



Editorial Board

Executive Editor: Miss Louisa HUNG, ACA Secretariat

AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211

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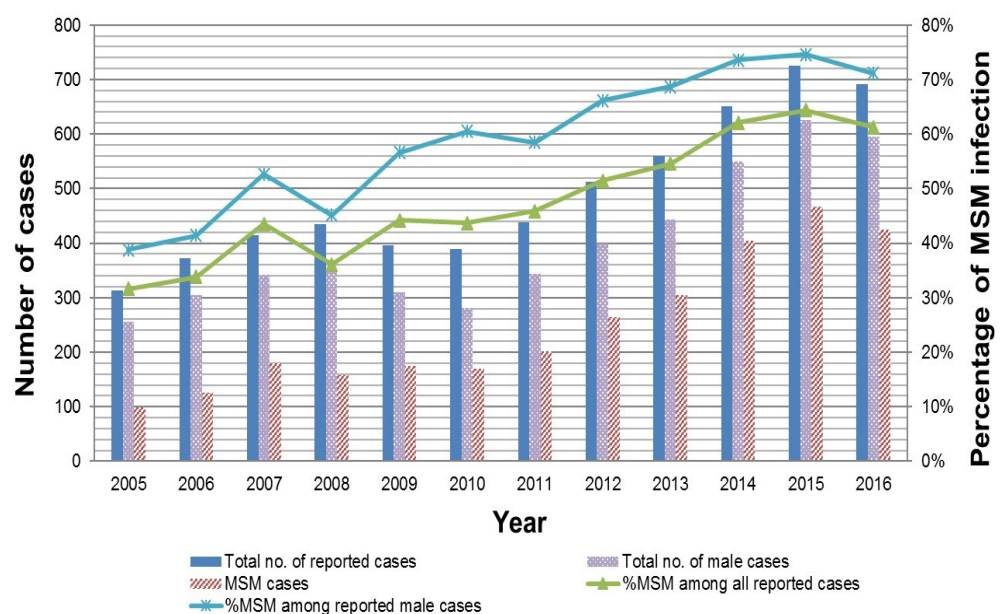
~ Calendar ~

44th CFA Meeting
6 June 2017

Update on HIV epidemiology of men who have sex with men in Hong Kong

The Department of Health (DH) has implemented a voluntary anonymous case-based HIV and AIDS reporting system with input from both clinicians and laboratories since 1984. The cumulative number of HIV and AIDS reports in Hong Kong reached 8 410 and 1 766 cases as of end 2016.

Figure 1 - Proportion of MSM infection among all cases and male cases (2005-2016)



The annual number of reported HIV infection has continued to increase in the past few years. It reached a record high of 725 cases in 2015, and then showed a mild drop of 4.6% to 692 cases in 2016.

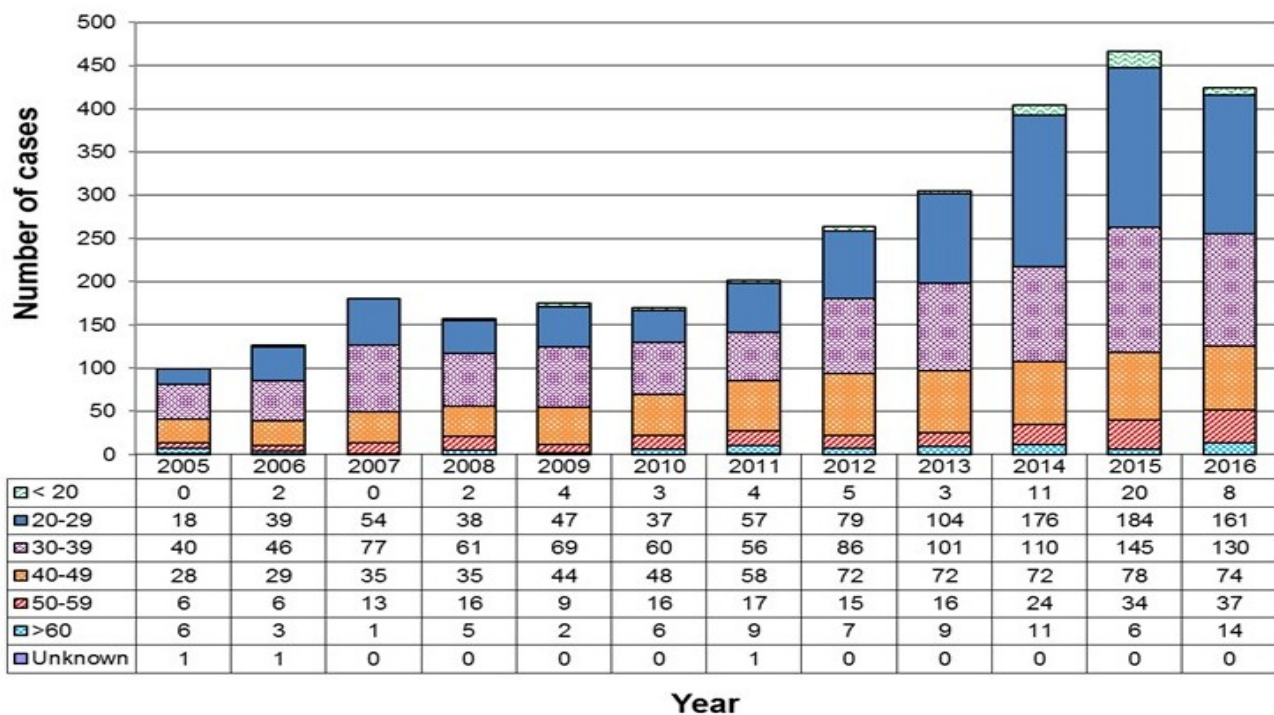
Similar to previous few years, the HIV situation in Hong Kong was still

