
AIDS surveillance in Europe: Status at 30th June 1993

By 30th June 1993, a cumulative total of 88,663 AIDS cases had been reported in the twelve countries of the EC and 5,641 in the six COST countries. The cumulative number of cases reported by country ranges from just over 60 (Luxemburg) to over 17,000 (France, Italy and Spain). The latter three countries account for 71% of all cases reported in the EC. The highest cumulative rates per million population are observed in Spain (513), Switzerland (468), France (447) and Italy (308).

Adjustment for reporting delays leads to an estimate of 95,429 cumulative AIDS cases diagnosed in the EC by 30th June 1993.

The analysis of cases by disease category and period of diagnosis shows that 80% of the cases diagnosed in the first half of 1993 presented an opportunistic infection at AIDS diagnosis (1.7% associated with Kaposi's sarcoma; 78.3% alone or associated with other diseases). During the same period of diagnosis, the proportion of cases presenting with Kaposi's sarcoma alone was 7.7%. This proportion has been continuously decreasing since the beginning of the epidemic: 20.5% among cases diagnosed before 1986.

The analysis of cases by sex shows a continuing increase in the proportion of female AIDS cases: of

the cases diagnosed in 1991, 16.4% were female, whereas in the first half of 1993 this proportion was 18.3%. A continuing increase in age at diagnosis is noted among both male and female adult/adolescent cases. Between 1991 and the first half of 1993, the proportion of cases aged 25 to 29 years decreased from 24.1% to 18.8% in males and from 33.9% to 29.1% in females, whereas the proportion aged 30 to 34 years increased from 26.4% to 28.7% and from 24.8% to 31.9% respectively.

The proportion of adult/adolescent cases diagnosed in the heterosexual contact group has increased progressively to reach 13.2% in the first half of 1993. Of these, women represent 49.8% (322/646). The proportion of cases diagnosed in the haemophiliac and transfusion recipient groups continues to decrease.

A cumulative total of 1,681 paediatric cases (children under 13 years of age) was reported in the EC by 30th June 1993. Of these, 82.7% are related to mother-to-child transmission.

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