Editorial Board Executive Editor: Mr WONG Man-kong ACA Secretariat Vol 15, no 3 – March 2008 (issue no. 171)

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• AIDS Seminar	on page 12	Website: http://www.aca-hk.com			

Annual HIV infection continues to rise

A total of 414 new cases of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) were reported to the Department of Health (DH) last year (2007), the highest annual number ever recorded. The figure showed an 11 per cent increase when comparing to 373 of such cases in the preceding year. It was revealed that sexual transmission had continued to be the major mode of HIV spread in Hong Kong.

Of these 414 new cases, 103 acquired the infection via heterosexual exposure, 168 cases of homosexual or bisexual contact, 43 cases of injection drug use, two cases of blood/blood product infusion and one case of perinatal transmission. The routes of transmission on 97 cases were undetermined due to inadequate information.

In the fourth quarter of 2007, 87 people were tested positive for HIV, bringing the cumulative total of reported HIV infection to 3 612 since 1984. Of the 87 HIV cases reported between October and December 2007, 17 acquired the infection via heterosexual contact, 34 via homosexual or bisexual contact, eight through drug injection and one case of blood/blood product infusion. The routes of transmission of the remaining 27 cases were undetermined due to inadequate information. The 87 cases comprised 74 males and 13 females. Seventeen new cases of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) were reported in the fourth quarter of 2007, bringing to 934 the total number of confirmed AIDS cases reported since 1985. Forty-seven per cent of the new AIDS cases were related to heterosexual contact.

In that quarter, the most commonly AIDSdefining illness was Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection (TB), and was closely followed by Pneumocystis Pneumonia (PCP), a kind of chest infection.

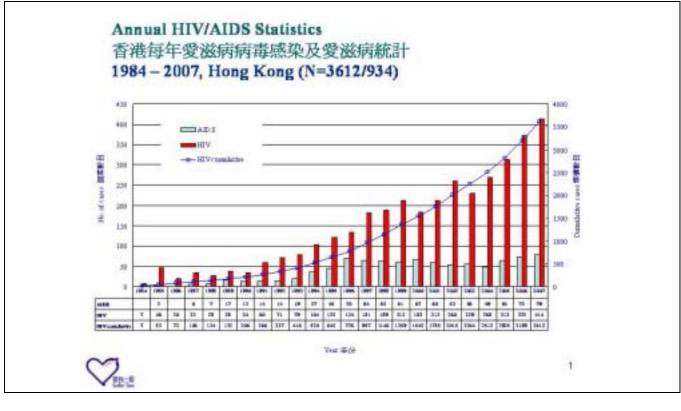
The newly diagnosed cases between October and December of 2007 were reported by four major sources: public hospitals and clinics (35), private hospitals and clinics (19), AIDS service organisations (13) and the Department of Health AIDS Counselling Service (9).

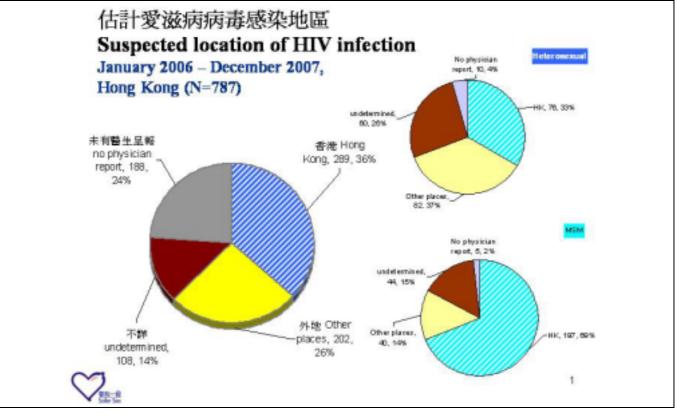
Of the newly reported cases in the fourth quarter, 54 (62.1%) received treatment at the DH's HIV Specialist Services or the Hospital Authority.

Summary

- 414 HIV infections were reported to DH in 2007. There was an 11% increase as compared with 2006.
- Number of HIV report through homosexual or bisexual transmission was increasing in Hong Kong. This became the major route of transmission last year. Most of them were infected locally.
- 79 AIDS reports were received, a stable level in the past few years.
- Tuberculosis is becoming the commonest AIDS-defining illness.

ACA NEWSFILE





HIV/AIDS STATISTICS IN HONG KONG updated 31 December 2007							
		HIV	AIDS	HIV	AIDS		
Sex	Male	74	16	2918	800		
	Female	13	1	694	134		
Ethnicity	Chinese	57	13	2438	727		
	Non-Chinese	30	4	1174	207		
Route of Transmission	Sexual Contacts	51	13	2693	804		
	Heterosexual	17	8	1715	594		
	Homosexual	28	4	831	173		
	Bisexual	6	1	147	37		
	Injecting drug use	8	4	217	34		
	Blood/blood products recipients	1	0	74	22		
	Perinatal	0	0	20	6		
	Undetermined	27	0	608	68		
	Total	87	17	3612	934		





AIDS Seminar 2008 -Collaboration, Capacity Building and the Way Forward

The Council for the AIDS Trust Fund and the Hong Kong Coalition of AIDS Service Organizations will hold an **AIDS Seminar 2008** on 19 April 2008 from 9:00am to 5:30pm at the Exhibition Hall of the Public Health Laboratory Centre, 382 Nam Cheong Street, Kowloon. The seminar aims to enhance collaboration among stakeholders and HIV preventions. It looks forward to a very wide participation from HIV/AIDS workers in Hong Kong and the neighbouring regions joining the seminar.

Objectives

The objectives of the seminar are:

1. Joint Anniversary Event: Through the joint celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Council for AIDS Trust Fund and the 10th Anniversary of the Hong Kong Coalition of AIDS Service Organizations to promote joint force for the response to AIDS;

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2. Experience Sharing: To promote sharing of wisdom and experience derived from the practice on HIV/AIDS;

3. Capacity Building: To build up capacity of stakeholders participating in the work of HIV/AIDS; and

4. Increase Understanding between Funder and Recipients: To enhance understanding of stakeholders on the current ATF funded programmes.

Enrollment

Applicants should fill in the <u>Registration Form</u> and return it by fax to 2338 0534 or by e-mail to Red Ribbon Centre at <u>rrc@dh.gov.hk</u> on or before 20 March 2008. For more details, please visit the website: <u>www.aids.gov.hk</u>