dominated by men who have sex with men (MSM) infections (homosexual and bisexual contact). In 2016, MSM accounted for 61% of all newly reported HIV cases, and 73.7% if excluding cases with undetermined route of transmission due to inadequate information. MSM also accounted for a continually expanding proportion in the overall male infected cases, from 41.4% in 2006 to 71.1% in 2016 (**Figure 1**).

more about Update on HIV epidemiology of men who have sex with men in Hong Kong

The majority of the MSM reported cases in 2016 were Chinese (91%). The median age has been decreasing, from 37 in 2010 to 32 in 2016, which suggested that more younger MSM population was affected. In 2016, the age group of 20 to 29 accounted for the highest proportion among the MSM cases (38.0%), followed by the age group of 30 to 39 (30.7%) (Figure 2).

Figure 2 - Age breakdown of HIV-infected MSM cases (2005-2016)



In 2016, the majority (75.2%) of the reported MSM cases were assessed to have contracted the virus locally, 9.0% in Mainland and 9.9% in other places respectively.

The annual community-based HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) continued to be conducted in 2016. Results showed that condom use rates in the last anal sex with emotional relationship partners, regular sex partners and non-regular sex partners were 59.9%, 70.5% and 79.9% respectively. The HIV testing rate within past one year was 58.5%, with another 24.2% never get tested.

Up till now, condom use remains one of the most effective ways to prevent HIV infection. All sexually-active people are advised to practise safer sex by proper and consistent use of condom. As current HIV treatment (highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) can effectively control HIV replication, reduce risk of onward HIV transmission, reduce disease progression and improve patients' health, all MSM should test for HIV at least once a year irrespective of their sexual practice. They are also advised to repeat the HIV test after the three-month window period since the last date of unprotected sex. Expanded regular testing of the MSM community would improve early diagnosis, treatment and care for both personal and public health good.

HIV testing services in Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, free and anonymous HIV testing and counselling services are provided by the Department of Health and various AIDS non-governmental organizations. Men who have sex with men can call DH's AIDS Hotline (2780 2211) or DH's Gay Men HIV Testing Hotline (2117 1069). They may also attend Social Hygiene Clinics (free for eligible person), or consult their family doctors for HIV testing. More information on HIV testing can be found on www.27802211.com and www.21171069.com.

Table 1 - A list of HIV testing services or AIDS Non-governmental Organisations (Services provided may not be limited to MSM).

Department of Health	Website
AIDS Counselling and Testing Service	http://www.info.gov.hk/aids/chinese/hotline/main.htm
Social Hygiene Service	http://www.dh.gov.hk/english/clinictimetable/shc.htm

AIDS Non-governmental Organisations	Phone
A-Backup	3116 7204
AIDS Concern	2394 6677
Project Touch of The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association	6387 6984
CHOICE	3188 9024
Hong Kong AIDS Foundation	2513 0513
Midnight Blue	2493 4555
Rainbow of Hong Kong	8108 1069
Rainbow Action	6998 1069
The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, HK	2323 3983 8206 9922

Arrangement for Request of Attendance in CFA by Observers

The following arrangement was agreed during the CFA Meeting held in March 2012 -

- a. Upon the Convener's invitation/agreement, people who were interested to take part as observer might attend the whole or certain sessions of the meeting and speak up in the meeting at the Convener's discretion;
- b. The CFA Secretariat would announce the agenda on the ACA's website (in the ACA Newsfile) prior to each CFA Meeting. Interested parties could put up their requests to the CFA Secretariat for consideration;
- c. In case of over subscription, the CFA Secretariat would work out the list of participants by adopting a fair procedure deemed appropriate;
- d. Despite of this new administrative arrangement, the meeting would continue to be conducted in Cantonese only; and
- e. At the same time, the CFA Secretariat could invite relevant stakeholders to attend the meeting if deemed appropriate.

44th CFA Meeting

Date : 6 June 2017 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Conference Room, Red Ribbon Centre
2/F, Wang Tau Hom Jockey Club Clinic
200 Junction Road East, Kowloon

Two main items on the Agenda

- ◆ Experience Sharing on Outreach Programme for Vietnamese Drug Users on HIV/AIDS Prevention
- ◆ HIV treatment cascade 2015

Invitation

Dear All,

If you are interested to take part as observer in the 44th CFA Meeting to be held on 6 June 2017, please complete the application form (available for download from http://www.aca.gov.hk/cfa_observers_form.pdf) and send the completed form to the CFA Secretariat by **22 May 2017**. For more details of this arrangement, please refer to the summary shown on the left of this page.

CFA Secretariat