

AIDS AND HIV INFECTION IN SLOVENIA

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ABSTRACT

The AIDS and HIV epidemic in Slovenia is still at its early stage. By March 1, 1995 the cumulative total of 39 AIDS cases were reported in Slovenia (19.5 per million population). The annual AIDS incidence rate in the period 1986 to 1994 varied from 0.5 to 3.5 per million population.

Most of the male patients (36) acquired infection by sexual contact with men (56%), followed by heterosexual transmission in 7 (18%) and haemophiliacs in 4 (10%). 3 patients belong to category "other" (unknown) and 2 patients to intravenous drug users.

In 54 persons with HIV infection (non AIDS) the transmission categories are very similar to that of AIDS. Data on reported cases of AIDS and HIV infection provide an important information on development of epidemic but the reliable estimation of distribution and spread of HIV infection in different population groups according to demographic and behavioural characteristics is not available.

KEY WORDS

AIDS, epidemiology, data, transmission, Slovenia

BACKGROUND

Epidemiological monitoring of AIDS and HIV infection is essential for planning, implementing and monitoring AIDS prevention and control activities.

METHODS

All data on AIDS and HIV infection cases are collected, analyzed and interpreted at the Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia. The registration is mandatory. For the reporting of AIDS cases we use 1993 revision of the European AIDS surveillance case definition (1).

RESULTS

We registered the first AIDS patient in June 1986 (2). By March 1, 1995 the cumulative total of 39 AIDS cases were reported in Slovenia (fig. 1). The yearly AIDS incidence rate in the period 1986 to 1994 varied from 0.5 to 3.5 per million population (fig. 2). In the cumulative number of 39, there were 36 male and 3 female cases. Over a half of cases (22), i.e. 56%, were aged between 25 to 39 years. The majority of cases come from the region of Ljubljana. 25 patients already died.

Most of the male patients acquired infection by homosexual intercourse (56%). Heterosexual contact

