15	29 (30)
5 - 9	7	0	7 (7)
10 - 14	13	1	14 (15)
Total	51	45	96 (100)

Disease Grouping*	Diseases Reported (% of cases)		Known Deaths (% of cases)
	Male	Female	
PCP	30	(31)	22 (73)
HIV encephalopathy	30	(31)	22 (73)
CMV**	22	(23)	18 (82)
Candidiasis	18	(19)	12 (67)
LIP***	13	(14)	5 (38)
HIV wasting syndrome	10	(10)	6 (60)
Other diseases	28	(29)	21 (75)
Total	151		

* Case % refers to the percentage of cases that had the particular disease and is determined by dividing the number of occurrences of a disease by the total number of AIDS.

** CMV - Cytomegalovirus

*** LIP - Lymphoid Interstitial pneumonia

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Canada Communication Group - Publishing Tel. No.: (819) 956-4802
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0S9 FAX: (819) 994-1498

Price per year: \$75.00 + G.S.T. - in Canada; \$97.50 (U.S.) - outside Canada.
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