NEWSFILE

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AIDS Hotline: 2780 2211 Department of Health **HIV** Testing Service www.hivtest.gov.hk

Editorial Board

Executive Editor: Ms Hilman WONG, ACA Secretariat

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~ Calendar ~

Chemsex Forum 2024 11 May 2024

A review of HIV/AIDS epidemiology in 2023

(prepared by the HIV Surveillance Office, Special Preventive Programme, Department of Health)

There were a total of 397 HIV cases and 101 AIDS cases reported to the Department of Health (DH) in 2023. Cumulatively, DH received 12 038 HIV reports and 2 483 AIDS cases as of 2023. The number of HIV reports decreased by 2.9% in 2023 as compared with 2022.

Of the 397 HIV cases, 326 males and 71 females, reported in 2023, 209 (52.6%) acquired the infection via homosexual or bisexual contact, 110 (27.7%) via heterosexual contact, eight (2.0%) via drug injection, one (0.3%) via blood or blood product transfusion outside Hong Kong, and one (0.3%) via mother-to-child transmission. The routes of transmission of the remaining 68 cases (17.1%) have yet to be determined due to inadequate information.

Majority of the cases (over 60%) were diagnosed at the age of 20-49 years old. The overall median age of cases in 2023 was 39. Men who have sex with men (MSM) cases (median age of 35) were in general younger than heterosexual female cases (41) and heterosexual male cases (50). 284 cases (71.5%) of the cases were of Chinese ethnicity, 40 (10.1%) were non-Chinese Asian, 10 (2.5%) were white, 9 (2.3%) were black, 3 (0.8%) were from other non-Chinese ethnic groups, while the ethnicities of the remaining 51 (12.8%) were unknown at the time of reporting. Of the 40 Asian non-Chinese cases, the top 3 ethnicities reported were Filipino (9 cases), Indonesian (7 cases) and Thai (5 cases).

The commonest reporting source in 2023 was public hospitals/clinics/laboratories (50.4%), followed by private hospitals/clinics/laboratories (15.4%) and AIDS service organisations (11.6%).

A majority of the 101 AIDS cases reported in 2023 were male (84.2%) and Chinese (77.2%); 51.5% acquired the virus through homosexual or bisexual contact, 43.6% via heterosexual route, and 2.0% via drug injection. The routes of transmission of the remaining three cases (3.0%) have yet to be determined due to inadequate information. Most AIDS patients had their HIV infections diagnosed at public hospitals and clinics (81.2%).

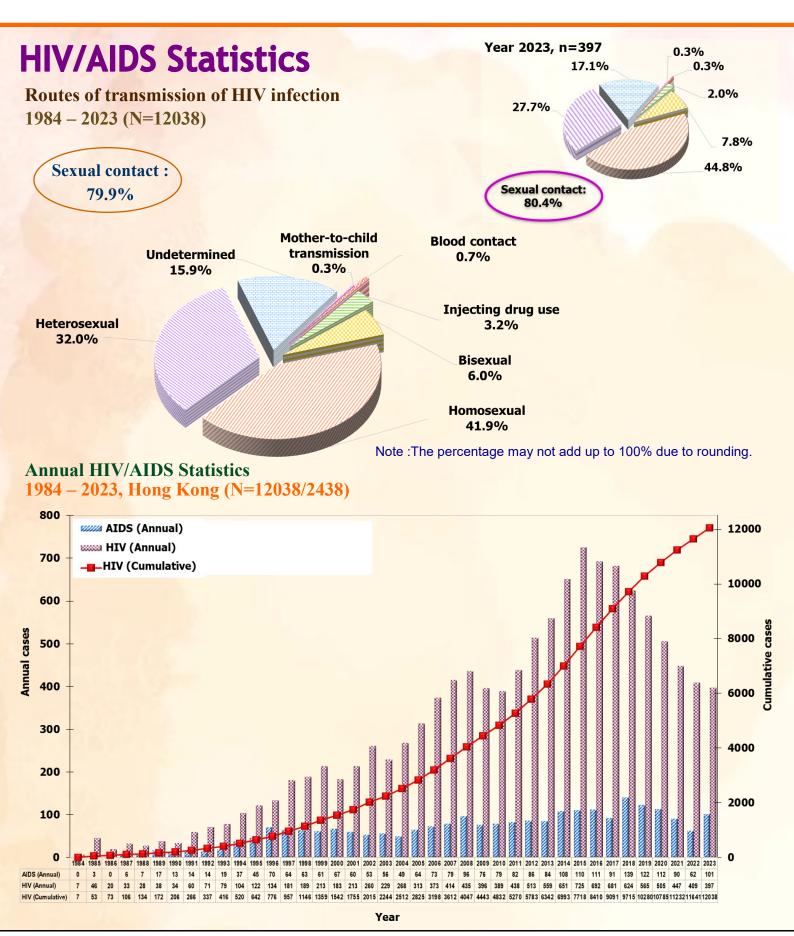
Pneumocystis pneumonia and tuberculosis were the two commonest AIDS-defining illnesses (ADI) in Hong Kong in 2023. They accounted for 54.5% of all new AIDS reports in 2023.

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HIV/AIDS Statistics in Hong Kong - Updated 31 December 2023

		Q4 2023	Q4 2023		Cumulative (since 1984)	
		HIV	<u>AIDS</u>	HIV	AIDS	
Sex	Male	75	11	9,867	2,056	
	Female	20	3	2,171	427	
Ethnicity	Chinese	64	8	8,390	1,915	
	Non-Chinese	14	6	3,216	568	
	Unknown	17	0	432	0	
Route of Transmission	Sexual Contacts	69	14	9,616	2,214	
	- Heterosexual	19	6	3,858	1,246	
	- Homosexual	46	7	5,040	794	
	- Bisexual	4	1	718	174	
	Injecting drug use	2	0	383	70	
	Blood/blood products recipients	0	0	87	26	
	Mother-to-child transmission	0	0	36	11	
	Undetermined	24	0	1,916	162	
Total		95	14	12,038	2,483	

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Training Workshop on Basic Knowledge of HIV/AIDS & STIs for NGO Staff 2024

The Red Ribbon Centre (RRC) of the Department of Health will hold the "Training Workshop on Basic Knowledge of HIV/AIDS & STIs for NGO staff 2024" on 7 May 2024. The target audience of the workshop includes frontline NGO staff working in the field of HIV/AIDS and those whose work is related to sexual minorities and people living with HIV. The workshop will be conducted in hybrid mode (at the RRC or online via Zoom) and in Cantonese.

For enquiries, please contact Ms Tayli CHEUNG at 3143 7200 or send an email to rrc@dh.gov.hk.

Details of the Workshop are as follows -

	Date & Time	Topics
	7 May 2024 (Tuesday) 09:00 – 13:00	 Brief introduction on HIV/AIDS situation & AIDS programme in Hong Kong Basic knowledge of HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis Introduction of out-patient HIV clinical services in Kowloon Bay Integrated Treatment Centre Introduction of "The Commons" Basic knowledge of sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
1	14:00 – 17:30	 HIV prevention work on clients of female sex workers and ethnic minorities Introduction of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) & post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) Psychological treatment for people living with HIV (PLHIV)

Chemsex Forum 2024

The Chemsex Forum 2024, organised by the Hong Kong Society for HIV Medicine and co-organised by the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS, will be held on 11 May 2024 am. Healthcare providers, researchers, service providers and chemsex responders may register via the QR code on the poster or via the link: https://www.hkshmasm.com/registration-am

