



Editorial Board

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110th ACA Meeting
(Papers for circulation)

110th ACA Meeting

Three main items on the papers for circulation -

- ◆ Results of the HIV/AIDS Response Indicator Survey (HARiS) 2019 - Female sex workers, male clients of female sex workers and people who inject drugs
- ◆ HIV epidemiology in Hong Kong 2019
- ◆ Mid-term review on the implementation of ACA Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies 2017-2021

HIV epidemiology in 2019

There were a total of 565 HIV cases and 122 AIDS cases reported to the Department of Health (DH) in 2019. Cumulatively, DH received 10,280 HIV reports and 2,118 AIDS cases as of 2019. The number of HIV reports decreased by about 9.5% in 2019 as compared with 2018.

Of the 565 HIV cases, 479 males and 86 females, reported in 2019, 331 (58.6%) acquired the infection via homosexual or bisexual contact, 128 (22.7%) via heterosexual contact and five (0.88%) via drug injection and two (0.35%) via perinatal transmission. The routes of transmission of the remaining 99 cases (17.5%) have yet to be determined due to inadequate information at the time of reporting.

Majority of the cases (nearly 75%) were diagnosed HIV-positive at the age range of 20-49 years old. The overall median age of cases in 2019 was 38. MSM cases (median age of 33) were younger than heterosexual female cases (40.5) and heterosexual male cases (46). Seventy-four percent of the cases were of Chinese ethnicity.

The commonest reporting source in 2019 was public hospitals/clinics/laboratories (43.5%), followed by DH's Social Hygiene Clinics (16.6%) and private hospitals/clinics/laboratories (16.5%).

A majority of the 122 AIDS cases reported in 2019 were male (85%) and Chinese (84%); 59% acquired the virus through homosexual or bisexual contact and 35% via heterosexual route. Most AIDS patients had their HIV infections diagnosed at public hospitals and clinics (76%).

Pneumocystis pneumonia and tuberculosis remained as the two commonest AIDS-defining illnesses (ADI) in Hong Kong in 2019. They accounted for 75% of all new AIDS reports in 2019.