

**1520. Outcomes after Implementation of a Public Health Program for HIV Partner Notification in Edmonton, Canada**

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**Background.** We evaluated the characteristics of newly reported HIV cases and their partners after implementation of HIV Partner Notification guidelines in Edmonton, Canada in April 2010.

**Methods.** All individuals newly diagnosed with HIV in Edmonton, Canada were interviewed by a Partner Notification Nurse (PNN) for sexual, needle sharing and perinatal contacts. Data collected on partners included whether they were located, tested, and test results. A descriptive analysis was performed on data collected from April 2010 to December 2013.

**Results.** There were 346 newly diagnosed HIV cases during this time period: 69.4% (n = 240) were male with a median age of 37 years (IQR 29-46). The majority of male cases were Caucasian (n = 134; 55.8%) with the primary mode of transmission

being sex with men (MSM) (n = 142; 59.2%). The majority of female cases were Black (n = 48; 45.3%) and reported heterosexual transmission (n = 80; 75.5%).

Seventy per cent (n = 243) of HIV cases provided contact information. Cases reporting contacts were younger (35 years, IQR 28-44 vs 41 years, IQR 33-51, p < 0.001). Those who did not have sexual or IDU as the primary mode of transmission (e.g., vertical transmission) were less likely to report contacts (27.3% vs 71.6%, p = 0.004).

Information on 584 contacts was provided; the median number of contacts per case was 1 (IQR 1-3). The majority (92.6%; n = 541) of contacts were exposed through sex, 5.5% (n = 32) through needle sharing and 2.2% (n = 13) perinatally. 15.6% (n = 91) were previously HIV positive. Sixty nine per cent (n = 404) were eligible by place of residence for follow up by local PNNs; 85.7% (n = 347) of these contacts were located and of these, 88.2% (n = 306) were tested resulting in 20 new cases of HIV. All new cases received HIV care; at baseline, 70% (n = 14) had normal CD4 counts (>350 x10<sup>9</sup>/L), 5 cases had CD4 counts 200-350 x10<sup>9</sup>/L and 1 case was below 200 x10<sup>9</sup>/L.

Of the previously positive contacts, 81.3% (n = 74) were sero-positive prior to their exposure to the case. 18.7% (n = 17) were sero-positive after their last exposure to the index case.

**Conclusion.** HIV partner notification efforts, conducted by PNNs, resulted in the majority of named contacts being located and tested, including the identification of 20 previously undiagnosed cases of HIV.

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